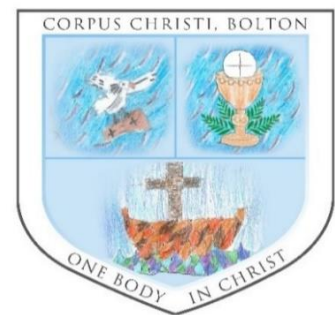


# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**29 October 2023**

## Thirtieth Sunday Ordinary Time



The world is becoming a very small place; sixty years ago, you seldom met anyone who lived outside a small geographical area. If you did not travel, then you seldom met with “strangers”. Today there are many different nationalities living in our towns, we meet them in our neighbourhoods, at work, and in our parishes. They do not remain strangers but become friends and work colleagues; they are very much a part of our communities. To the Jewish people, with their laws and customs, the stranger was outside their society, and it was difficult for them to accept “gentiles” into their lives. The passage from Exodus is a reminder that, if we do not love, then how can we expect to be loved by God in return. We must always be ready to put aside our concern for other cultures and embrace the friendship of the “stranger”.

Paul was caught between two worlds; He was a Jew and always spoke firstly to those of his race who would listen to the Good News, but he recognised that his mission was also to the Gentiles. He made no distinction between the two. Perhaps this was the way of life that he speaks about today. The church welcomed everyone, Jews or Gentiles, who came to believe in Christ Jesus, a place was created where all worshipped together. This was not the normal way that people behaved two thousand years ago. But it worked. Hopefully we have learned a great deal more tolerance today.

Matthew's Gospel speaks of the greatest commandment; the message is clear and concise, it cannot be misunderstood, and there are no ifs and buts. Love must be at the centre of your every thought, word, and action, to serve God you must serve your neighbour. Loving everybody is not easy; we each have our own view on society and some people find it difficult to love, while others are difficult to love because of their nature. Love needs to be worked at, problems need solutions through prayer, sacrifice, and acceptance. Sometimes our love seems to be all one way, but we must persevere. If we follow Christ's teaching; eventually, we will see the reward for our persistence: a world filled to overflowing with God's love.

*David Frank*

### Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1*

*Divine Office Week 2*

*Roman Missal: p 475*

#### Sunday 29 October

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

11am Mass (SB)

12.15pm Baptism (SB)

#### Monday 30 October

6pm Mass (SJ)

#### Tuesday 31 October

10am Mass (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

#### Wednesday 1 November - *All Saints*

9.30am Mass (SJ)

7pm Mass (SB)

*Holy Day of Obligation*

#### Thursday 2 November - *All Souls*

9.30am Mass (SB)

7pm Mass (SJ)

#### Friday 3 November

No Mass Today

#### Saturday 4 November

No Morning Mass

5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - *With Children's Liturgy*

#### Sunday 5 November

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

11am Mass (SB)

12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

3pm 40<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Mass for Canon Michael Cooke  
(St Luke's Church, Salford)

### Parish Contact Details

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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, Peter Carroll, Joan Turner

**Lately Dead:** Fr Joe O'Connor, Mary Clarke, Cecilia Keefe, Gordon Hill, Cecilia Whittle, James Campbell

**Anniversaries:** Winifride O'Connor, Kathryn Hinks, **Mass Intentions:** Fr Joe O'Connor, Winifride O'Connor, A seriously ill person, Lilian Dawson (Birthday Remembrance), Mary Clarke, Kathryn Hinks, Emily Chesterton (Birthday Remembrance), Cecilia Keefe

**During Ordinary Time (autumn), we pray for:** Students and 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 and their families. *We Pray for all those affected by the devastating news in Israel and Gaza. Let us also pray for healing, a peaceful solution and restoration. We continue to pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine.*

This week let us pray for the parishioners of St Winifred's, Heaton Mersey, and for Fr Mark Paver, their parish priest. Let us pray for the parish primary school, for Stella Maris school and for the Sisters of Charity of St Paul. May they be a community, built firm on love of God and neighbour.

**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**

**Children's Liturgy:** If anyone would be interested in helping out at the 11am Mass (SB), please get in touch with Fr Alf or the Parish Office. Please note, volunteers are subject to DBS clearance.

**SVP Coffee Morning:** Thank you to all who came along to the coffee morning this week. Together we raised £174 which will be used for parish funds.

**Spiritans Mission Appeal:** We have received a letter of thanks for the kind donation of £1,088.75 collected when Fr Martin came to visit us. Thank you for your generosity.

**Ruby Jubilee:** Fr Michael, our former parish priest, is celebrating 40 years of priesthood next month. There will be a special Mass at 3pm on Sunday 5 November at St Luke's Church, Swinton Park Road, Salford M6 7WR. Parishioners of Corpus Christi are very welcome to attend.

**Diocesan Synod - Appeal for Big Listen Participants:** Thank you to those who attended the session las Wednesday. Please note the change of date for the next one: Wednesday 22 November 6.30pm (St Brendan's). We hope to also have a final Big Listen at a daytime session in January.

Your participation in one of these events would be greatly appreciated. If you live in our parish, we want to hear from you! We would simply like you to give us your honest answers to a series of questions provided by the Diocese. For more information, please contact the parish office or speak to Julie Summerton and Guy Drabble. For more information, please visit [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/)



**November - The month of Holy Souls**

This is the time in the Church's liturgical calendar, when we remember, in a very special way, all those who have died. To that end, envelopes are now available at the back of each church for anyone who wishes to have a Mass offered for their deceased relatives and friends during November. Please feel free to take an envelope to insert your intention (and optional donation) and place in the baskets at each Altar. The names of all those will be prayed for during this time.

**All Saints and All Souls Day**

November 1<sup>st</sup> is a Holy day of Obligation (the Solemnity of All Saints), and the following day, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, is all Souls Day when we are invited to join with the Church Triumphant in heaven; made up of the many men, women, and children who are at peace with God and to pray for those faithful departed who need our prayers to enter heaven.

**Annual Mass for the Deceased**

In November we also remember those who have shared our life and made a deep impression on us. As a parish community, we will hold a special Mass to pray for all those who have died in the last year (November 2022 - October 2023). We would also like to pray for the families of the deceased and so we invite them to the Mass on Saturday 25 November, 11am at St John's Church. The names of the deceased will be read out and candles will be lit in memory of them. Please be assured of our prayers at this time.

**Newsletter:** Next week, the Newsletter will be published on Wednesday 1 November. Please could any news items or Mass Intentions be handed in Before 12noon on that date. Thank you.

Readers For 4/5 November 2023		
<b>5pm Vigil (SB)</b>	<b>9.30am (SJ)</b>	<b>11am (SB)</b>
J O'Connor	L Fakanule	F Doloroso