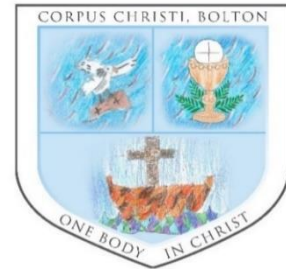


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

Sixteenth Sunday Ordinary Time



The Forgiveness and mercy of God is never far from our lives; indeed we seem to have a habit of falling in and out of sin and so the request for forgiveness is never far from our lips. We are not a sinful people; we try to live good lives and love each other. However, we are human, with all the faults and failings, the gifts and blessings, that humanity contains. Today's readings help us to better understand our relationship with God and offer guidance and support as we walk the road of life.

The Book of Wisdom was not written in the distant past; it is believed it was written within 100 years of the ministry of Christ and it represents an attempt to reconcile the God of ancient Israel with a fresh understanding of human life. It introduces to us a God who cares for everything. It is a source of great consolation for it speaks of a God who helps us to live a virtuous life and that, if we do sin, we have the hope of repentance. This is our God, not of anger and retribution, but of forgiveness and love. It is hard for us to forgive others for what they do; we need to hold our God of forgiveness in our hearts and follow his example.

Prayer is the refuge we turn to when we despair of our lives, when we encounter sin in ourselves and in others. Often, we cannot find the words to express our feelings. There is no need to worry for the Holy Spirit is there to help us in our need. Paul knows the power of the Spirit to turn our thoughts into prayer. Words cannot always express the ache in our hearts; we need to trust in our God for he is always listening.

The Kingdom of Heaven is a phrase which we struggle to understand. Some say the kingdom is here on earth, others that it is a future place we journey towards. Jesus uses three parables to help us understand this mystery. Each of us hears these parables and, depending on our situation, we can take different things from the words. The parable of the darnel reminds us that we live in a very diverse world containing good and evil and we need to live a virtuous life if we are to find the kingdom. The mustard seed may remind us that even the smallest of grains of faith can grow and lead us to the kingdom and the yeast is perhaps reminding us that we live a life in which we change from day to day and move slowly into the person God wishes us to be. *David Frank*

Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1
Divine Office Week 4
Roman Missal: p 328*

Sunday 23 July

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

Monday 24 July

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

Tuesday 25 July - St James

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

Wednesday 26 July - St Joachim & St Anne

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

Thursday 27 July

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

Friday 28 July

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

Saturday 29 July - Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus

11am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - First Mass of Sunday

Sunday 30 July

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.15pm Baptism (SB)

As Fr Alf is away this week, please note the following Mass Times at our neighbouring parish (Holy Infants). Please check the parish website <https://www.holyinfant.co.uk/> as times may vary for funerals etc. Thank you

Parish Contact Details

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

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HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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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, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Pat Margiotta, Frances Skemp, Edwin Rankin, Philip Anderson, Vincent Hopkinson, Irene Clappison, Dorothy Killoran, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Irene Sheridan, Thomas Baker, Kathryn Browning, Rachel Edge, Fr Leo Heakin, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Ken Goodwin, Michael O'Connor, Joyce Strickleton, Christine Gardner, Margaret Doreen Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien

Lately Dead: Kitty Cahalane, Jeff Archbould, Corrine Dominique Doloroso, Kathleen Cocker

Anniversaries: James Coyne, Peg Crowley, Mary Mathen, Ellen Day

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: James Coyne, Peg Crowley, Kitty Cahalane, Jeff Archbould, Corrine Doloroso, Mary Mathan, Margaret Quayle (RIP), Ellen Day (10th Anniversary)

During Ordinary Time (summer), we pray for: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution; oppression & denial of human rights; Europe; Seafarers; Human life
We continue to pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine

Let us pray this week for the people of the parish of St Augustine with Fr Michael Deas, their parish priest, and their parish primary school. We pray for the Jesuit community at the Holy Name, for the Catholic Chaplaincy to the Manchester Universities and the Catholic Chaplaincy at the Manchester Hospitals, and for the Daughters of Charity. May they be guided by the Spirit of God who helps us in our weakness.

Offertory: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially.

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

Internal Redecoration of St Brendan's Church and Harbour Room: The interior of the Church and Harbour Room will be re-decorated from Monday 16 October for a period of approximately two weeks and during this time the Church and Harbour Room will be unavailable. The 5pm Vigil Mass and 11am Sunday Mass on the weekend of 21/22 October will be transferred to St John's. It is hoped that the usual Mass times and locations will resume from Saturday 28 October and any changes will be notified in due course.

Forthcoming Property Works at St Brendan's and St John's: The church ceiling, at St John's, will be repainted week beginning 4th September. From 11th September (for a period of approximately 4 weeks) remedial works will be carried out at both St Brendan's & St John's churches. It is expected that the normal pattern of Masses and services will continue but any changes will be advised as the works progress.

World Day of Prayer of Grandparents and the Elderly: This Sunday is the Third World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly, falling close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus. To mark this year's celebration, Pope Francis presents each of us with a challenge to foster "joyful and renewed encounter" across all generations, and to make a special gesture to reach out to grandparents and the elderly. As part of this, Pope Francis has granted a Plenary Indulgence for those who visit their grandparents, or elderly or housebound friends, neighbours, or relatives. Visit the Holy See's website at <https://shorturl.at/cjmA9> to read more. For further information, resources, and prayers to mark this special day, please visit cbcew.org.uk/world-day-grandparents-elderly/

Job Vacancies

Diocese of Salford - Safeguarding Administrator (replacement role) Appointment Type: Full-time, permanent

Working hours: 35 hours per week with some flexible working required. (Term-time working will be considered).

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

Salary, pension, and benefits: £23,793 - £29,248 per annum depending on skills & experience, 25 days holiday plus bank holidays and 5 Diocesan closure days, employers pension scheme.

Closing date: 12noon Monday 24 July 2023

Diocese of Salford - Administrator (replacement role)

Appointment Type: Part-time, permanent

Working hours: 21 hours per week with some flexible working required including some evening/weekend work.

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP - within the Diocese of Salford's Safeguarding Department.

Salary, pension, and benefits: £19,838 - £21,279 per annum - FTE (depending on skills & experience), 25 days holiday plus bank holidays and 5 Diocesan closure days, employers pension scheme.

Closing date: 12noon Monday 24 July 2023

For more information and to apply for either of the above roles, please visit

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

Readers For 29/30 July 2023		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
J O'Connor	P Partington	K Wilkinson