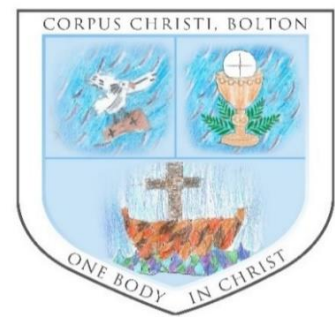


# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**12 November 2023**

## Thirty-Second Sunday Ordinary Time



Every so often we come across a reading which touches something deep within us. It is a graced moment, a time to stop and read again, trying to come to an understanding of the word that has been proclaimed. The writer of the Book of Wisdom captures a gift from God and reveals it to us so that we may seek for it and, if we find it, hold it close and never let it go.

Perhaps the greatest gift we can wish for is Wisdom. All the mistakes, all the misunderstandings, everything we have done wrong, all could have been avoided if we made use of the God given gift of wisdom. We search for that gift all our lives, yet it is always there, just in front of us, hiding in plain sight. It may be found in the words of our parents, our teachers and even in the words and actions we see, every day, in our friends and our neighbours but we are so busy looking for it that we do not see it. Today we are asked to watch for it, to be alert for signs, and to grasp it and use it to govern our decisions and our plans for the future.

Are we judgmental when we hear the parable of the ten bridesmaids? It is so easy to call the five who have oil as wise and the other five as foolish but how often have we planned an event then, at the last moment realise that we have forgotten something, and we rush around trying to correct our mistakes. It is very easy to criticise, it is very difficult to be perfect. Whenever I listen to this parable, I feel sorry for the five who are not admitted to the wedding hall, I can see they may be foolish but they are so, so, human. Perhaps Our Lord is not judging the foolishness of the bridesmaids but reminding us that we need to be prepared every day to meet the Lord and, when we do so, present Him with a wise heart brimming over with forgiveness and understanding.

*David Frank*

### Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1

Divine Office Week 4

Roman Missal: p 494

#### Sunday 12 November

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

11am Mass (SB)

10.40am Remembrance Services at Dunscair War Memorial and Bolton Town Hall.

Please note, refreshments will not be available after the 9.30am Mass due to Remembrance Services.



#### Monday 13 November

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

#### Tuesday 14 November

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

7pm Mass (St Osmund's)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

#### Wednesday 15 November

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

#### Thursday 16 November

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

#### Friday 17 November

9.30am Mass (Holy Infant's)

9.30am (St Osmund's)

#### Saturday 18 November

No Mass Today

12.15pm Baptism (SJ)

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

#### Sunday 19 November

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

11am Mass (SB)

### 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, Joan Turner

**Lately Dead:** Bernard Harper (former Head of Ss Peter & Paul Primary School), Gill Longworth, Peter Carroll, Ken Manual

**Anniversaries:** Florence & Louis Hodgkinson, Dorothy Hodget, Philip Marshall, Emily Chesterton

**Mass Intentions:** Florence & Louis Hodgkinson, Dorothy Hodget, A Special Intention, Philip Marshall, Gill Longworth, Emily Chesterton

**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 healing, a peaceful solution and restoration to the conflict in Gaza and Israel.*

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

This week we pray for the people of the parish of St Robert of Newminster, with Fr Boniface Ambe, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools, for St Peter's High School and for the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions. May they ever seek the wisdom that comes from God.

**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 Bonnie Bleu Grady who was baptised last weekend. We pray that both she and her family continue to grow in faith.

**Mass Times:** As Fr Alf is in Lourdes next week, please see the Mass times at our neighbouring parishes. Please check the websites beforehand as times may vary for funerals etc.  
<https://www.holyinfant.co.uk>  
and <https://www.blesseddominicbarberi.org.uk>

**Saturday Morning Mass**

On the first Saturday of each month, Exposition, Adoration and Morning Mass will be held at St Brendan's Church. The first of these being on Saturday 2 December. Confession will also be available.

**Diocesan Synod - Appeal for Big Listen Participants:** Wednesday 22 November 6.30pm (St Brendan's). We hope to also have a final Big Listen at a daytime session in January. For more information, please contact the parish office or speak to Julie Summerton and Guy Drabble.

**Annual Mass for the Deceased:** We will hold a special Mass on Saturday 25 November, 11am at St John's Church. Please be assured of our prayers at this time.

**Christmas Flower Demonstration:** Saturday 9 December at St Brendan's Church (1pm-3pm). Tickets (in aid of the Destitution Project) are on sale after weekend Masses at £5 per person.

**Christmas Poinsettias:** If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia plant, in memory of a loved one, please take a request slip & envelope and place, with a donation (minimum £5), in the basket provided. The deadline for your request is Sunday 10 December. Thank you.

**Churches in Harwood (Christmas Dinner on Jesus):** This year we are collecting jars of Cranberry Sauce (200g size). If you can help with this appeal, we aim to collect 200 jars by the last Sunday in November (26/11/23). Thank you for your continued support.

**Pastoral Visit of the Apostolic Nuncio:** His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, will make a pastoral visit to Salford Diocese on 29-30 November. As part of his visit, he will celebrate Mass at St Patrick's, Collyhurst, on Thursday 30 November at 6.30pm, where he will impart an Apostolic Blessing on all those present. All are welcome to attend the Mass and there is no need to register.

**Your Travel to Church:** As the Diocese of Salford works to reach its goal of being net zero by 2038, we're looking to find out more about the travel patterns of people across the diocese. Our diocesan environment team has put together a short survey to find out more about how people travel to and from church and would be very grateful for your response. The survey can be found at <https://forms.gle/skCHYCKnBzhDrvbn9>.

**Thought for the Week...**

"God alone is infinitely wise. He is wisdom, power and love."

*St Maximillian Kolbe*

**Readers For 18/19 November 2023**

<b>5pm Vigil (SB)</b>	<b>9.30am (SJ)</b>	<b>11am (SB)</b>
G Drabble	A Grundy	C Ezeougu

**Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ)**

A Gracie & M Cropper