

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

22 January 2023

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Have you ever thought about how you can let the light of Christ shine more brightly in your life. Most people, including me, are quite content to move along slowly and just try to be a good catholic and not make waves. However, God is always looking for ways to change that sort of attitude and if you take the time to listen and allow the Holy Spirit to begin his work in you then you may just find your life begins to change and your light just glows more brightly.

In our first reading Isaiah is reflecting on the invasion of Israel which split the nation in two and led to a great division between the tribes of Israel. Now Isaiah sees the time when those divisions can be healed for a new light is coming, one which will defeat the darkness and bring the divided nation back into fellowship. The psalm is calling upon the people to look again at the Lord who is their light and their help. How often do we chant the psalm yet fail to listen to the words. This is the prayer of the disciple, calling on the Lord to break the shackles of fear that stop us from becoming a light for our families, friends and neighbours. It calls on us to hope in Him, to hold firm to our beliefs and to take heart from his promises.

Paul sees the divisions that have affected the relationships between the churches he has formed in Corinth. He urges them to be reconciled to one another. Division leads to error and now they have turned from the light of faith and split in various factions. This is not the way forward. We are one church with one Lord and those who seek to tear us apart must repent and be brought back into unity with Christ.

Jesus by moving to the town of Capernaum on the lake of Galilee, is fulfilling the vision of Isaiah bringing His light to the people of the regions which suffered from the divisions of history. He brings healing to a divided people and gives them a vision of the Kingdom of Heaven. As He walks along the lake side he begins calling to his apostles, to Peter, Andrew, James, and John. He sets alight the flame within them which will burn so brightly that many will come to know Jesus through their work of evangelisation. Now, the Lord's ministry among His people can truly begin.

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1
Divine Office Week 3
Roman Missal: p195*

Sunday 22 January

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB)

Monday 23 January

11am Requiem Mass for Mary Airey (SJ)

Tuesday 24 January - *St Francis de Sales*

10am Mass (SB) - with Yr1 Children
7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

Wednesday 25 January - *The Conversion of St Paul*

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)
9.30am Mass (SJ) followed by SVP Coffee Morning

Thursday 26 January - *Ss Timothy & Titus*

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 27 January

No Mass Today

Saturday 28 January - *St Thomas Aquinas*

11am Mass Exposition & Adoration (SJ)
11.30am Mass (SJ)
5pm Vigil Mass of 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (SB) - With Children's Liturgy

Sunday 29 January - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB)

Caritas Sunday - A Special Collection for Caritas will be held at Masses this weekend

Parish Contact Details

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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:

Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Pat Margiotta, Frances Skemp, Edwin Rankin, Philip Anderson, Vincent Hopkinson, Irene Clappison, Dorothy Killoran, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Wynn & Michael Latham, Irene Sheridan, Thomas Baker, Kathryn Browning, Rachel Edge, Fr Leo Heakin, Peter Hayler, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Mary Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Sheila Derbyshire, Helene Draper, Terry Scott

Lately Dead: Ken Slater, William Winnett, Mary Airey, Agnes Kirkby, Josephine Ward

Anniversaries: Alan Yates, Eleanor Owen, Michael Axford, Margaret Gibson, Bernard Coop, Bridie Knowles (née Brogan)

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: The Alcock family, Alan Yates, Eleanor Owen, For the souls of the family and friends of the Owen family, Margaret Quayle, Michael Axford, Margaret Gibson, Bernard Coop, Ken Slater, Josephine Knowles (Birthday Remembrance), Edna Brooks (Birthday Remembrance), Bridie Knowles (née Brogan), Josephine Ward

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

We continue to pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine

Hope In The Future: Let us pray for the parish of St Gabriel and the Angels and St John the Baptist, Castleton and Rochdale, with Father Michael Jonhonnott, their parish priest, their parish primary schools and the Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph. May their life and mission be rooted in listening to the Word of God.

Financial Support: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Thank you

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

Standing Order: Please contact us if you would like to set up a direct payment. *Thank you*

Congratulations: To Charlie Thomas Winstanley who was baptised last weekend. Let us pray that he and his family continue on their journey of faith.

Parish Trip to the Holy Land: Booking forms are now available. Once completed, please return to Parish Office with the deposit by **Sunday 5 February**. Thank you.

Harbour Room Book Club. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 25 January at 1pm. The novel for discussion is *Three Hours* by Rosamund Lupton. Refreshments. All welcome.

Carmine Rea: We say a fond farewell to Carmine as he returns to his studies in seminary next week. We are so very grateful that he joined us and let us now pray for him as he continues on his vocational journey.

A Message from Carmine Rea:

I would like to thank the parish community for your warm welcome whilst I have been on placement here in the parish of Corpus Christi. The generosity of many parishioners has deeply touched me. The hard work each parishioner contributes has not gone unnoticed. I have learned a lot whilst I have been in the parish from parishioners and your parish priest Fr Alfred. I have been to all the schools within the parish, and I have been impressed by the children's deep and thoughtful questions and knowledge. As I leave the parish, please be assured that I will remember all of you in my prayers as I continue my formation. Please pray for me and all those studying for the priesthood. A special prayer for vocations to the priesthood. On Friday 10 February, at 7pm in St Brendan's, there will be a Mass to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Caritas Sunday: We will be celebrating Caritas Sunday on 29 January. This date is an opportunity for our parish to reflect on the social action work which has taken place in local communities over the last year. We will hold a collection in support of our diocesan charity's work locally. More people than ever are experiencing poverty, isolation, homelessness and disadvantage in our Diocese, so thank you in advance for your kindness and support. There is more information, and a special video message from Bishop John Arnold on the Caritas website at:

www.caritassalford.org.uk/service-view/caritas-sunday/

Walsingham Pilgrimage 2023: Saturday 20 May. You can now register your interest to join our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham this May. Due to increased transport costs, we may look to reduce the number of coaches, so we would be grateful if you could please register your interest by emailing walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or calling 0161 817 2214. Further information and booking forms will be made available soon.

Can You Help?

Bolton Destitution Project are in desperate need of the following items:- Bottles of oil, bags of sugar, tins of kidney beans, chick peas, sweetcorn, tuna and sardines. They have also asked if any one has any pairs of men's trainers that are in good condition (but no longer needed). Thank you for your support.

29 January 2023

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses & Activities this Week
<i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1 Divine Office Week 4 Roman Missal: p206</i>
Sunday 29 January - Caritas Sunday 9.30am Mass (SJ)- With Children's Liturgy 11am Mass (SB)
Monday 30 January 6pm Mass (SJ)
Tuesday 31 January - St John Bosco 10am Mass (SB) 7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)
Wednesday 1 February 9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ) 9.30am Mass (SJ)
Thursday 2 February - The Presentation of the Lord 10am Mass (SB)
Friday 3 February No Mass Today
Saturday 4 February 5pm Vigil Mass of 5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time (SB) - With Children's Liturgy
Sunday 5 February - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy 11am Mass (SB) 12.15pm Baptism (SB) 1pm Baptism (SB)

200 Club Winners for January:

- 1st £50 C Yates (148)
- 2nd £25 D Cowen (104)
- 3rd £15 A Hayes (79)

CAFOD: Are seeking three committed individuals to join CAFOD's Board of Trustees and to help contribute to our mission and agenda for change. The volunteer vacancies available are for two Trustees and one Treasurer Designate. More details can be found at:

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/UK-news/Trustee-vacancies>

Thought for the Week

"The family is a community of love where each of us learns to relate to others & to the world around us. "

Pope Francis

Have you a dream that is still waiting to be born; is there something in your life which was once a path to your future which has now become a cul-de-sac, a road which you have never travelled. We all begin life with dreams and aspirations; sometimes they are impossible to achieve, often they are put to one side because the time is not quite right, if we are fortunate, we can live our dreams Today's readings speak to us of an old dream which is made new because a light has been shone upon it. Perhaps that same light will grow strong and illuminate the path to your dream.

The prophet Zephaniah is writing 600 years before the birth of Christ; he recognises a condition which we may be familiar with. The poor, the humble, are ignored by the rich and powerful; they feel they have no power in a land where power is everything. Their hopes are founded on the Lord; they seek Him with integrity and humility, only God can save them from the hands of wicked men. They pray for justice and a refuge in the Lord.

Paul's dream is of a people who will come and worship God through His Son Jesus Christ. He recognises that those who follow Christ are not the rich and powerful, the worldly wise, but those who simply believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. We are not wise by human reckoning, we have faith, a belief which may seem foolish by those who believe they are wise, but a faith that makes us part of God's kingdom and so He has become our wisdom.

In Matthew's Gospel, we begin a revelation, through Jesus, of the Kingdom of God. We hear the beatitudes, a series of blessings which give honour to the lowliest and not the mighty. We sometimes speak of Jesus "turning the world upside down"; this passage is the beginning of that upheaval; the transfer of power from the powerful to the humble. Each line resonates with our own time. Because today's world is so small, we are aware of the suffering of many, an awareness which was not known to past generations. Today we cannot ignore poverty, it is all around us, we cannot ignore injustice, war, persecution because we see it, in real time, on our television screens. Now is the time, armed with the righteousness of God, to speak out against the unjust world we live in and seek to change it. In our small way, we can begin to fulfil the beatitudes, all we need to do is to have courage and, through our actions, place our dream of a better world into God's hands.

Readers for 28/29 January 2023		
5pm(SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am(SB)
C Molyneux	M Morrison	L Lamoury
Readers for 4/5 February 2023		
5pm(SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am(SB)
C Grundy	J O'Connor	A Moore

M	I	W	E	R	D	N	A	P	M
S	U	L	E	D	E	B	E	Z	E
E	J	A	M	E	S	T	N	E	U
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D	E	E	A	R	O	J	H	U	N
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E	I	L	A	T	H	P	A	N	P
Z	N	A	D	R	O	J	S	C	A
N	U	G	U	B	E	Z	I	N	C

GALILEE CAPERNAUM ZEBULUN
 NAPHTALI JORDAN ISAIAH
 SIMON PETER ANDREW
 JAMES ZEBEDEE JOHN

S	P	I	R	Y	P	A	H	A	E
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HAPPY POOR SPIRIT
 HEAVEN GENTLE EARTH
 MOURN HUNGER MERCIFUL
 PURE HEART REWARD

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