

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

21 April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter



Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 4

Roman Missal: p752; Readings: p 755

Sunday 21 April - Good Shepherd Sunday

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

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

A Special collection will be held for the Ecclesiastical Education Fund

Monday 22 April

No Mass Today

Tuesday 23 April - St George

10am Mass (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Wednesday 24 April

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Reception & Yr 6

Thursday 25 April - St Mark, Evangelist

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 26 April

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 27 April

10.45am Sacrament of Reconciliation with Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Vigil Mass (SB)

Sunday 28 April - Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

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

Easter is the springtime of our lives, a time for growth, a time to renew. We hear, daily, the story of the early church and we wonder at the courage of those men and women who, filled with the Holy Spirit, took their faith out into a hostile world, and began to build God's kingdom here in the muck and glory of our world.

The Apostles took the message to the very top; they challenged the leaders of the Jewish faith to examine their actions and repent. Through the simple human act of healing, of compassion for a suffering beggar, they found the whole authority of the Jewish hierarchy descended upon them. Summoned before the highest religious court in the land they stood there, not as frightened fishermen, but as steadfast committed followers of the Lord and challenged their rulers to change and believe in the Good News.

Each time I read the words of John's letters I am struck by his faith in the love of God. Today he reminds us that we are the children of God. That is a truly awesome statement and one that fills us with hope for if God is on our side who can defeat us! It is up to each of us to live out our lives as children of God, this is not an easy task, there will be many obstacles for us to overcome. It is not a matter of saying we are God's children but of being God's children. Are we ready to put Christ and his church first in our lives?

Whenever I hear the passage about the Good Shepherd, I am reminded of one of the first statements of Pope Francis after his accession to the Throne of Peter. He called on his priests to put on the smell of the sheep, to take the burden of caring for the pastoral needs of the flock of Christ on their shoulders. This is not an easy task, through their ordination priests lay down their personal lives and take up the pastoral and spiritual needs of the people they serve. They do this freely. Throughout their priesthood they are faced time and again with decisions which place our needs before theirs. It is a difficult task. but it can be made easier if we are walking with them in the work in caring for the needs of others.

David Frank

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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, 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: Irene Sheridan, Fr Billy Molloy

Anniversaries: Marie Lamoury, Margaret Moss, Ian Fazackerley, Rose Heron

Mass Intentions: Marie Lamoury, Margaret Moss, In loving memory of Patrick & Rita O'Sullivan, For Josie & Stan Doyle in celebration of their Platinum Wedding Anniversary, Ian Fazackerley, Teresa Hall (for a special birthday), Fr Billy Molloy, Rose Heron

During Easter we are asked to pray for these intentions: new members of the Church, vocations, the right use of the media, the Church and human work

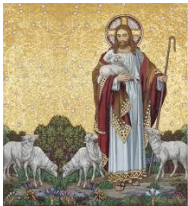
We pray for healing, a peaceful solution and restoration in the Middle East.

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.

Dona: We can now accept cashless payments, using our contactless system.

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



Good Shepherd Sunday: This weekend, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday when we remember to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. To mark this year in a special way, we're delighted to share with you a newsletter from our Vocations Team. Please visit.

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/good-shepherd-sunday-2024/> for the latest updates on vocations to the priesthood and permanent diaconate in our diocese.

Ecclesiastical Education Fund: We are grateful to all those who support vocations within the diocese. We ask that you continue to pray for our seminarians and all those who are on the journey of discernment. We also give thanks to all those who have chosen to serve the diocese. If you would like to support the work of the Ecclesiastical Education Fund, which funds the training and support of those in formation for the diaconate or priesthood for the Diocese of Salford, any contribution to our special collection at Masses this weekend would be appreciated.

St Brendan's Volunteers: Can you help? As you know our parish is a family and we have been blessed with the kindness of volunteers for many years. Unfortunately, some of our volunteers are getting a little bit older so we ask if anyone can help out, specifically with church cleaning and refreshments after Mass. If you are able to help (on a rota basis) please speak to Fr Alf or contact the parish office. Thank you.

Harbour Room Book Club: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 24 April at 1pm. The book for discussion will be the autobiography of local celebrity Sarah Cox entitled *Till the Cows Come Home*. All welcome.

Diocese of Salford Lourdes Centenary Pilgrimage Volunteer with Us: Our 2024 pilgrimage will once again be led by Bishop John Arnold and will take place between 26th July and 1st August.

Whether you are looking to join as a pilgrim or a volunteer, there are plenty of ways for people of all ages to celebrate this landmark pilgrimage with us. Joining our pilgrimage as a volunteer not only supports others on this remarkable journey of faith, but it offers a unique perspective that brings new skills and attributes, as well as fulfilment of our Christian call to love one another. If you are interested in volunteering, please explore the links below to find out more.

[Volunteering information for over 18s](#)

[Volunteering information for Medical and Nursing Team](#)

[Volunteering information for under 18s](#)

[Music Ministry Volunteer](#)

School Singing Concert In Honour of Our Lady: St Joseph's RC Church, Horace Street, Halliwell, Bolton BL1 3PU, Wednesday 1st May 2024 at 6.30pm. We are thrilled to announce two school choir concerts in honour of Our Lady as part of our Schools Singing Programme. Our first concert will feature pupils from St Joseph's RC Primary School, Bolton, as well as our wonderful Cathedral Choir. The performance will include beautiful choral music by Amy Summers and John Tavener, as well as Schubert's Classic setting of "Ave Maria", and well-known Marian hymns for all to sing. All are welcome to attend.

Thought for the Week...

"Put your trust in Jesus. He will fill your plans with meaning and joy."

St. Pope John Paul II

Readers for 27/28 April 2024

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
N Bunting	A Hayes	A Moore
Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 28 April		
P McArdle & A Gracie		