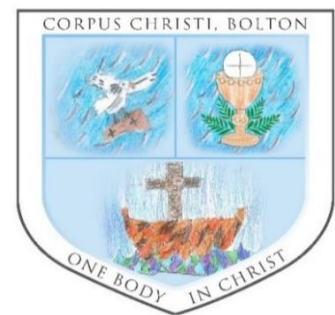


# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**20 August 2023**

## Twentieth Sunday Ordinary Time



Compassion for people who have different cultures or beliefs is the cornerstone of today's readings. The Old Testament world was, in essence, very tribal. A place where the strong ruled over the weak and often made slaves of those who lived beside them but did not belong. It was a world of strong religious beliefs, mainly in what we would call "pagan gods", the people were struggling to understand what life, and death, really meant and turned to familiar objects as subjects of their worship.

The passage from Isaiah makes it very clear that, from earliest times, those who serve the Lord, Jews or foreigners, are acceptable to Him. They must however "care for justice", and "act with integrity" for this will be the sign that they are pleasing to God. As we read these words from the prophet it is clear that everyone who follows the Commandments of the Lord is welcome in His house; "a house of prayer for all the peoples". Faith in Christ was never solely for the Jews; the call of Jesus to go out into the world to make disciples of all nations led to the missionary journeys of Saint Paul. In this passage from his letter to the Romans Paul uses the example of the "pagans" and their whole hearted acceptance of Jesus as Lord and contrasts this with the intransigence of the Jewish people who do not accept Him. Paul prays for a change of heart from the Jewish people so that the mercy of God can be shown to all people.

The mercy of God manifests itself in the compassion we show to others. In the story of the Canaanite woman the disciples show compassion for the pleas of the woman for the release of her daughter from the torments of the devil. Jesus seems to cling to the belief that only the Jews are worthy of God's mercy; perhaps he does this to test the response from the disciples to see if they believe that the mercy of God is for everyone who has faith in Him. The disciples take up her cause and ask Jesus to grant her wish. Now, in our day, we too must follow the example of the disciples for unless we act with that same compassion how can the mercy of God enter our world.

**David Frank**

### Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1  
Divine Office Week 4  
Roman Missal: p 371*

#### Sunday 20 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)  
11am Mass (SB)  
12.15pm Baptism (SB)

#### Monday 21 August - *St Pius X*

10am Requiem Mass for Alina Karakula (SB)  
6pm Mass (SJ)

#### Tuesday 22 August - *Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

10am Mass (SB)

#### Wednesday 23 August

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)  
9.30am Mass (SJ)

#### Thursday 24 August - *St Bartholomew*

10am Mass (SB)

#### Friday 25 August

No Mass today

#### Saturday 26 August

11am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)  
11.30am Mass (SJ)  
5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - First Mass of Sunday

#### Sunday 27 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)  
11am Mass (SB)  
12.15pm Baptism (SB)

### 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](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk)  
Website: [www.sbsj.org.uk](http://www.sbsj.org.uk)  
Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees  
Registered Charity - 250037  
Diocesan website: [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

This Newsletter is sponsored by

**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**

Peel House  
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.  
BL1 7AL  
01204 309609





**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, Peter Carroll

**Lately Dead:** Joan Bowes, Alina Karakula  
**Anniversaries:** Mary Carter, Andrew Hayes, John Pearce, Margaret Grogan

**May They Rest in Peace**

**Mass Intentions:** Mary Carter, A Special Intention, Andrew Hayes, Kathleen Banks (in loving memory), Strength & wellbeing for the Banks family, John Pearce, Margaret Grogan

**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 in this coming week for the parishes of St Kentigern, Fallowfield, and the English Martyrs, Whalley Range, with Canon Michael Cleary, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school and for St Bede's College.

**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

**Congratulations:** To Henry James Warburton and Daisy Halyna Hardman who were baptised on 30 July. We pray that both they and their families continue to grow in faith.

**A Date For Your Diaries  
 The Woman at the Well**

**A Retreat Led by Donna Worthington.  
 7pm-9pm, Tuesday 10th October 2023  
 The Patmos Room, St John's Church**

There is no cost for this event but any offerings will help towards expenses

Places are limited so please book using the parish contacts:

Tel. 01204 301927, Email: [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk)

**Our Faith, Our Planet, Our Commitments  
 Thursday 14 September 2023, 6.30pm - 9.30pm  
 Manchester Museum**

An annual conference on climate change is set to take place next month to discuss ways people can work together to reduce our carbon footprint.

Our Faith, Our Planet, Our Commitment takes place on Thursday 14th September and will include a series of workshops and networking opportunities to help communities work together for the good of our common home. Find out more and register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/our-faith-our-planet-our-commitments-tickets-676670799577?aff=oddtcreator>

**Job Vacancy**

**Diocese of Salford - Senior Finance Officer (replacement role)**

**Appointment Type:** Full-time, permanent

**Working hours:** 35 hours per week, Mon - Fri

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

**Salary:** £28,119 - £31,176 per annum, depending on skills and experience

Find out more and apply at

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

E	P	E	H	S	P	A	R	C	S	GENNESARET TYRE	CANAANITE	
T	E	R	A	S	E	N	N	E	G	DAUGHTER	DEVIL	LOST
I	O	L	L	E	W	I	S	R	O	SHEEP	WOMAN	HOUSEDOGS
N	S	R	D	O	O	F	A	H	D	SCRAPS	TABLE	WELL
A	T	R	M	P	E	N	O	D	E			
A	I	A	A	E	T	S	O	L	S			
N	N	T	L	E	N	Y	F	I	U			
A	A	B	D	H	L	T	R	V	O			
C	A	L	H	S	I	W	E	E	H			
T	R	E	T	H	G	U	A	D	S			

Readers For 26/27 August 2023		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
L Lamoury	S Copley	K Denton

**Thought for the Week:**  
 "Love, by its nature, is communication; it leads to openness and sharing."  
 Pope Francis