

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

31 October 2021 All Saints



The church is built on the sacrifice of its saints, "a huge number, impossible to count"; this is how they are described in today's reading from the Book of Apocalypse. Each individual church in our world, those still standing and those sadly in ruins or gone forever from sight, was built by a group of believers who faithfully followed the words of Our Lord, "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations, baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". The building was by human hands, but the Lord was with them as every stone was set in place, just as He had promised them. That promise is as real today as it was at the foundation of Christianity and now, we too, in our day, are those builders.

The task we have is simple in its conception but very difficult to carry out. Two things are at the heart of our task, the love of God and the love of our neighbour. We cannot carry on the work of the saints who have gone before unless we first recognise that we are loved by God. In our second reading from the First Letter of John we find encouragement. He tells us to think of the Father's love, a free gift, given to us as children of God. He urges us to purify ourselves so that we can "try to be as pure as Christ". The future is unknown but in striving to be Christlike each day we come closer to God.

The Beatitudes are the focus of the Gospel; these blessings are an indicator to what we can achieve if we follow Christ. Read each one slowly, pausing to take the words to heart. They begin with the poor in sprit and gently walk through the human condition to, finally, the Kingdom of Heaven. Each line reminds us of someone we have known, someone whose love we have experienced, try now to put familiar faces to each beatitude. The saints have lived and died among us, they washed dishes, bandaged wounds, kept the peace, and prayed for us. A church is never complete until the work of redemption is complete. The first reading reminds us that all things must pass but until that time we must go on, quietly building the church upon earth so that we too may be counted in that number, "impossible to count". David Frank

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1
Divine Office Week 3
Apocalypse 7: 2.4, 9-14; 1 John 3: 1-3;
Matthew 5: 1-12

Roman Missal Readings page 944 Preface: page 948

Sunday 31 October

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

1pm Baptism (SJ)

3pm-4pm Holy Hour of Prayer with Adoration and Benediction for the Climate Crisis (SB)

Monday 1 November

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 2 November - All Souls

9.30am Mass (SB)

6pm Mass (SJ)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

Wednesday 3 November

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 4 November - St Charles Borromeo

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 5 November

No Mass Today

Saturday 6 November

11am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Mass (SB)

Sunday 7 November

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.15pm Baptism (SB)

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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), Colin Markland, Joan & Edwin Rankin, Pat Howarth, Philip Anderson, Rita O'Toole Lately Dead: Glynn Russell, Michael Wood

Anniversaries: Fr Joe Mallon, Nicola Lamoury, Dorothy Hodget, John Wynne, Mary Healy

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: John Wynne (1st Anniversary, Cynthia Winstanley (Birthday Remembrance), Louise Hayes, Glynn Russell, Michael Wood, Dorothy Hodget, Nicola Lamoury, Andrew Banks (sick), Karen Clough (sick), Mary Healy

Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6): We pray especially for: students & teachers; the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work & the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families

Hope in the Future: We pray for the people of the parishes of St Wilfrid's, Longridge, St Mary's, Chipping, and Saints Peter and Paul, Longridge, and for Father Anthony Dutton, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools, St Cecilia's High School, the Longridge Community Hospital and the St William's Centre for Mission Awareness at Lee House. May they all follow the Lord's call to be saints.

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 Click here to download the Mass sheet for Sunday 31 October (Thirty first Sunday in Ordinary Time)



Congratulations: To Ethan O'Donnell who was baptised last weekend. We pray that he and his family continue their faith journey.

Holy Hour of Prayer With Adoration & Benediction 3pm-4pm Sunday 31 October (All Saints Day) St Brendan's Church

Let us join together in prayer for a successful outcome of the COP26 meeting. Salford Diocese has provided information about COP26. Please see the back page of the newsletter

November - Holy Souls



In this month we pray, in a special way, for those who have died. Why pray for them? Because it is the way we help them to be purified so as to enter heaven. Because we are all united in prayer to each other, to Mary, the angels and saints, the faithful departed and us here below, we can offer up not just prayers but our

good works and sacrifices as well. We can 'apply' the merits gained by our prayers and good deeds to help the souls in purgatory.

Please note there will be two Masses on All Souls Day, praying for the faithful departed, for parishioners and for the Holy Father's Intentions.

We have envelopes (with a card) and you are invited to place the names of your deceased relatives and friends and all for whom you wish to pray during the month of the Holy Souls (no donation required). Please return the envelope to either church or post through the presbytery letterboxes. If you are unable to make it to church at this time, you may email your names to office@sbsj.org.uk All envelopes received will be placed on the sanctuary in the baskets marked Holy Souls. We will pray for the Faithful Departed at all the Holy Masses. May they rest in peace.

Readers Rota: The next rota will be available in a couple of weeks. Please let us know if you would like to start reading, or no longer wish to continue to read at Masses. We do have a shortage of readers at the Saturday Vigil Mass, if you think you might like to read at this Mass, please let the Office know. Thank you.

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November, Month for The Faithful Departed and Holy Souls In Purgatory: The month of November is traditionally dedicated by the Church to offer suffrages for all the faithful departed and holy souls in purgatory. A suffrage is an intercessory prayer on behalf of someone, in this case, of our dear brothers and sisters who have gone before us

A Mass for Our Dearly Departed

A Mass will be held on Saturday 20 November 11am at St Brendan's Church for those, in our parish, who died during the last 18 months and their families. There will be time to light candles for loved ones, and coffee and tea will be served afterwards. If you would like to attend this Mass, kindly let the parish know so that we can arrange seating. Thank you.

November Mass for the Pandemic at Salford Cathedral

11am Sunday 7 November 2021 November Catholic Throughout Dioceses across the UK will commemorate and celebrate all those affected by the pandemic. This will take the form of Masses for the Pandemic in Catholic cathedrals around the country. On Sunday 7 November, the Diocese of Salford will remember the dead and draw attention to the Christian attitude towards care, exemplified by the compassion and commitment of our healthcare workers during unprecedented time. Everyone welcome to attend this Mass, but we'd like to extend a special invitation to healthcare professionals, those working in care homes and hospices to join us as we give thanks for their service. (The Mass will also be livestreamed on churchservices.tv)

A Light in this World: November is the month of remembrance when we celebrate the lives of the faithful departed. More than ever, we may find ourselves thinking about a loved one. This year, why not make a dedication to someone you love, someone you miss or someone who has no-one else to pray for them. Together, we can keep their light shining, whilst making a difference to the lives of those who need it most. Please visit

https://caritassalford.dedicationpage.org/ All dedications made by Monday 22 November will be remembered by name during the Caritas Mass of Remembrance on Friday 26 November at 7pm celebrated by Fr Ged Murphy, Vicar for Caritas, at St Anne's RC Church, Stretford

Readers For Next Weekend (6/7 November)		
SB (5pm)	SJ (9.30am)	SB (11am)
S Mikolajewski	S May	K Denton

Healthy planet - Healthy People Campaign

This is being promoted by Laudato Si (formerly Global Catholic Climate Movement) in line with Pope Francis's teachings about our need to care for creation. In view of Cop26 (beginning this weekend) join Pope Francis and call on world leaders to urgently commit to the climate crisis by taking a moment to have a look at and sign the petition at:

www.healthyplanetandpeople.org

Do you want to know more about becoming Catholic? In the past, we have run a course called "Becoming Catholic". This was aimed at those who might have thought about becoming a Catholic, or for anyone who simply wishes to know more about the Catholic Faith. We will be starting this course up again, in the near future, so if this is something that appeals to you, please contact the Parish Office on 01204 301927 or email office@sbsj.org.uk

Discovering Plainchant - A Workshop for Singers: Saturday 20 November (10.30am - 4pm) at St Augustine's Catholic Church, Grosvenor Square, Manchester, M15 6BW. This is the first of several workshops devoted to the repertoire of Catholic liturgical music organised by the St Philip Neri Singers. You will be introduced to chant repertoire, taught how to read chant notation, and learn to sing pieces, concentrating on music for Eucharistic Adoration and for Our Lady. For more information, please contact the choir director Dr Rosemarie Darby on stphilipnerisingers@yahoo.co.uk or by calling 07798858900.

Diocese of Salford Training & Formation Events

'Camino - Making the Journey' Resource Launch - for Catechists leading Journey in Faith (RCIA). Wednesday 3 November 7.30pm - 9pm at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Lonsdale Road, Bolton, BL1 4PN (and via Zoom) Register Here Or go to:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/camino-making-the-journey-resource-launch-tickets-188401523027

Genesis Mission Introduction Session: Cathedral Centre - Saturday 27 November, 10am-1pm.

Register Here Or go to:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/genesis-mission-introduction-session-tickets-183519009297

Fr Eamonn Mulcahy: Synods and the Church under Pope Francis - Wednesday 24 November 2021 Register Here

Bishop John Arnold: Local reality of the Church in Salford - Wednesday 9 February 2022 Register Here

Diocese of Salford - Environmental Emergency - COP26

What's The Story?

Our planet has reached a dangerous tipping point in its battle against climate change. The last 10 years have been recorded as the warmest decade on record, and devastating images of forest fires, floods, and heatwaves had repeatedly hit the headlines, revealing the catastrophic impact changes to our climate are having on people right around the world. This year, UN scientists declared a "code red for humanity" in their IPCC report, confirming that human activity since the industrial revolution is to blame for putting the earth's natural balance out of kilter. Time is running out - but it's not too late. Pope Francis reminds us of our Christian duty to care for both the planet and its people; urging us to act now to address the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. However, amid stark warnings of a planet on the brink, Pope Francis also offers us a ray of light. Writing in Laudato Si' - his letter to the world on caring for our common home - he said: "Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems."

What is COP26?

COP26 is the annual climate change conference for the United Nations - a global summit where leaders from every country around the world - as representatives from indigenous communities - come together to discuss the future of our planet. This year, it is the UK's turn to host the conference, alongside Italy, with the main summit taking place in Glasgow between 31 October and the 12 November. With up to 30,000 delegates attending, COP26 is set to be the largest summit ever to take place on UK soil. Top of the agenda is to see all countries pledge to reach net zero emissions by 2050, with concrete plans to significantly cut emissions by 2030, to keep global warming below the 1.5C threshold set out in the Paris Agreement - a target that will allow Planet Earth escape the very worst effects of climate change. Rebuilding our world is not going to be easy; but it is possible. However, it needs more than just our leaders to step up. It needs each one of us to do our part, to answer Pope Francis' call to ecological and social conversion, and do what we can in our own lives to contribute to this global mission. In each country's pledge to meet the 2050 target, some initiatives may be announced that will help us make adjustments to our everyday lives, such as a faster transfer to electric vehicles or the phasing out of gas boilers.

How can we get involved?

Get talking - One of the biggest ways we can help our planet is by encouraging others to join us on our journey to climate justice. There are plenty of ways we can raise awareness and campaign for climate action. Keep an eye out for petitions from charities such as CAFOD, write to your MP on issues that concern you, share content on social media, and support your friends and family in changes they can make to positively impact our environment.

Make a pledge - If we truly want to build a better world for our planet and its people, we also need to make changes to our own lives. The changes we can make might seem small, but together they can make a huge impact. Whether it's walking or cycling to work one day a week, eating less meat, or switching to a greener energy supplier, your pledge can feed into a transformative cultural change.

Pray In times of crisis - It's important never to forget the power of prayer. In his latest Pastoral Letter, Bishop John invites us to join him in praying for the success of the summit. He encourages us to remember all world leaders in our daily prayers in the lead up to COP26 and during the summit itself.

Loving Father,

We acknowledge that, either through ignorance or greed, the Earth, our common home, is damaged. That damage is felt most by people who have done little to cause it. Industrialisation has exploited natural resources, endangering wildlife, causing climate change, and resulting in disasters and global warming. Father, forgive us, and guide us in the right way. Send your Spirit to encourage and strengthen our world leaders as they meet at COP26. Cause them to discern the way that we must now go, agreeing the changes and decisions necessary to begin to repair the damage done and to prepare a healthy and secure world for future generations.

And we ask Mary, our Mother, to intercede for us, and with us, in our need.

Amen.

What is Pope Francis saying?

"We must regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world, and that being good and decent are worth it."

"Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day."

"Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience."

"The climate is common good, belonging to all and meant for all."