

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

St John, the Evangelist, Bromley Cross, St Columba's, Tonge Moor
and St Brendan's, Harwood

13 September 2020

Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time



“Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me”

It all depends, I suppose, on our attitudes. What do we really understand about our lives; is this all there is or is life just a stepping-stone to something greater? If this is all there is then we can live to whatever standards we set ourselves but if there is something greater to come, and I pray there is, then we must consider how we live our present lives and so prepare for eternity.

We believe in a God of love; the life and sacrifice of Our Lord gives us an opportunity to learn and understand from his words and actions so that we may come ever closer to Him and our Heavenly Father. His resurrection gives us the hope that we too will rise again at the appointed time. The Book of Ecclesiasticus speaks of the foul things that are found with the sinner. The advice in the passage is a sober reminder to us that there are many things in this life that we need to avoid if we are to follow Christ. We may view the Ten Commandments as an Old Testament statement that belongs in the past. Jesus did not. He reminds us again and again of their importance to our lives.

Paul recognises the importance of the influence our lives have on others; “If we live, we live for the Lord, if we die, we die for the Lord. He does not put our “church” lives into a different box from the rest of our daily life, he uses the example of the death and resurrection of Our Lord to illustrate that all life, and death comes from Him.

Peter, again, is at the centre of Today's gospel; you can imagine him listening to Jesus, perhaps discussing something with his friends, and then turning to Jesus to seek clarification. It reminds me a little of how we used to approach Confession as children. We could not remember how many times we had “sinned” so we made up a figure hoping it would be accepted (and it always was!). Now Peter guesses at seven, to his amazement Jesus multiplies this seven times to seventy-seven. An enormous number in Peter's eyes. But Jesus is judging forgiveness with the eyes of God; His love is limitless and so is His forgiveness. Until we begin to believe that God's love has no limit, we can only struggle with how we forgive others, and how that power to forgive, is God's great gift to us. *David Frank*

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 4;
Divine Office Week2
Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

Sunday 13 September- Education Sunday

9.30am Mass (SJ) *(Please see details below regarding Sunday Masses)*
11am Mass (SB)
A Day of Special Prayer for Students and Teachers

Monday 14 September - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

11.45am Private Requiem Mass for Kenneth Williams (SB)
2pm Private Funeral Service for Kenneth Williams (Overdale)
7pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 15 September - Our Lady of Sorrows

9.30am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 16 September - St Cornelius and St Cyprian

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 17 September - St Ambrose Barlow

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 18 September

No Mass Today

Saturday 19 September

11am Exposition and Adoration (SJ)
11.30am Mass (SJ)

Sunday 20 September - A Day of Prayer for the Spread of the Gospel

9.30am Mass (SJ)
11am Mass (SB)

Home Mission Day

Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello

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

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In Our Thoughts & Prayers

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Bernard Holder, Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Hurst, Margaret Padfield, Anne Killeen, Fred Heywood, Emily Martin, Madeleine Evans

Lately Dead: Ernest Peacock, Kenneth Williams, Fr John McKeown, Noelle Schofield, Andrew Booth, Mary Mealey, Margaret Gibson

Anniversaries: Barbara Grimes

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Barbara Grimes, Andrew Booth, Mary Lomax (Birthday Remembrance), Ernest Peacock, Mary Mealey, Margaret Gibson (Birthday Memories), Margaret Gibson

We continue to pray for victims of the Covid-19 virus, and for all those who are still working tirelessly to keep us safe.

Cycle of Prayer Part 5 (of 6): We pray especially for: Students & Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; The Harvest; The Fruits of Human Work and the Reverent Use of Creation, Justice & Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners & Their Families

Hope in the Future

We pray for the people of the parish of Holy Cross and St Helen, Ashton, with Fr Simon Firth, their parish priest, Fr Gavin Landers and the sisters of St Michael the Archangel. We pray for their parish primary schools, St Damian's College and the chaplaincy to Tameside Hospital.

Offertory Envelopes

We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Currently, there are still a number of offertory envelopes to be collected from our churches. If you would like these to be delivered to you, please do let us know and we can arrange this. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively donations can be made through Salford Diocese website, or alternatively by setting up a bank standing order. Again, many thanks for your continued generosity.

Cheques: Please make all cheques payable to *Corpus Christi*. Thank you.

Sunday Mass Times: We are now pleased to announce that our Churches will be open for Mass on Sunday mornings (9.30am at St John's and 11am at St Brendan's). Each church is limited to attendance of 43 people at St Brendan's and 50 at St John's. If you wish to attend a Sunday Mass please let the office know by email: office@sbsj.org.uk, or by phoning 301927, so that we can make a note of numbers. *Thank you*



SVP Sponsored Walk



The annual sponsored walk (around our three local reservoirs) has now been re-scheduled for Sunday 11 October 2020. This event helps to raise vital funds for the SVP to support families in our parish at Christmas time.

Members of the SVP will be taking part in this beautiful walk (which is approximately 10 miles) and if you feel you would like to join us, in either all or some of the route, please do come along and take part. If you have any further queries, please contact any member of the SVP: Julie Burton (304732), Arthur Rawlinson (418204), Mary Cropper (596439), or Peter Barnes (301263). This year, a *just giving* Crowdfunding page has been created for sponsorship. This can be found by visiting:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/svp-walk-2020>

As well as of making use of *just giving*, you may of course prefer to contact one of the SVP members direct to sponsor them. Thank you!

Retiring Collection: Most second collections have been cancelled this year, but today the Bishops have asked us to hold a retiring collection for the Shrines of Palestine (usually held on Good Friday). There are baskets at the back of Church. Many thanks for all your support.

Virtual Pilgrimage to Walsingham



On 27 September there will be a virtual Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham. It can be accessed via YouTube on Walsingham Catholic TV

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_0aJG5juz0 or at the Basilica live stream

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>

Devotions will be streamed throughout the day, beginning with the Mass at 12noon. Full details are available on the website, including the programme for the day:

<https://www.prolifepilgrimage.org/>

Destitution Project:



The Destitution Project, here in Bolton, are always so grateful for all we do for them but they are always in desperate need of more items. If you are able to donate, the usual items are: Tins of fish, tomatoes, chick peas, red kidney beans, sweet corn, corned beef, fruit. Also, Cartons of apple or orange juice, Rice, Long-life milk, tea bags, coffee and vegetable oil. Items can be left at each church, and members of the SVP will take them to the centre. Thank you, as always, for all your help and support.

Survey for Vocations of Older Persons
Salford Diocese have been asked to share the following survey, run by the National Office for Vocations in conjunction with other Catholic organisations.

With more people remaining healthy longer in our times, and the ageing population in many countries around the world, the Church is eager to keep in mind the contribution older people can make. The letter contains two links which will invite the recipient to fill in an online questionnaire regarding the vocation of the older person. There is one link for people over 60 years of age, and another link for parishes meaning parish priests, or anybody working in the parish.

This survey link will remain open until the end of September 2020 and the information it provides will be used to produce an anonymised report which it is hoped will enable the National Office for Vocations to understand better what is being done in the Church in England & Wales, and what more could be done, to promote a culture of vocation which endures and develops throughout life. [The letter can be found here](#)

 **Caritas September Beacon:**
Caritas has published its latest Beacon newsletter which can be found by following this link:
<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/newsletter/>

Online Laudato Si Weekend Retreat
Your Parish and Your Planet (16- 19 October)
A long weekend of talks and discussions via zoom and practical activities on living the message of *Laudato Si'* in and through your parish. Led by Boarbank Hall, sessions will be on Friday night, Saturday morning & night, Sunday afternoon & night and Monday night (leaving people free during the day on Monday). Voluntary donations gratefully accepted, but there will be no fee for the weekend. To attend, please email Sr Margaret Atkins on margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk.

The God who Speaks Series of Online Talks

Following the success of the zoom presentation, *The God who speaks through Creation*, by Sr, Margaret Atkins, CRSA, the Department for Formation is delighted to announce four further talks:

Wednesday 23 September: *The God who speaks at Mass* by Father Eamon Mulcahy, CSSp, Spiritan missionary, theology lecturer, priest in East Manchester and from Levenshulme.

Wednesday 7 October: *The God who speaks in Letters* by Father James Crampsey, SJ, Jesuit priest at the Holy Name Church, Scripture Scholar, and member of the Chaplaincy Team at the Manchester Universities

Wednesday 28 October: *The God who speaks to us today: Contemporary Challenges through a Biblical Lens*, by Father Joe Evans, priest of the Opus Dei prelature, Scripture specialist, and based at Greygarth Hall, Manchester.

Wednesday 25 November: *The God who speaks in the Gospel of John*, by Fr Michael Winstanley, SDB, Salesian priest and Scripture Scholar, based at the Salesian community in Bolton.

Each evening begins at 7pm and will include time for questions. To book a place please email formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk indicating which evening (or all four) you wish to participate in. In 2021 we hope to arranged the remaining four evenings either via zoom or, if circumstances allow, in the originally scheduled venue, the Hidden Gem.

Department of Formation Course *Family is Sacred*

After the success of our first *Family is Sacred* Webinar in July, we will be offering the full 14-week course online via zoom. The first session will take place on Wednesday 23 September (7.30pm-9pm) and will run every other Wednesday for 14 weeks. The course is designed to enrich and support marriage and family life and the building up of the Domestic Church. There will be input from various speakers followed by small group discussion and Q&A All Welcome! Register your free place by emailing formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk before Tuesday 22 September (Zoom details to follow)

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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