



The Third Sunday of Lent



"The man who thinks he is safe must be careful he does not fall." This is the theme of this Sunday: it underlines the need

for repentance, which is the focus of our Lenten journey in Year C. Jesus, in the Gospel, uses two recent events in order to illustrate his point about sin and repentance - there is a price to be paid for sin, but there is a way of avoiding it: if we repent, we will have salvation and a new and real freedom. This idea is emphasised in the parable, where we see a tree not being condemned immediately, but given a chance to change and produce fruit. So are we. This links in with the two other readings, which also talk about escape - the escape of Israel from Egypt. This is to be a warning for us, as Saint Paul says: if we are Christians, we must live as Christians, and be aware of the need to watch our lives and the direction they are taking.

Marriage Matters

What's in a name? *Yahweh* means 'I am who I am'. Names bring to mind the person, and what they mean to you. Our God - Three Persons, created me, loves me, redeemed me, makes me holy, and is compassionate, merciful and forgiving. Just as MY Jack, MY Jill has shown me the same love; we have tried to show it to our children.

Think Vocation

"The Lord God of your Fathers has sent me to you." Whenever we encounter a priest or Religious, we need to remember that they have been called by Our Lord and sent to serve us. God works in all sorts of different ways that are often beyond our understanding. May we treat those sent to us by God with the utmost respect and give them our fullest support.

Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 3
Sunday Missal: Page 554; *Readings page 562*
Preface: Page 566

Sunday 24 March
 9am Mass (SJ) - *with Children's Liturgy*
 11am Mass (SB) - *with Children's Liturgy*
 2pm Baptism (SB)
 3pm Stations of the Cross (SB)

Monday 25 March - The Annunciation of the Lord
 9.30am Mass (SB)
 7.30pm Lenten Course (St Brendan's)
 7.45pm SVP (SJ)
Please note: No Needles this evening

Tuesday 26 March
 8.15am Mass (SC School)
 2pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB)
 6.30pm Reconciliation (SJ)
 7pm Mass (SJ)
 7.30pm Becoming Catholic Course (SJ)
 7.30pm Praying With Scripture Course (SJ)
 7.30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Patmos Room)
 7.15pm SVP (SB)

Wednesday 27 March
 9.30am Mass (SJ)
 1pm Harbour Room Book Club (SB)
 7pm *Deanery Station Mass* (St Mary's, Horwich)

Thursday 28 March
 9.15am Mass (SB)
 7.15pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB)

Friday 29 March
 9.30am Mass (SJ)

Saturday 30 March - Clocks go forward one hour
 11am Baptism (SB)
 5pm Mass (SB) - *with Children's Liturgy*

Sunday 31 March - Laetare Sunday / Mothering Sunday
 9am Mass (SJ) - *with Children's Liturgy*
 11am Mass (SB) - *with Children's Liturgy*
 3pm Stations of the Cross (SJ)

Parish Priest: Rev David Chinnery

Assistant Priest: Rev Alfred Rebello

Parish Office: St John's Presbytery, The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP

Tel: 01204 301927 E-mail: office@sbsj.org.uk

Website: www.sbsj.org.uk

Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity - 250037

Diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Prayers Please
We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends. Bernard Holder, Fr John Ashton (SDB), Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin
Lately Dead: Estella Latham, Jim Carney, Kate Roe, Rosie Plumbley, Mary O'Doherty, Hamish Beattie, Gwendoline Hart, James Cummins
Anniversaries: Angela Morris, Mary Rawlinson
Mass Intentions: Angela Morris, Kate Roe, Rosie Plumbley, Mary Rawlinson, James Cummins, Jim Carney
Cycle of Prayer Part 3 (of 6): We pray especially for: candidates for the sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers
Hope in the Future
Let us pray for the parish of St Marie, Haslingden, with Fr Broadley, and the parish of St Mary and St Anselm, Bacup and Whitworth, with Fr McGrane and for their parish primary schools. May they be a beacon of hope to their communities.
Facts and Figures for 17/18 March
Offertory Collection: £967,21 Standing Orders (16-22 March): £165
Mass Attendance: 5pm-122; 9am-195; 11am-165; Total 482
Cheques: We now have our new Corpus Christi parish account name. Please make all cheques payable to <i>Corpus Christi</i> . Thank you.



Congratulations: To Freya May Fowler who was baptised at St John's last Saturday. And to Harry Jack Joseph Preston who was baptised at St John's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 11 May (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's. This is for parents from our parish who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please contact the parish office on 01204 301927 or email: office@sbsj.org.uk for more information.

Christian Meditation: The dates for March are as follows:
Tuesday - 26th. (2pm-2.45pm)
Thursday - 28th. (7.15pm-8pm) These are held in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's and all are welcome.

Lent at the Cathedral: Please see the poster at the back of each church with information regarding various activities at the Cathedral during Lent.

Corpus Christi

Upcoming Social Events:
Please hold the Dates!

Saturday, 30 March. Family litter pick around St John's Church, *please note children must be accompanied by an adult.*

A Springtime Variety Show
Astley Bridge Conservative Club
Friday 26 April at 7.30pm.

It promises to be an excellent show, *Pastie supper* included, for a small cost of £5 per ticket. This price has been set low to encourage as many of our community as possible to attend and enjoy each other's company in a happy and friendly atmosphere. It will also help to bolster Church funds.

The individual acts have been chosen to provide top quality entertainment for all, with many of the artists giving their services free of charge and others at a very much reduced fee. The Conservative Club, where drink prices are comparatively low, is also allowing us the use of their premises without charge. Our grateful thanks to them all.

We are aware that some may have difficulty in attending because of lack of transport and the distance of the venue from their home. With this in mind, we will try to organize a door to door, return, transport service. To do this however, we will need to know your requirements, well in advance.

Please try to support this initiative
Terry Smith---Parish Social Committee

Friday 14 June. Klezmer (music) concert at Dunscair Conservative Club, *further details to follow.*

The Harbour Room Book Club: Will meet on Wednesday 27 March at 1pm. The book under discussion is *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. **All welcome.**

GIFT Aid Eligibility: We are nearing the end of the tax year (5 April 2019). The standard personal allowance will increase to £12,500 per annum and the first £1000 of interest from banks & building societies etc., will be tax exempt for basic rate tax payers, as will the first £2000 of dividend income. It will therefore be possible for an individual to be in receipt of £15,500 of income without paying any income tax. Please ensure that you are paying sufficient income tax to cover the amount reclaimed from HMRC on your donations. If you have any doubts or questions, please contact the parish office. Many thanks.

Feast of Divine Mercy (Sunday 28 April, 1pm): A Special celebration for the Bolton area at the new parish of St Cuthbert, St Thomas of Canterbury Church. Exposition, Confessions, special prayers and a talk followed by Holy Mass at 3pm. All Welcome

50 Faces of the Holy Land: The Bishops' Conference of England & Wales has commissioned a photographic exhibition called '50 Faces of the Holy Land' which will be in Salford Cathedral until Thursday 28 March. The faces of the Holy Land are marked with its history, its diversity, its joy and its suffering. The exhibition shows the faces of fifty people from all sections of the various communities found in the Holy Land. Stories are told by people of all ages and experiences; we learn what it is to live in a land that is known by so many to be holy.

Archbishop Patrick Kelly will celebrate Mass in the Cathedral on Thursday 28 March at 12.10pm to pray for peace in the Holy Land and to show our support for our Christian brothers and sisters. **All are welcome.**

20:20 Year of the Word Survey to all Catholics
A message from The Catholic Bishop's Conference: As part of the preparations for our 2020 Initiative - *The God who Speaks: The Year of the Word*, we're conducting a very short survey about how we see and use the Bible. We'd like as many Catholics as possible to do this survey so that we get a snapshot of our current relationship with the Scriptures. At the end of 2020 we'll conduct an identical survey and compare the data. This will provide very useful information both for how we direct the Initiative and the momentum beyond 2020. On behalf of Bishop Peter Brignall, Chair of the 2020 Planning team, please spare some time, if you are able, to complete this survey via:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LDJBN5Y>

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for 30/31 March 2019		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	S Mikolajewski	TBA
9am (SJ)	M Parkinson	M Cropper, P McArdle T Armstrong, F Smith A Rawlinson, M Russell,
11am (SB)	C Owen	M Durkan, C Owen, P Brennan

This Newsletter is sponsored by
HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE
 Peel House
 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
 BL3 7AL
 01204 309609



Whit Walks: Once again this year diocesan parishes have been invited to take part in the Manchester and Salford Whit Walks which is on Bank Holiday Monday, May 27th. The groups set off from Manchester Cathedral at 10am and walk to Albert Square for an Act of Worship, before returning to Manchester Cathedral. Last year St Clare's, Blackley, and the Diocesan UCM were pioneers in taking part, together with Bishop John who preached at the Act of Worship. It is a joyful act of witness and a pleasant fun morning out. To register your interest email paul.daly@dioceseofsalford or the organiser ashworthburton@hotmail.com

Transformed by Love: The Cost of Discipleship: Join us at Wardley Hall every Friday in Lent (10.30am-12.30pm) for our Lenten retreat.

29 March: Reconciling as a key to discipleship

5 April: Accepting God's unconditional mercy

12 April: Recognizing our "appointed hour"

Presenters: Sr Joan Kerley, FMSJ & Maria Kidd please contact: Marie Sartini, Bishop's PA, Wardley Hall, Worsley M28 2ND; 0161 794 2825 E: marie.sartini@dioceseofsalford.org.uk Or Sister Joan Kerley, FMSJ; 0161 9717842; E: joankfmsj@gmail.com

Early Notice - St Mary's Five-Day Retreat: Explore the Christian Contemplative Tradition through 5 monthly retreat days led by Donna Worthington and hosted by The Diocese of Salford. Learn to communicate and nurture meditation practices as passed on through the teaching of the Benedictine monk Fr John Main (OSB) in the Christian Tradition. Topics include Desert Fathers, Scripture, Labyrinth Prayer Walk.

Venue: St Mary's RC Church, Browndedge Lane, Preston PR5 6SP

Dates: Sept 25, Oct 23, Nov 20, Dec 11, Jan 22 (10.30am-3pm) It helps organisationally if those interested could book or register interest by contacting Donna Worthington at drworthington@live.co.uk. There is no charge for these retreats as they are supported by The Christian Meditation Trust (UK). Hot drinks will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch. Free parking available.

Offertory Envelopes: The new envelopes will be available for you to collect from the back of each Church this weekend. Thank you.

Coffee Morning: On Friday 5 April at St John's Church (10am). All the proceeds will go to buying 10p rosary beads for Ghana.

Notice for Easter Services at Corpus Christi:
Maundy Thursday 8pm St John's; Good Friday 3pm St John's; Easter Vigil 8pm St Brendan's

Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2019 Appeal for volunteer Nurses

The 87th Salford Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop John Arnold, will take place between 25th July and 31st July 2019. Last year we saw a generous response with many doctors willing to offer medical support during the pilgrimage however we need more registered nurses and health care assistants. Without a sufficient number of nurses, we will not be able to take as many sick and disabled people to Lourdes on pilgrimage as we would like.

Therefore, if you are a nurse or health care assistant and are interested in the possibility of volunteering your skills to help support those sick and disabled pilgrims who need particular care during the pilgrimage, the Diocesan pilgrimage organisers are eager to hear from you.

Financial support, obtained through a special bursary fund, may be available for those involved in healthcare, to assist with the cost of travel and accommodation. If you are interested and would like further information please contact the Pilgrimage Medical and Nursing Team, via the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office on lourdes.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or telephone the pilgrimage office on 0161-817-2209.

“Safer Recruitment for the Salford Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2019”

This is a reminder that anyone over the age of 18 planning to volunteer with the Salford Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage is required to undertake a DBS check prior to the pilgrimage.

Please note that volunteering within the pilgrimage includes:

- The Nursing and Medical team - Working as a non-medical within the Accueil (sick pilgrims) team
- Assisting with transporting pilgrimages who require a wheelchair
- Hospitality Team
- Hotel Team
- Communications Team
- Logistics Team
- Lourdes Choir

This check is valid for three years, unless there is a change in circumstances. These changes include a change of name, address or status. If you have a DBS but are unsure if it is still current please contact the Safeguarding Office who will be happy to assist you.

If you are a new volunteer or require a recheck you will need to attend one of our DBS Clinics.

These will be held on:

Wednesday 10th April from 5pm to 7pm

Saturday 13th April from 10am to 2pm

If you are unable to attend these dates please contact the Safeguarding Office prior to the deadline of the 30th April for advice as a matter of urgency. **Without a valid and current DBS certificate you will be unable to join the pilgrimage as a volunteer.**

Please note that the Safeguarding Office cannot guarantee that any check completed after the deadline will be returned in time for the pilgrimage.

If you are travelling with a group please contact your group leader to make them aware that you need to complete a DBS check.

If you are an independent volunteer please contact the safeguarding office via this email address: safeguarding@dioceseofsalford.org.uk”