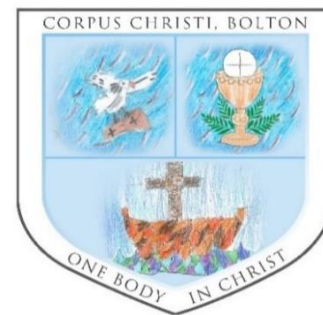


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

8 August 2021

Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time



Life is hard, sometimes it is desperate, no matter what your status in life, illness can strike and change a comfortable existence into one of struggle and worry. In these circumstances who can we turn to, family, friends, neighbours, local health services? Perhaps, when all seems to be too much to bear, we turn to God. Not as a last resort, although sometimes He seems to be just that, but as a loving presence whose balm can soothe our wounds and heal our trembling hearts.

Elijah, in our first reading, has had enough. He pleads with God "take my life"; he feels worthless and lays down to sleep. Many people have felt like Elijah when faced with the circumstances of their lives, especially when they feel isolated and alone. But God does not accept the fate that Elijah sees before him; at this, the lowest of ebbs, He offers him food in the form of bread and water. Elijah eats but goes back to sleep, then, God touches him and he, somehow, finds a way to keep going. Just think about what has happened in the story and then imagine where you may find Elijah's source of strength today!

The psalm is another step on the way to gaining the courage we need to carry on. The Psalmist urges us, "Taste and see that the Lord is good". He reminds us that the boundless love of God is for all, and that God never lets us down. We need to turn to Him, and He will rescue us and set us free from all our terrors. Paul urges us to be loving in all we do. Suffering from an illness or caring for a loved one who is ill can lead us to begrudge those who are not suffering, this is human, but Paul lays before us the freedom that will come if we turn those sufferings into something positive through love, he tells us to "follow Christ, by loving as He loves you"

Sometimes, when faced with life's problems we turn to another's experiences to see how they behave. In the Gospel passage, which continues the teaching of Jesus on the Bread of Life, we find Jesus beset by those Jews who do not accept Him. They refer to His background, where He came from, and use this to deny His Word. Jesus states quite clearly that faith in Him can only come through faith in the Father who sent him. In the Eucharist, Jesus comes to us in bread and wine, to strengthen and restore us. Through the storms that beset us we have His promise that if we follow Him, the Bread of Life, we shall have eternal life. Through the loving community of the Church there are ways where help can be found, take that first step and then leave it in God's hands, He knows, He understands.

David Frank

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1

Divine Office Week 3

Roman Missal page 359; Readings page 362

1 Kings 19:4-8; Ephesians 4:30-5:2; John 6:41-51

Sunday 8 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.15pm Baptism (SB)

1pm Baptism (SB)

Monday 9 August - *St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross*

No Mass Today

Tuesday 10 August - *St Lawrence*

No Mass Today

Wednesday 11 August - *St Clare*

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 12 August

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 13 August

12noon Nuptial Mass for Matthew Parkinson & Stephanie Copley (SJ)

Saturday 14 August - *St Maximilian Kolbe*

11am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

1pm Baptism (SB)

5pm Mass (SB)

6pm Baptism (SB)

Sunday 15 August - *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello

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In Our Thoughts & Prayers



We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Killeen, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta, Mary Bagg, Vernon Holt, Peter Riley, Frances Skemp, Kathleen Banks, Penelope Booth (poorly infant), Eileen Gartland
Lately Dead: Mary Josephine Wallwork, Tony Cliff, Alezandro Doloroso Jr, Linda Teti, Lynn Patrick

Anniversaries: Mark O'Brien

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Eileen Gartland, A sick Child, Mark O'Brien, (Birthday Remembrance), Tony Cliff, Alezandro Doloroso Jnr, Ernie Peacock, Linda Teti, Lynn Patrick, Mary Josephine Wallwork, Alan Rebello (Birthday Remembrance)

Cycle of Prayer Part 5 (of 6): We pray especially for: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution; oppression and denial of human rights; Europe, seafarers, human life

Hope in the Future: Let us pray, this week, for the parishioners of the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gregory, Farnworth, with Fr David Chinnery, their parish priest, and Fr Benneth Okonkwo. Let us pray for the parish primary schools, for Mount St Joseph High School, and for the Royal Bolton Hospital. May they draw strength for their parish journey from the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist

Offertory: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively they can be made through Salford Diocese website, or by setting up a bank standing order. Thank you

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

Prayer Resource - For those at home the Liturgy Office has prepared "*The Lord's Day at Home*", to pray on your own or with your family Please [click here](#) to view the Mass sheet for Sunday 8th August (Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time).

Lifting of Restrictions - New Guidelines: We now have new guidance from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales as to how we can continue our Masses and services during the easing of restrictions. Further details can be seen on our website www.sbsj.org.uk. (Please click "Home" on the front page and "Latest News"). For weddings, baptisms and funerals, please contact Fr Alf to discuss in more detail.



Congratulations: To Tegan Aspinall, who received her First Holy Communion at St John's last Saturday. Let us pray for her as she continues on her faith journey.

New Bench at St John's: We would like to say "Thank you" for a lovely donation of a bench which has been placed on the front lawn at St John's. We would hope you might like to use it after Mass; perhaps for catching up with someone, a moment of quiet or for resting. *God Bless, Fr Alf*

Taking Liturgy Seriously - Online study course from the Society of Saint Gregory
As part of its commitment to promote and support the liturgy of the Catholic Church, the Society of Saint Gregory will be offering a new modular study course, aimed at developing liturgical understanding. The course, which will be run in partnership with the London Jesuit Centre, starts in September and will take place via Zoom. Held over the course of one year, each module will comprise three sessions and provide a theological and historical overview, which will form the background for a deeper study of how we celebrate the liturgy today. Modules include The Paschal Mystery, Healing and Forgiveness, Initiation, Commitment and Ways of Prayer. Within each theme we will look at how we apply general principles of liturgy, how music and space affect the way we celebrate, and, above all, how we are enabling people to pray together. The course is aimed at all who wish to widen their understanding of the liturgy. Further information, including details of the course leaders and online booking, can be found [here](#). Or visit <https://www.ssg.org.uk/>

Caritas Summer Appeal: This summer, Caritas Salford will support over 5,000 families experiencing challenges and crisis. We will give practical support to those in desperate need. If you can, please visit <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/> to support our work today. If you prefer to send a cheque, please mark your envelope *Caritas Summer Appeal* and include your full name and address and how you prefer Caritas to be in contact with you. Please make cheques payable to Caritas Diocese of Salford and send to Cathedral Centre 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP. If you can Gift Aid your donation, it is worth 25% more to us, at no extra cost to you. Tick the box online, or let us know by post with your cheque. Thank you for helping children, families and those affected by poverty across the Diocese of Salford.

Caritas Cornerstone's Big Sleep Out 2021

To experience just a fraction of what it is like to sleep rough and to help those who live this reality every day, Caritas Cornerstone is inviting people to "boycott their bed" for one night this September.

The Big Sleep Out is returning this autumn with a special hybrid event, asking people to raise funds to support rough sleepers by sleeping outdoors overnight at Xaverian College, Manchester, from 7pm on Friday 17 September, or by "boycotting their bed" from their own home. Due to the pandemic, last year's event was cancelled, and Caritas Cornerstone instead asked people to sleep somewhere other than their own bed. As a result, publicity and fundraising for the event was significantly affected, making this year's event even more needed to help continue its work supporting people who are street homeless, sofa-surfing, or without the security of a permanent home.

How to get involved:

1. Click [here](#) or visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/BigSleepOut2021> to set up your Just Giving page. This can be done whether you plan to be present on the night or at home boycotting your bed.
2. Click [here](#) or visit <https://cornerstonecds.org.uk/big-sleepout/> to register for the overnight event at Xaverian college. For further information, contact Rachel Taylor on **0161 817 2258**, or email fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk.



Destitution Project: Thank you for all donations so far. We have been asked to help with the following list of shortages: 1 litre cartons of orange or apple juice, cartons of WHOLE milk, Tins of sardines - preferably in oil, tins of fruit (they are almost out of these) - mango, pineapple and mandarin oranges are firm favourites but fruit cocktail also popular, packets of biscuits, boxes of tissues. Thank you, again, for all your kindness!

We Welcome Fr Tom Connolly who will celebrate our Vigil Mass at St Brendan's this weekend.

Readers For Next Weekend (14/15 August)

| SB (5pm) | SJ (9.30am) | SB (11am) |
|------------|--------------|-----------|
| J O'Connor | P Partington | M Day |

This Newsletter is sponsored by

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JEW
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HEAR
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BELIEVES
MANNA
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LIFE





On August 9 the Catholic Church remembers St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, also known as St Edith Stein.

Edith Stein was born on October 12, 1891 - a date that coincided with her family's celebration of Yom Kippur, the Jewish "day of atonement." Edith's father died when she was just two years old, and she gave up the practice of her Jewish faith as an adolescent.

In 1921, while visiting friends, Edith spent an entire night reading the autobiography of the 16th century Carmelite nun St Teresa of Avila. "When I had finished the book," she later recalled, "I said to myself: This is the truth." She was baptized into the Catholic Church on the first day of January, 1922.

Edith intended to join the Carmelites immediately after her conversion, but would ultimately have to wait another 11 years before taking this step. Instead, she taught at a Dominican school, and gave numerous public lectures on women's issues. She spent 1931 writing a study of St Thomas Aquinas, and took a university teaching position in 1932.

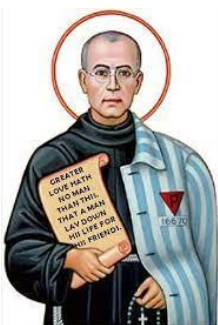
In 1933, the rise of Nazism, combined with Edith's Jewish ethnicity, put an end to her teaching career. After a painful parting with her mother, who did not understand her Christian conversion, she entered a Carmelite convent in 1934, taking the name "Teresa Benedicta of the Cross" as a symbol of her acceptance of suffering.

"I felt," she wrote, "that those who understood the Cross of Christ should take upon themselves on everybody's behalf." She saw it as her vocation "to intercede with God for everyone," but she prayed especially for the Jews of Germany whose tragic fate was becoming clear.

"I ask the Lord to accept my life and my death," she wrote in 1939, "so that the Lord will be accepted by his people and that his kingdom may come in glory, for the salvation of Germany and the peace of the world."

After completing her final work, a study of St. John of the Cross entitled "The Science of the Cross," Teresa Benedicta was arrested along with her sister Rosa (who had also become a Catholic), and the members of her religious community, on August 7, 1942. The arrests came in retaliation against a protest letter by the Dutch Bishops, decrying the Nazi treatment of Jews.

St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross died in the concentration camp at Auschwitz on August 9, 1942. Blessed John Paul II canonized her in 1998, and proclaimed her a co-patroness of Europe the next year



St Maximilian Kolbe (Memorial, 14 Aug) was born in Poland in 1894 to a poor weaver and his wife. His parents were devout Christians and they had a special devotion to Mary.

While he was a boy, he asked Mary, the Mother of God, what was to become of him. Mother Mary came to him holding two crowns, one white and the other red. She asked him if he was willing to accept either of the two crowns. The white meant that he should persevere in purity and the red that he should become a martyr. St Maximilian said that he would accept them both. From an early age, he believed that he was destined for martyrdom.

In 1907, he entered a Franciscan seminary and was ordained in Rome on 28 April 1918.

When the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939, he was imprisoned and they sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz in 1941.

On July 31, 1941 when ten men were sentenced to die in reprisal for one prisoner's escape, St Maximilian offered to die in place of a young husband and father. He was the last among them to die, after he endured two weeks of starvation and thirst.

He was beatified in 1971 and canonized in 1982 by Pope John Paul II.