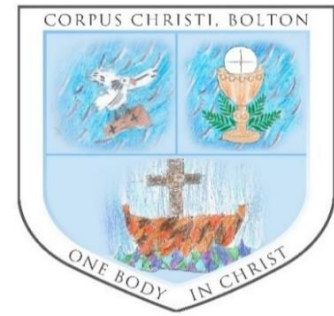


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

20 February 2022

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



It is hard to believe that God loves everyone. We know there is wickedness in the world, that, all too often lives are lost because of hatred and violence. How do we reconcile the two, love and hatred? We need God's help to turn away from the reaction to condemn, to put an end to retaliation, to find a way of loving the sinner while condemning the sin.

The story of Saul and David is very human, two friends who used to hold each other in great regard but, through circumstance, torn apart by rage and jealousy, far, far from love. Then an opportunity arises for the dispute to end, not in negotiation and agreement, but in the murder of one by the other. David holds the life of Saul in his hands, he only needs to give the word and his troubles, his banishment will end, and the kingdom will be his. He does not hesitate, leaving proof of his power over Saul's life, he turns away, taking Saul's life would be easy, giving it back to him is the harder choice but that is what David must do.

In his letter to the Corinthians Paul compares the human with the divine. Recalling Adam, the first man, Paul speaks of his soul and his earthly nature. He is speaking about us, how our actions create our character, good or bad, we are simply the product of our moral choices. He compares us with Christ, the last Adam, the man born with a life giving spirit whose boundaries are set by His heavenly nature. Somehow, by the life we choose, we can achieve heaven and then we too will become like Christ filled with his life giving spirit.

We are called by Jesus to live a life of compassion and love. No matter what our circumstances or the difficulties and dangers we face we must always try to act as Jesus teaches us. If we do not show love and compassion to others how can we expect the same in return? Each step we take, each choice we make, takes us towards love or towards hate. The greater we love, the greater we will be loved in return.

David Frank

Masses this Week

Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 3

Readings: Samuel 26:2.7-9.12-13.22-23

Cor 15: 45-49

Luke 6:27-38

Roman Missal Page 238; Readings Page 24

Preface as announced

Sunday 20 February

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

Monday 21 February

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 22 February - *The Chair of St Peter the Apostle*

9.30am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 23 February - *St Polycarp*

9am Adoration (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

10am Coffee Morning (SJ)

Thursday 24 February

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 25 February

No Mass Today

Saturday 26 February

10am Mass (SJ) - **This week only**

5pm Mass (SB)

Sunday 27 February

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

Parish Contact Details

Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello

Parish Office: St John's Presbytery,

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Website: www.sbsj.org.uk

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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, Frances Skemp, Kathleen Banks, Penelope Booth (poorly infant), Colin Markland, Joan & Edwin Rankin, Philip Anderson, Vincent Hopkinson, Irene Clappison, Dorothy Killoran, Frank & Pat McDowell, George Denton, Richard Crichton,

Lately Dead: Peter Riley, Cliff Partington, Anne Jones, Ernest Grimes

Anniversaries: Christopher Hailwood, Margaret & Edward Brandwood, William Hodget

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Remia Jimenez Pasaylo, Hilda Leach, Christopher Hailwood, Cliff Partington, Josephine Ward, Irene Sheridan, Margaret & Edward Brandwood, William Hodget

During Ordinary Time; - we pray for: Peace on earth; Openness to the Word of God, Christian Unity; The sick and those who care for them; victims of trafficking and those who work to combat it, the Unemployed

Hope In The Future: Let us pray for the people of the parish of St Margaret Mary, New Moston, and for Father Andrew Starkie, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school, for the Presentation Sisters, and for the Manchester mission of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. May they be compassionate as God our Father is compassionate.

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 best resource for Sunday worship at home is through the **Universalis website** (<https://universalis.com/mass.htm>)



Congratulations: To Chester James Parsons who was baptised last Sunday. Let us pray that both he and his family continue to grow in faith.

Marmalade: Peter Barnes is pleased to report that having raised £35 from the sale of marmalade, half the amount will go to Parish funds, and half to CAFOD. Thank you to everyone who contributed and he hopes your breakfasts have improved as a consequence!

Caritas Sunday: Thank you for your generosity for the recent collection. As a parish the contribution came to £606.02.

Coffee Mornings: Will be starting again at St John's Church (every month) after the 9.30am Mass. All are welcome to come along for coffee, cake and conversation!

Harbour Room Book Club: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 23 February at 1pm. The novel for discussion is *The Lost Man* by Jane Harper. Refreshments and all welcome.

World Day of Prayer There is a Global & Ecumenical Service at Longsight Methodist Church (new building), Longsight, Harwood on Friday 4 March. The event will commence at 12noon with a free lunch of soup & bread roll, tea & cake followed by short service at 1pm. Everyone welcome.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham led by Bishop John Arnold. Saturday 7 May. After a break of two years, due to the pandemic, we are pleased to confirm the resumption of our annual pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine in England. We hope coaches will be available from each deanery, leaving around 7am and arriving back around 10pm. The cost for the day trip is £20. Those wishing to make their own way are welcome to join the pilgrimage in Walsingham. Further information on available coaches and how to book to follow. Alongside this, there will be a youth pilgrimage for young people in years 7, 8 and 9. The Youth coach will leave on Friday 6 May around 10am from Salford Cathedral and arrive back around 10pm on Saturday 7 May. The group will be staying at Elmham House in Walsingham. The subsidised cost for the Youth pilgrimage is £50 (including accommodation, food, and travel). To book a place, please complete the form by clicking here: <https://forms.gle/nwDThmqBFLV5LEjU7>

CAFOD Walk against Hunger: Are you ready to change your life and transform someone else's this Lent? Could you Challenge yourself to walk 200k and help stamp out hunger? Please go to <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/> You can walk, roll, skip or stroll your way to 200k. You can boldly go it alone and take it on 5k a day, or you can smash the target as a team. We could do a Corpus Christi Parish walk in Lent and anyone with any ideas of what other walks we can do to raise money, please come forward. **We do need volunteers.** There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. Please contact any member of the CAFOD Group. Thank you - Peter Carolan. 01204 386006

Parish Christian Meditation (Hour Sessions)
7.30pm, 22nd February - St John's

'At Your Side' - The Art of Accompaniment: Saturday 5 March, 10am-3pm, Thornleigh Salesian College, Bolton, BL1 6PQ. If the pandemic has taught us anything it is that we are all connected and we need each other. Pope Francis tells us of the need to accompany others in life and to be accompanied ourselves. Danny Curtin, Amy Cameron, and David Wells will share their research on accompaniment. You can find out more and register for the event here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/256022418947>

200 Club Subscriptions: Are now due (£12 per number). Sadly, we have lost several parishioners over the last year who subscribed to the 200 Club leaving many numbers available. The 200 Club is a great way to support the Parish so any new members are greatly appreciated and made very welcome. It may be difficult for some parishioners to get their subscription to me, so here are a few options to help:

1. Post/deliver to the Parish Office
 2. Leave at the front of either church in the basket provided
 3. Contact me on 01204 30291 /07528027295
- For options 1 and 2 please place your subscription and your contact details in an envelope F.A.O Ann Gracie. All cheques made payable to **Corpus Christi**. Congratulations to all who have enjoyed their numbers being drawn over the last year and each number bought supports the Parish. *Ann*



Synod: We have until 15 March to make our submissions. You can complete an online submission using the QR code or following this link: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3D3FXJ2.

Readers' Rota: The new rota will be issued in the next two weeks. If you would like to become a reader, please let the office know. Thank you

Readers For (27/28 February 2022)		
C Molyneux	M Morrison	F Doloroso

You are Always Welcome...

To join us for coffee and a chat after Sunday Masses at St John's and St Brendan's.

We would love to see you!

This Newsletter is sponsored by
HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE
 Peel House
 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
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BLESS	REWARD
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PRAY	SINNERS
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The Feast of the Chair of St Peter



Every year on 22 February the Church celebrates the continuing role of the Pope, the Vicar of Christ, beginning with St Peter. Around A.D. 34, Peter went to Antioch and established there a seat, or chair, of government. Antioch was a major metropolitan city of the ancient world with a diverse population and was the place where Christ's followers were first called Christians. Peter remained there for seven years, and the Church would acknowledge his work in Antioch by establishing the feast of St Peter's Chair in Antioch, celebrated on Feb. 22 every year. That feast remained on the Catholic liturgical calendar until the 20th century.

Next, Peter went to Rome, the centre of the civilized world. Peter's efforts there would identify him as the first Bishop of Rome. Gifted by God and respected by man, he would continue his role as leader of all the Church, and as a result was the first pope.

On this feast day, the universal Church acknowledges that St Peter was the first pope and that his mission continues through the Holy Father today. Simply stated, that mission is to care for the people of God; to carry on the customs, rituals, teachings and truths of Jesus; and to uphold the unity of His Church. Moreover, the Church proclaims that the authority given to St Peter by Our Lord has been handed down to Peter's successors for the past 2,000 years.

This day is not just about apostolic succession in respect to the pope and the bishops. Among the laity, it symbolizes an unspoken confidence that the Church of Jesus does not change from age to age; that the truths of the Gospel still form the basis of our faith; that these eternal truths are reflected in every Catholic parish and in every Mass. It is a confidence that the leader of our Church adheres to and will never deny the precepts and principles of the Church of Jesus. We firmly believe that we are part of the mystical body of Christ, a holy people, a holy priesthood.