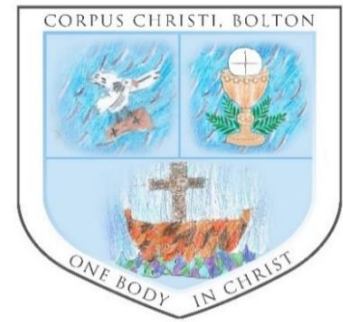


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

15 November 2020

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



There is a crisis of identity in the world today: strident cries for recognition of the many facets of human behaviour which we call life. What is needed is a healthy respect for all humanity and an acknowledgement that each individual has a right to live in safety, security and peace in our world.

Today's readings are centered on the uniqueness of each human being and give us a foretaste of the life that Jesus promises to us all. In the first reading from Proverbs we have a beautiful description of the perfect wife. We are each gifted with a certain talent. In the Old Testament the role of Wife and Mother was considered the most suitable for the daughters in a family. Their role was to build a home for their husbands and children. In an economy where the man worked and the woman stayed at home this was accepted as normality and though we may disagree with the imposition of such roles on men and women this was the pattern for many centuries almost up to our present time. However, as the writer of proverbs observes, in a plea for equality, "Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates".

The parable of the Talents in the Gospel continues this theme of the importance of using our gifts wisely and for the benefit of all. The passage looks at three individuals who are entrusted with their master's money. He places his faith in them but realises that they, like us, are gifted in different ways. One is skillful with money and invests it wisely making a good return for his master, the second is not so gifted but still produces a profit even from a smaller resource, The third however does not use the gifts he has been given, instead he hides the money so that he can return it when the master comes home. We too have our talents, our gifts. If we choose to use them, we can create a better world for ourselves and those around us. If, however, we choose to hide our gifts and waste our opportunities then we may be faced with God, at the end of our days, when He will ask us what we have done with our lives. I would suggest that none of us would want to face judgement with empty hands and gifts that are tarnished with rust!

David Frank

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 1

Proverbs 31:10-13

Thessalonians 5:1-6

Matthew 25:14-30

Private Prayer: As announced, for the next few weeks we are now having to revert to churches opening for private prayer only. There is no need to contact us if you wish to attend. Thank you

Opening times for Prayers at St Osmund's:

Monday churches closed.

Tuesday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday (2pm-4pm) at St Osmund, Brightmet.

Wed & Thur (2pm-4pm) at St Teresa, Little Lever.

Sunday 15 November

10am-11am Private Prayer at both Churches

World Day of Prayer for the Poor

Monday 16 November

10am-11am Private Prayer (SJ)

Tuesday 17 November

10am-11am Private Prayer (SB)

Wednesday 18 November

10am-11am Private Prayer (SJ)

Thursday 19 November

10am-11am Private Prayer (SB)

10.15am Private Funeral Service for Kenneth Smith (Co-op Funeral Services)

Friday 20 November

Churches Closed

Saturday 21 November - *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

10am-11am Private Prayer (SJ)

Sunday 22 November - *Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of The Universe*

10am-11am Private Prayer at both Churches

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



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, Howard McArdle, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta, Mary Bagg

Lately Dead: William Pious O'Neill, Peter Walker, Joan Frodsham, Kenneth Smith

Anniversaries: John Lynch, Florence & Louis Hodgkinson

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: John Lynch, Florence & Louis Hodgkinson

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 intentions of the parishioners of Our Lady of Dolours, Kersal, for Fr Vincent Coyne, their parish priest, and the Servite Friars. We pray for their parish primary school and for the residents of Nazareth House, together with the Sisters of Nazareth and the Faithful Companions of Jesus. May they seek to be faithful in all things, small and great.

Offertory Envelopes

We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Currently, there are still a few offertory envelopes to be collected. 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.

Prayer Resource - Lord's Day at Home

Based on the Sunday Scriptures, this resource is particularly aimed at those not able to follow a Mass on the internet. This week's Lord's Day at Home prayer sheet [can be found by clicking here](#)



**World Day
of the Poor**

Bishop John's Caritas Message

Sunday 15th November:

"Stretch out your hand to the poor".

Sirach 7:32

To mark this year's World Day of the Poor, Bishop John has recorded a special message to remind us all, including parishes, of the calling we have to social action to help improve the lives of the most needy in our communities. Click on the link below to watch Bishop John's message and please share it in your parishes. <https://youtu.be/Dl-rpgGWKp4>

Caritas Advent Campaign, 2020

'No Room at the Inn' #TheMiracleofKindness

At this time of year, Caritas Salford traditionally begins a winter appeal for donations of food, sleeping bags and other materials. The restrictions affecting the public celebration of Mass make it difficult for us to share with parishioners the significant impact they have on Caritas' ongoing work and also difficult for us to accept physical donations of items this year. In response to these challenges, Caritas Salford is launching its first ever digital and film campaign for this year's Advent fundraising drive. Launching on **World Day of the Poor**, Caritas hopes the real-life stories of people it works with, as seen in the film, will encourage people to think about homelessness and how they can help by texting **BEKIND** to **70460** to donate £10*. The film and downloadable resources will go live from 8am on Sunday 15th November - please share the link widely as possible and help if you can <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/service-view/advent-appeal-2020>

*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to occasionally hear more about Caritas' work. To give £10 without hearing from Caritas, text BEKINDNOINFO to 70460. *Further details about Caritas's Advent campaign will be shared with you next week together with a newsletter insert and graphics for those parishes which are able to send newsletters electronically.*

National Youth Sunday: Takes place on Sunday 22 November, the feast of Christ the King. National Youth Sunday represents an opportunity to recognise young people - their gifts, talents and uniqueness. It also provides the Church with an opportunity to thank them for and affirm their contribution to the life of the local and universal Church. All resources for NYS are available at www.nationalyouthsunday.com.

Diocese of Salford - Job Vacancies

Management Accountant

The Diocese of Salford are currently recruiting a Management Accountant to help support and develop financial management and information provision for the Diocesan Trust. This is a full-time, permanent post, working 35 hours per week at Cathedral Centre. £40,000-£50,000 per annum, 25 holidays plus bank holidays and 5 Diocesan closure days, with employers' pension scheme. The closing date is 12noon on Friday 27 November.

Safeguarding Officer

Appointment Type: Full time, permanent. Working Hours: 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday. There will be a requirement for occasional evening and weekend work. Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP Salary: £26,000-£32,000 per annum

About: The Diocese of Salford is seeking to recruit a newly qualified practitioner to join our Safeguarding Team. They will be a highly motivated and well-organised professional, able to contribute to implementation of safeguarding policies and strategies throughout the Diocese. They will have a practical working knowledge and experience of safeguarding and the ability to relate this experience to providing advice and support.

The Diocese of Salford is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk of harm. The post holder will be expected to contribute to a positive culture of safeguarding within the organisation. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure by the Disclosure and Barring Service. It is not required that the post-holder be Catholic. However, it is expected that they will work in line with the ethos of the Catholic Church.

Closing date for applications: 12noon on Monday 23rd November 2020

Full details and application packs for both posts are available at:

www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies



Harbour Room Book Club:

An Update for any member or anyone interested in our Book Club. As the present

circumstances are unpredictable and there is no way of knowing this will last, any future meetings will probably start next September 2021. A new year and hopefully, a new start for all. We would like all the cold Winter months and Covid alarms to be behind us. If the weather is warmer in June/July we can try a get-together for coffee and assessment and possibly new schedule. Here is the list of books recommended during the first pandemic lockdown. We will start with these.

The Essex Serpent by Sarah Perry.

I'm Travelling Alone by Samuel Bjork.

Longer reads; Please choose one; Either;

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese or

All the Light we Cannot See by Anthony Doerr or

Educated by Tara Westover (non-fiction)

The Lost Man by Jane Harper

Big Sky by Kate Atkinson (Jackson Brodie)

The Salt Path by Raynor Winn (non-fiction)

The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan.

Circe by Madeleine Miller.

Tangerine by Christine Mangan.

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes.

Abide With Me by Elizabeth Strout.

Classic reads; Please choose one. Either;

Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte or

Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen or

1984 by George Orwell.

I am aware some of you have forged ahead and read these but other members who do not see the newsletter do not know about the list. Please pass on the word. Hopefully we shall all meet up again and please keep reading and noting down any titles and authors you have come across. All these above books were recommended by members. All the best and stay safe. *Madeleine*

Urban Outreach - Christmas Dinner on

Jesus: Thank you for all your donations of gravy granules. We would also like to thank our SVP and Morrison's, Harwood for their help.



Destitution Project: Thank you for all donations that have been coming in - they really do make a difference. We continue to collect the usual items: tinned tomatoes, tinned chickpeas/red kidney beans, rice, cooking oil, sardines, tea, coffee, long-life milk, tinned fruit & corned beef, cartons of orange juice etc.

Eucharistic Adoration and Prayer on Vigil of Feast of Christ the King On 21

November: Will take place (worldwide) for each other on the vigil of the Feast of Christ the King, [View the poster by clicking here](#) The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have asked, that during these difficult times, "we sustain each other in our patterns of prayer, joining a national shared moment of prayer each day at 6pm, and observing the Vigil of Christ the King (21 November) as a day of prayer for the ending of this pandemic."

November Retreats: Donna Worthington is running Zoom Retreats which are extremely well presented in a very spiritual way. If anyone would like any further information please visit: www.christianretreats.live

Online Talks: Wednesday 25 November (7pm): *The God who speaks in the Gospel of John*, by Fr Michael Winstanley, SDB, Salesian priest and Scripture Scholar, please email formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

'Family is Sacred' Zoom Course: All Welcome! Register your free place by emailing formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
18 November - *The Sacrament of Matrimony - A reflection of the Love of Christ*
2 December - *The Sacrament of Matrimony - A reflection of Christ's faithfulness & fruitfulness*
16 December - *Fatherhood & Motherhood - The challenge of Authority*

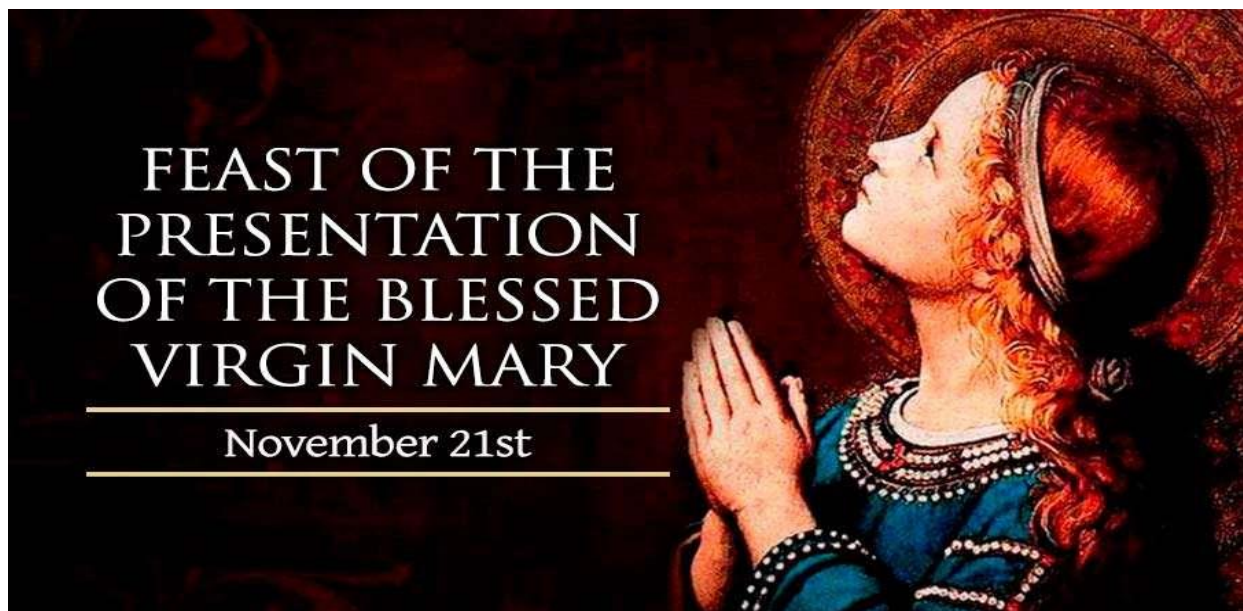


200 Club: The next draws will take place throughout December. If anyone hasn't paid their subscriptions and wishes to be included in the draw, please contact Ann Gracie 01204 302912



Thought for the week...
"Do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Put your talents at the service of God."
Pope Francis

This Newsletter is sponsored by
HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE
Peel House
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
BL1 7AL
01204 309609



The Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated annually on November 21st, commemorates the presentation of the Blessed Virgin as a child by her parents in the Temple in Jerusalem. Before Mary's birth, her parents received a heavenly message that they would bear a child. In thanksgiving for the God's gift of Mary's birth, they brought her to the Temple to consecrate their only daughter to The Lord. The celebration of the Feast is first documented in the 11th century within the Byzantine Catholic Church. It was introduced into the Roman Catholic Church in the 15th century by Pope Gregory XI, then removed from the calendar by Pope Pius V in the mid-16th century. Pope Sixtus V later re-established the feast in 1585, and it is still celebrated today, commemorating the faith of her parents, Joachim and Anne, and the purity of Mary.

Most gracious Virgin Mary, on this, the feast day of your presentation in the temple, we honor your parents' decision to consecrate you to God. Your dedication to a life spent wholly in His service is an inspiration to us all. You yourself would grow to become a living temple for our Lord. Amen