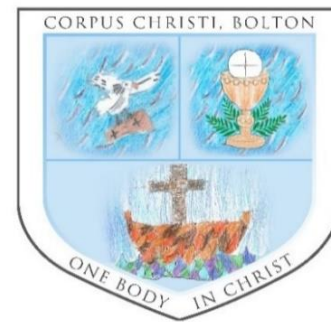


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

20 September 2020

Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time



**“for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways”**

Faith in God can come to an individual at any time in his life. Some come to know Him as children and, even after childhood days have gone, that knowing remains. Others find Him at various stages of life; some after many years of searching and others in a sudden conversion which often turns their world upside down. God is always waiting for us; He watches as we grow, and He is waiting for the moment when we turn to Him and speak “Here I am Lord I come to do your will”.

Isaiah was wise in the ways of God. He went through some horrendously, difficult times but he remained faithful. His words come to us as assurance that the Lord will not abandon us; He is always to be found; He is always near. If we change our ways, He is ready with open arms. But we must remember God is God and we are merely mortal. Sometimes we struggle to see Him in the turmoil and the ordinariness of life, His ways are different from our ways and we can only hope that, with the eyes of faith, we can find our way to Him.

Paul rejoiced in knowing that Jesus was Lord; that He gave his life so that we could be saved. Understanding this he came to see that alive or dead he was with the Lord and that by sacrificing his own life in service to Him he would bring glory to His loving Saviour. This was a cause of great uncertainty to Paul; he wanted to be with Christ; but he knew he needed to remain for Christ's sake. His advice to us is simple, but sometimes so difficult, “Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ”

The Gospel emphasises the difference between God's way and our way. We can see that those who work all day should receive more than those who only work for an hour. This is the way of the world. It is only fair. However, when the reward is eternal life, how do you differentiate between those who come early to faith in Christ and those who come much later. Is the Kingdom of Heaven based on when we come to know Christ or on when our heart begins to see with the eyes of faith, no matter what the hour? Time is immaterial; it is the knowing and believing that's important. *David Frank*

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1

Divine Office Week 2

Isaiah 55:6-9

Philippians 1:20-24.27

Matthew 20:1-16

Sunday Mass Times: 9.30am at St John's and 11am at St Brendan's. Each church is limited to attendance of 43 people (St Brendan's) and 50 (St John's). If you wish to attend 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

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

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

Home Mission Day

Monday 21 September - St Matthew

7pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 22 September

9.30am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 23 September - St Pius of Pietrelcina

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 24 September - Our Lady of Walsingham

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 25 September

No Mass Today

Saturday 26 September

11am Exposition and Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

Sunday 27 September - A Day of Prayer for Thanksgiving for the Harvest

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB) *Harvest Sunday*

Parish Priest: Fr 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

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 & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Madeleine Evans, Barbara Pearl

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

Anniversaries: Martyn Riley, Joe Fitzgerald, Esther Thomas

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Colin Spragg (Birthday Remembrance), Sheila Doona, Martyn Riley, Ernest Peacock, Joe Fitzgerald

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

Let us pray for the people of the parish of Our Lady and St Patrick, Oldham, Fr Philip Sumner, their parish priest, and their parish primary school.

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.



To all friends and members of the parish who sent me cards, good wishes and especially prayers on hearing about my heart attack on August 21st.

Such support was a great comfort. I re-read the cards and am very appreciative of the kind thoughts. Recovery will be a bit slow because of underlying health factors but I am feeling that little bit stronger each week. Thank you everyone, *Madeleine Evans*.

SVP Awareness Month



Our SVP groups continue to carry on with their valuable work during the pandemic. They have been helping to deliver vital food supplies to the Destitution Project, helping with shopping for isolated people and providing a phone call and a chat to those who cannot visit their family and friends.

Thank you for all the continued support you continue to give the SVP, your generosity is overwhelming. If anyone feels they would like to volunteer, by offering some time with the SVP, please contact the numbers below.

SVP Sponsored Walk: The annual sponsored walk (around our three local reservoirs) will be held on 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 (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>

We are still some way off our target, so if you are able to contribute, we would be so grateful. 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!

Destitution Project: The Destitution Project, here in Bolton, are always in desperate need of food 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

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/>

Full details are available on the website, including the programme for the day:

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

Online Laudato Si Weekend Retreat Your Parish and Your Planet (16 - 19 October)

A long weekend of talks and discussions (via zoom) with 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, Sunday and Monday night. 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

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. To book a place please email formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk indicating which evening (or all four) you wish to participate in.

Department of Formation Course Family is Sacred

The first session will take place on Wednesday 23 September (7.30pm-9pm) and will run every other Wednesday for 14 weeks. All Welcome! Register your free place before Tuesday 22 September by emailing formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Diocese of Salford - Vacancies Grant and Bid Writer

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

Travel Required: Some travel around the diocese will be required

Level/Salary Range: £27,000 - £30,000 per annum depending upon experience

Position Type: 2 years fixed term contract

Hours of Work: 35 hours per week

The Diocese of Salford is seeking to recruit a suitably experienced individual to support and develop bid writing within the Diocese. They will take a lead role in coordinating applications to grant makers and trusts to secure funding for capital and revenue projects. They will be a highly motivated individual, enthusiastic about the charity sector and able to bring their knowledge and application of grant and bid writing to support and sustain the ongoing mission of the Diocese.

Closing date for applications: 12 noon on Tuesday 6th October 2020

[To find out more and to download an application pack, please click here](#)

Housekeeper/Support Worker at St John Southworth, Nelson

The parish of St John Southworth in Nelson is seeking to employ a Housekeeper/Support Worker to assist the parish priest. Duties will include all tasks relating to housekeeping, secretarial support, and personal assistance to the parish priest. Employment will be on the basis of a 6-month fixed-term contract, for 20 hours per week, although the working hours require a high level of flexibility. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure by the Disclosure and Barring Service and all employees of the Diocese are expected to work to promote the safeguarding of vulnerable groups. This vacancy closes on **Wednesday 23rd September at 12 noon**. If you are interested in applying, please contact :

HR@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to request an application pack.



A Thought for the Week...

"May we learn to be generous in giving; to love without limits."
Pope Francis