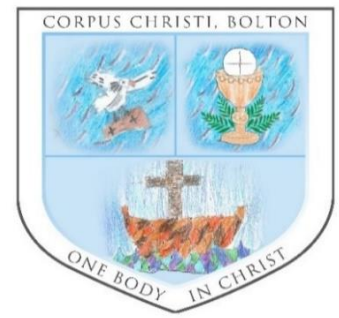


# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**7 April 2024**

**Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy**



## Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2  
Divine Office Week 2  
Roman Missal: p730; Readings: p 732*

### Sunday 7 April

9.30am Mass (SJ) - *With Children's Liturgy*  
11am Mass (SB) - *With Children's Liturgy*  
12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

### Monday 8 April - *The Annunciation of the Lord*

10am Requiem Mass for Alan Baxter (SB)  
6pm Mass (SJ)

### Tuesday 9 April

10am Mass (SB)  
7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

### Wednesday 10 April

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

### Thursday 11 April

10am Mass (SB)

### Friday 12 April

12noon Mass (SB)

### Saturday 13 April

10.45am Sacrament of Reconciliation with  
Exposition & Adoration (SJ)  
11.30am Mass (SJ)  
5pm Vigil Mass (SB)

### Sunday 14 April - *Third Sunday of Easter*

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

The Easter season poses a question which each of us must answer: What does the resurrection really mean? If you read the Book of Acts and the Gospel accounts of the period after Our Lord's resurrection you will be struck by two things; initially there is a great outpouring of the Spirit which spreads the Word across the known world but, after this period, there comes a test of faith through persecution, and this is when the real strengths of the people of God emerge.

The one thing that sustains the people of God through these trials is their faith and that faith is underlined by the resurrection of Jesus. It is impossible for us to imagine the effect that this event must have had on the apostles and disciples. It is clear from today's readings that it gave them a unique glimpse of the power of God working through Jesus. The Jews lived every day with their belief in an almighty God; one who would save them from all the evil that surrounded them. To actually witness this power will have changed them in a very special way.

Today's readings speak to us of a movement that sprang from the communities' faith in the resurrected Jesus; a community which shared everything and was united in spirit and in love. This group of individuals became one and began a journey which continues in many thousands of communities throughout the world today. John bases this movement in the love of God which has permeated down to our community and to the love we have for each other; a love that is strengthened by its sharing among us.

The events in the upper room are shared with us to show that Jesus died and rose again for each one of us. We are the disciples. There are even one or two Thomas's among us, and we know that Christ is risen and that, through His resurrection, we too will rise, with Him, in His chosen time. Today we suffer from a society which is indifferent to Christ; a society which seems to deny that the resurrection ever took place. If the resurrection means something to us then it is our responsibility to remind society, through the way we live, that Jesus is indeed risen, alleluia.

**David Frank**

## 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, Irene Clappison, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Irene Sheridan, Kathryn Browning, Fr Leo Heakin, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Joyce Strickleton, Christine Gardner, Margaret Doreen Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Dr Allan Needham, Margaret Roberts, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Peter McGawley

**Lately Dead:** John Lawrenson, Alan Baxter, Claudine Ahmed

**Anniversaries:** Dominic Owen, John Cranshaw, John Reddy, Thomas & Evelyn Rabbitt, Maureen Southworth

**Mass Intentions:** Claudine Ahmed, John Cranshaw, John Reddy, Thomas & Evelyn Rabbitt, A Wedding Anniversary Thanksgiving, Maureen Southworth, In thanksgiving for Peter & Kath Carolan's Diamond Wedding Anniversary

**During Easter time we are asked to pray for these intentions:** Candidates for the Sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers.

*We pray for healing, a peaceful solution and restoration in the Middle East.*

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

**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

**The Annunciation of the Lord:** The Solemnity of the Annunciation is celebrated nine months before the Nativity of the Lord. The Annunciation recalls the day when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and revealed God's will that she become the Mother of the Son of God, and she accepted. At that moment, the "Word became Flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). In 2024, because it would otherwise fall during Holy Week (25 March), the Annunciation will be observed on Monday, 8 April.

**Christian Meditation:** The next dates and venues for April and May are below. The Meditation begins at 7.30pm. All welcome.

**April:** 9th St John's

16th St John's

23rd St Brendan's

30th St Brendan's

**May:** 7th St Brendan's

14th St John's

21st St Brendan's

28th St John's

**Fair Trade Stall:** There will be a fair-trade stall open before and after the 9.30am Mass today at St John's. Each sale helps to give dignity to producers in the developing world.

**Needlework Group:** Starts this Monday, 8 April, (6.30pm-8.30pm) in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's. If you are interested in needle work crafts such as knitting, cross stitch and embroidery, we have people who can help. If you have your own project, please bring it along. Each session costs £2 including refreshments and proceeds are to be given to the parish. Anyone interested would be very welcome.



**Feast of Divine Mercy:** A special celebration for the Bolton area will be held today, Sunday 7 April, at the Parish of St Cuthbert (St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Heaton, Bolton). The celebration begins at 1pm with Exposition, Confessions and Special Prayers followed by Mass at 3pm. Refreshments after and all welcome!

**Talks on the Four Constitutions of Vatican II** In response to Pope Francis' invitation to revisit the Four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council, the Diocese of Salford is holding a series of four evening talks after Easter. The first talk takes place on Wednesday 10 April when Bishop John will explore a little more about *Lumen Gentium*. The talk begins at 7pm at Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP. Find out more about the series and register your interest at

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/constitutions-talks/>

**Diocesan Day Retreat: The Cloud of Unknowing:** The diocesan day retreat programme continues in May with a closer look at the mystical text, *The Cloud of Unknowing*. Dating back to the 14th century, this profound work offers a spiritual guide to contemplative prayer. The retreat runs 11.30am - 3pm on Monday 13 May at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella's, Lostock Hall, and costs £20 to attend. Find out more and register.

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/retreat-may-2024/>

### Thought for the Week....

*"Jesus is always ready to encourage and support us."*

Pope Francis

### Readers For Easter 13/14 April 2024

<b>5pm Vigil (SB)</b>	<b>9.30am (SJ)</b>	<b>11am (SB)</b>
C Molyneux	A Gracie	C Ezeougu
<b>Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 14 April</b>		
A & V Rawlinson		