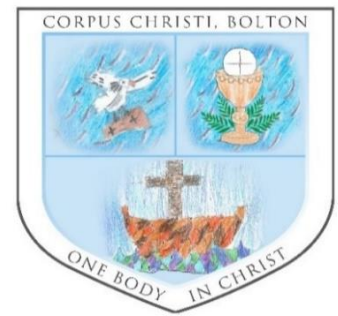


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

12th May 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter



Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 3

Roman Missal: p793; Readings: p 796

Sunday 12 May

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

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

12.15pm Baptism (SB)

A Special Collection for the Catholic Communications network

Monday 13 May - *Our Lady of Fatima*

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 14 May - *St Matthias, Apostle*

12noon Requiem Mass for Teresa Smith (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

Wednesday 15 May

10am Requiem Mass for Mary Moss (SJ)

Thursday 16 May

10am Mass (SB)

12noon Funeral Service for Veronica Baxter (SB)

6pm Confirmation Course (Patmos Room, SJ)

Friday 17 May

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 18 May

10am First Communion Mass (St Brendan's)

5pm Vigil Mass (SB)

Sunday 19 May - *Pentecost Sunday*

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

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

2pm Diamond Jubilee Celebration Mass for Fr Frank McCauley (SB)

Ordinary people are capable of extraordinary achievements; when we read through the Book of Acts and come to know the individual members of the first Christian communities we stand in awe at their accomplishments. How did this group of individuals find the strength and the courage to stand up in the face of the Jewish and eventually the Roman authorities and show their faith in a crucified Christ? There is no simple answer; but as we listen to the Easter readings there emerges a story of faith built on the bedrock of scripture and teaching and nourished by the love of God. We cannot fail to be lost in wonder as we walk with the early church through these Easter days.

Sometimes those raised to authority are found to be unworthy. The apostles must have spent a great deal of time discussing the events of Good Friday and the actions of Judas, one of their own. None of them emerged from the events of that day with any credit; they failed Our Lord in so many ways. They must have seen themselves, perhaps, in the image of Judas. The decision to replace him was a simple one, Jesus had called the twelve and now they must replace the one that was lost. Matthias appears only briefly in the scriptures. Today's reading tells us he was with Jesus throughout His ministry and must have been one of the disciples who followed him. Each of the apostles were called because of what they might become. We can see the hand of the Holy Spirit working through the choice of Mathias; that same Spirit continues to help us to discern those who are placed in leadership roles in our church today.

Leadership is a fundamental need in our church. We have always been blessed by men and women prepared to lead our communities through the storms of our turbulent world. Many of the decisions taken in our church are at an individual level, each question has a pastoral significance and, to be truly the Church of Christ, we must seek to answer each question in a personal, compassionate, and loving way. When we listen to the Gospel and the letters of John, we are continually reminded that the love of God is at the centre of all human endeavour. Jesus asks that those who he has chosen be kept safe from the evil one, and that they be consecrated in the truth. Let us pray that all who lead, from our Pope Francis, through our Bishops and priests, down to the humblest chair of the smallest committee in our church, be filled with the joy and love of God. *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: Jean Crompton, Mrs Winniczuk, Mary Moss, Veronica Baxter, Nellie Shaw, David Barnes, Irene Clough, Colin Markland, Teresa Smith, Peter Bellew, Ann Parkinson

Anniversaries: Fr Peter Gooden,

Mass Intentions: Fr Peter Gooden, Jean Crompton, Gerard Dobson (Birthday Remembrance), Irene Clough, In thanksgiving, Mrs Winniczuk, Leonard Ainscough (Birthday Remembrance), A special intention, Teresa Smith

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 Luck: An anonymous contributor wishes Bolton all the best in the play offs next weekend!

First Communion: We pray for all who are taking part in this sacrament and are hopeful they continue their faith journey. Congratulations to the children who are celebrating this weekend.

Fr Frank McCauley Diamond Jubilee of Priesthood: On the 23 May, Fr Frank will celebrate 60 years of priesthood. Most of you know that Fr Frank was parish priest at St Columba's for 25 years before his retirement. There will be a Mass celebrated to mark this occasion at St Brendan's on Sunday 19 May at 2pm The Mass will be followed by refreshments at St Brendan's school. All welcome. Many thanks to Fr Frank for his years of service.

Needlework Group: Monday evenings (6.30pm - 8.30pm) in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's. All welcome! No experience needed, just bring along a project and help will be provided. The cost is £2 a session, refreshments provided and all proceeds to the church.

World Communications Day: This Sunday is World Communications day and Bishop John (Lead bishop for Communications for the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales) will share a letter with parishes available [here](https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk). Or by visiting <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk>. The theme of this year's World Communications Day is: *Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication*. Bishop John Arnold talks about how the technology can make information accessible and support the common good, but we should make sure that it is carefully regulated. The Second Collection today supports the work of the Communications Directorate at the Bishops' Conference. On World Communications Day, we take up the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. Vital to this is good communication - through our websites, publications and social media channels. The Bishops' Conference works hard to forge positive relationships with media outlets to communicate news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church and her people. Thank you for your continued support.

SVP News - Dates for your Diary

Hanging Baskets: Will be on sale ready to collect at St John's Church 2pm-3pm on Saturday 11 May and after Mass on Sunday 12 May. Thank you for the tremendous response!

Coffee Morning: The next coffee morning will be held after Mass on Wednesday 22 May after the 9.30am Mass. All welcome.

Benediction & Afternoon Tea: Will be held on Sunday 30 June at 3pm. Further details soon.

Annual Sponsored Walk: Sunday 7 July, Sponsor forms will be available soon.

Craft Event: We will be holding this event on the afternoon of Thursday 1 August. More details to follow.

Fair Trade Stall: Fairly traded goods are on sale this Sunday before and after the 9.30am Mass. The goods are supplied by Justicia, a social enterprise, who are looking for a part-time manager. If you know anyone who may be interested, please contact shop.justicia@gmail.com for further details.

Fr Billy Molloy RIP: Bishop John will celebrate a Memorial Mass for Fr Billy at Holy Infants, Astley Bridge BL1 6QH on Thursday 16 May at 7pm.

Readers for 18/19 May 2024		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
A Grundy	H O'Donnell	K Wilkinson
Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 12 May		
M Speed & M Cropper		