

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

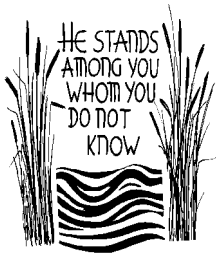
17 December 2017

Third Sunday in Advent

Gaudete Sunday

**New
Parish Logo
Coming Soon**

(Design Being
Finalised)



So who is coming? This Sunday's readings help to answer that question. John the Baptist is asked about the coming of the Messiah - is it him? He affirms his role as a witness to speak for the light, by pointing to the one who stands among the crowd

unknown to them who is coming after him. This idea is present in the First Reading, where Isaiah proclaims what the anointed one (Messiah in Hebrew) will do, and the joy that this will bring. It is interesting that the Psalm appointed for this Sunday is the Magnificat - Mary's song of praise at the announcement that the Messiah would be born of her - in which she sings of the works of the coming Messiah. Paul then reminds us that we are still waiting patiently: God has called you, and he will not fail you. This is why, on this Gaudete Sunday, we, as God's people rejoice in his care, made visible in his promises, fulfilled in Jesus.

Marriage Matters: We have been anointed by God - A TV programme poses the question: 'Who do you think you are?' When John, baptising in the desert, was asked this question, to paraphrase he replied: "*I am a voice, drawing attention to something greater than you can see or hear.*" Our marriages are like this! We are a 'sign' radiating God's love for all His people

Think Vocation: Gaudete Sunday is an opportunity to rejoice in the midst of our Advent season. Our lives as Christians should be marked by rejoicing - and we will naturally be more joyful if we have discovered and are living out the calling of God

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Assistant Priest: Rev Francis Parkinson

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Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity - 250037 Diocesan website:

www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Liturgy & Activities This Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 3

Sunday Missal: Page 99; Readings page 113

Preface page 34 or 35

Sunday 17 December

9am Mass (SJ) – With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB) – With Children's Liturgy
6pm Carol Service for Harwood Methodists & St Brendan's (SB)

Monday 18 December

9.30am Mass (SB)
2pm St Columba's School Nativity (KS1 & Early Years)
6pm St Columba's School Nativity (KS2)
6.15pm Churches Together in Harwood Carol Singing
7pm-9pm Needles (Harbour Room, SB)
7.45pm SVP (SJ)

Tuesday 19 December

8.15am St Columba's School Advent Mass (in SC School)
2pm St Columba's School Nativity (KS2)
6pm St Columba's School Nativity (KS1 & Early Years)
No Evening Mass
7.15pm SVP (SB)

Wednesday 20 December

9.30am St John's School Mass (In Church)
1.30pm St Brendan's School Nativity (In Church)

Thursday 21 December

9.15am Mass (SB)
7.15pm-8pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB)

Friday 22 December

10am St Columba's School Mass (In St Brendan's Church)
9pm Churches Together in Harwood Carol Singing

Saturday 23 December

5pm Mass (SB)

Sunday 24 December - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9am Mass (SJ) – With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB) – With Children's Liturgy
5pm First Mass of Christmas (SB) **Christmas Eve**
6.30pm First Mass of Christmas (SJ)

A Day of Special Prayer for Expectant Mothers

Prayers Please

Sick: Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Joan Pearce, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Linda Southern, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Mary Cassidy, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, John Pryor, Maureen Woodward, Rose Adams, Valerie Piddock, Irene Parkinson, Father Francis McCauley, Zachary Ainscough (aged 7), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Peggy Ainscow, Canon Dorrán, Christine Everitt, Mark O'Brien, Sheila Derbyshire, Margaret Gibson, Kathleen & Arnold Banks, Andrew Rostron, Rose Mellor, Michaela (Sick child), Linda Marsh, Ross Smith (young person), Vernon Hope and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness

Lately Dead: Mary O'Neill (former parishioner of St John's), Sue Makin, Canon Eugene Dolan, Susan Delvard, Ronald Hailwood, Keith Barnes, Margaret Lomas, Douglas Bailey, Robert Buscall

Anniversaries: James & Winifred Weston

Mass Intentions: In thanksgiving for prayers answered, Fr McCauley, Canon Eugene Dolan, deceased members of the Duffy & O'Toole families, Our Lady & Padre Pio, Canon Dorrán, Sue Makin, James & Winifred Weston, The Villa family

Cycle of Prayer Part 1 (of 6): We pray especially for: openness to the Word of God; migrants and refugees; expectant mothers.

Facts and Figures

Mass Attendance last weekend
5pm -121; 9am -143; 11am - 134; **Total - 479**

Offertory Collection: £709.82

Red Mission Boxes from St Columba's: £422

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Peel House
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
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Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 23/24 December

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	C Grundy	TBA
9am (SJ)	E Rothwell	P McArdle, A Grundy, M Speed, E Rothwell, M Cropper, A Gracie
11am (SB)	C Bridge	P Carolan, J Murphy, K Wilkinson
5pm (SB)	TBA	TBA
6.30pm (SJ)	TBA	TBA



Congratulations: To Georgia Lilly Noelle Pope who was baptized at St Brendan's last Saturday. And to Oluwamuyiwa Emmanuel Adewale who was baptized at St John's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

The Wednesday Word: Is a national prayer mission that links parishes and schools throughout the country through regular weekly prayer. Full details about the mission can be found at www.wednesdayword.org.

Each week the Parish Version of The Wednesday Word will be made available at the back of each church for parishioners to take home. Please do consider starting to pray the *Parish Version* of The Wednesday Word in spiritual solidarity with many parishioners throughout the country. And please particularly remember the non-practising families throughout the schools in our country - that they be touched by the Gospel they read in the *Primary School Version* of The Wednesday Word and that their faith may be deepened and their lives in Christ flourish. The Wednesday Word Mission is dedicated to St Joseph, Patron saint of Families and Protector of the Church. In the tradition of the Catholic Church each Wednesday is dedicated to him.

Diocesan E-newsletter: Following on from the launch of the new diocesan website, there is now a monthly e-newsletter to provide a forum for news of events and information. You can sign up to the e-newsletter on the diocesan home page: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

NQT Primary Pool for 2018: We are now recruiting for our NQT Primary Pool for 2018. The Primary Pool will identify and recommend high quality candidates who have gained QTS in summer 2018, for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for 1st September 2018. All details and application forms available on the diocesan website www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk. **Completed application forms are to be returned to Department for Education at the above by 12noon on Friday 26 January 2018.**

CAMEO: Please note, since the last total was announced from the recent Auction (£288.10), there have been further donations. The new total is £346 which will go towards SVP funds. Thank you to everyone!

Please come and join us after the Sunday Masses this weekend for Gaelic coffee, mince pies and our Christmas raffle!

Christmas Outreach

Caritas Diocese of Salford Cornerstone - Homelessness Shelter

During Advent as part of our support for Caritas we will be running a reverse advent calendar. Instead of receiving something each day we are asking that parishioners bring in items next week that will be donated to Cornerstone. They have requested the following items:

- Tinned soup / Tinned stewing steak
- Tuna / Mayonnaise
- Washing up liquid
- Shaving foam / Razors / Shower gel
- Biscuits / Sugar

Any items that you can donate will be gratefully received and used to help people who are struggling to feed themselves and their families at this time.

Urban Outreach: Thank you to everyone for the generous response to the Christmas dinner on Jesus campaign. All the packets of crackers have now been delivered.

Christmas Chocolates: Christ's Church young people will be at Morrisons, Harwood this Sunday (17 December, 3-4pm) giving out chocolates to shoppers and wishing them Happy Christmas. If any parishioners want to join them, with their young people, even for a short time, they are most welcome (chocolates will be provided). Any children helping with this, must be accompanied by their parents or other adults.

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 20 January 2018 (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's Church. This is for parents who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please email office@sbsj.org.uk or telephone the parish office on 301927 if you would like to attend.



Advent and Christmas

Walk with Me: Copies of the booklet and calendar are available - free of charge!

Churches Together in Harwood Christmas Carol Singing

Monday 18 December - Longsight Lodge
Meet at 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start - Coffee & mince pies available.

Friday 22 December - The White Horse Pub
9pm

St Mary's (Hidden Gem) Manchester: It has long been a tradition at St Mary's to have visiting schools leading Carol Services in the Advent days leading up to the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Each Carol Service will begin at 1pm, immediately after the 12.30pm Daily Mass. Thornleigh School Children will be leading the service on Thursday 21 December.

School Nativities & Services:

St Columba's Nativity - Monday & Tuesday
18 & 19 December (2pm and 6pm) in School

St John's School Christmas Mass -
Wednesday 20 December (9.30am) in Church
St Brendan's Nativity - Wednesday 20
December (1.30pm) in Church

St Columba's School Christmas Mass - Friday
22 December (10am) in St Brendan's Church

Joint Carol Service for St Brendan's and Harwood Methodists: This Sunday (17 December) at 6pm in St Brendan's Church.

Christmas Masses:

Sunday 24 December - 5pm (SB) & 6.30pm (SJ)
Monday 25 December - 9am (SJ) & 11am (SB)

Hope in the Future Prayer

God our loving Father,
we thank you for blessing our parish
with all that we need
to respond to our vocation to be a missionary
community in our locality.

We thank you for all our parish members who,
in response to your call, give of themselves so
freely to enrich our parish life in the ways of
love and service.

We ask you now to pour out afresh the gifts of
your Spirit upon each one of us that we may be
inspired to serve you in new and creative ways
as missionary disciples, bringing your Light to
the world.

We ask your blessing upon us as we journey
together in hope, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress "Adoremus" - Liverpool 7 - 9 September 2018



The bishops of England and Wales will hold a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress in Liverpool next year.

Eucharistic Congresses are gatherings of clergy, religious and laity which promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Church. The last International Eucharistic Congress in England was held in 1908 when permission for a public procession of the Blessed Sacrament was refused.

Participants will engage in a series of sessions focusing on different dimensions of the Eucharist and the daily celebration and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

On the first day of the Congress, there will be a Theological Symposium, with workshops for parish catechists, (especially for those involved in First Holy Communion programs), RE teachers, Hospital and Prison Chaplains, Seminary Communities and Extraordinary Ministers.

The sessions will focus on: Scripture, Ecclesiology, Eucharistic Language and Catechesis as well as Rites and Music for Eucharistic Adoration.

The Echo Arena in Liverpool - which can accommodate 10,000 pilgrims - will be the home to a six-hour stage programme on the second day of the Congress, which will include a Congress Mass, keynote speakers and a drama highlighting the beauty of reverence and devotion. The day will conclude with Adoration.

On the final day of the Pilgrimage and Congress, Sunday, there will be pilgrimage Masses and a street procession - open to all.

In his Pastoral Letter to the Diocese of

Westminster for the solemnity of Corpus Christi, Cardinal Nichols wrote: "We seek to rejuvenate Eucharistic adoration in our parishes as the source of strength for our lives and for our mission, that of making present the love and compassion of Jesus in our society." Every diocese in England and Wales will take part in the Congress and the Cardinal encourages people to make the pilgrimage to the Eucharistic Congress. Each Diocesan Bishop has nominated a representative whose task is to disseminate information to parishes, groups, religious communities about the Pilgrimage and Congress.

Ahead of the Eucharistic Congress in Genoa in 2016, Pope Francis encouraged everyone to visit the Blessed Sacrament, if possible, every day: "Moreover, I want to encourage everyone to visit - if possible, every day - especially amid life's difficulties, the Blessed Sacrament of the infinite love of Christ and His mercy, preserved in our churches, and often abandoned, to speak filially with Him, to listen to Him in silence, and to peacefully entrust yourself to Him."

The Eucharistic Congress has been given the title Adoremus (let us adore). This pilgrimage will bring people together from across the dioceses and further the service of the poor and marginalised in our midst. It will also aim to provide practical resources to develop the mission of the Church in prayer, contemplation and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Our parish has been allocated a number of places for this event: five for the Friday Symposium, ten for Saturday and ten for the Sunday Masses (for those who have attended either Friday or Saturday). Please ring or email the parish office if you are interested (301927) or office@sbsj.org.uk

