

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

21 July 2024

Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2
Divine Office Week 4
Roman Missal: 328; Readings: p331*

Sunday 21 July

9.30am Mass (SJ)
11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy
2.30pm Fr Alf's 10th Anniversary Party - Dunscar Golf Club

Monday 22 July - St Mary Magdalene

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 23 July - St Bridget

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

Wednesday 24 July

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)
9.30 Mass (SJ)
10am SVP Coffee Morning (SJ)

Thursday 25 July - St James

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 26 July - Ss Joachim & Anne

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 27 July

12noon Mass (SB)
5pm Vigil Mass (SB)
Masses this weekend, will be celebrated with Fr Franks Downs, Mill Hill Missionaries

Sunday 28 July

9.30am Mass (SJ)
11am Mass (SB)

We are called today to be shepherds to the people who we meet. What does that mean? Perhaps the simplest way of understanding this call is through that well-loved psalm "The Lord is My Shepherd". If you read the psalm and take the Lord's promises as your own, and live by His word, then you can fulfil your calling. In the first verse you are called to form an atmosphere of peace in your life so that others can share in this peace and "revive their drooping spirits". The second verse calls us to be faithful and true to the Lord's teachings, they will bring comfort in the storms of life. The third verse speaks of charity to others, "prepare a banquet" and welcome everyone, "anointed with oil". The fourth verse reminds us of our heavenly reward for following in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd, Christ.

However, the call to be shepherds will not be easy. The prophet Jeremiah proclaims "Doom" for those who misuse the call. We must be careful in what we do and how we go about the Lord's business. We must be wise, "practising honesty and integrity in the land". We can do nothing fruitful without faith in Our Lord; we must take Him as our Role Model in all we do.

The Ephesians, and all those who have heard the letter from Paul, must have rejoiced at message he gives. He speaks of the unity that was made possible by the sacrifice of Our Lord. Once the Jewish people were separated by a great gulf from the gentiles, the pagan people that lived around and among them. Now, for those who follow Christ, there can be no separation, they are united, as one people, Jews and gentiles, both serving the same God.

We cannot work without rest, and the perfect way to find rest is in the Lord. We need to find a "lonely place" and, through prayer, fill our spirits with the love of God. Again, this is far from easy, when we take up a shepherd's role it is difficult to set it back down again. As the apostles found on the lake, the crowds of unhappy people, needing help, are never far away. Shepherds need a balance in their lives between their needs and those of others. Please pray for the shepherds in your life.

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, Margaret Doreen Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Dr Allan Needham, Margaret Roberts, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Peter McGawley, John Marshall, Pat Howarth
Lately Dead: Jean Swaney, Les Worthington
Anniversaries: Jeff Howarth
Mass Intentions: Jean Swaney, John Andrew Smith (Birthday Remembrance)

We are asked to pray for these intentions: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; Seafarers; Human Life
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

Summer Holidays: We Would like to thank all school staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the academic year. Wishing everyone a lovely summer break and hoping the sun shines for us all! Safe travels if you are going away. Fr Alf will be taking his summer break from Friday (for one week). We wish him a lovely holiday!

Forthcoming Road Works (Bromley Cross): As many of you will be aware, Darwen Road and Turton Road are due to be resurfaced (starting Monday 22 July) and there will be closures/diversions in place. Because of this we may change where hold midweek Masses to help with travel. We will announce in good time and details will be on newsletters or at Mass.

Mission Witness: 'Red Box' Thank You and Appeal
 Next weekend we will welcome Fr Frank Downs MHM who will celebrate Masses for us next weekend and to give the five-yearly Red Box Appeal. Through the Red Box we care for our Church family around the world. Thank you to all parishioners who already give to the Pope's official charity for overseas mission (Missio) and Britain's own missionary order, the Mill Hill Missionaries, through the Red Box. If anyone has a Red Box at home, please could these be brought in next weekend. Similarly, if anyone no longer wishes to hold a Red Box, please send in to church so that we can amend our records. Thank you.

SVP - Can you Help?

At our monthly Coffee Mornings we always hold a raffle. If you have any unwanted gifts that you would like to donate, we would be happy to use them at our raffles. Please leave at the back of each church. Thank you.

Also...one of our parishioners knits baby hats for the premature baby unit at the Royal Bolton Hospital. If you have any spare wool that you could donate, we can pass this on.

Thank you again for all your kind support.

Upcoming Events

Our next Coffee morning is on Wednesday 24 July (after the 9.30am Mass). Proceeds will go towards the Destitution Project. All Welcome!

Craft Event: On Thursday 1 August at 1pm in the Patmos Room at St John's. Tickets are £8 with cakes and tea. All proceeds will go to local charities. Contact the SVP for more information.

Can You Help Please? - Parish Property & Safety

Volunteers: We are fortunate to have a few dedicated parishioners who look after parish property and safety matters and who ensure that all our buildings are safe and in good order. We invite new volunteers to consider offering to help. If you have a practical aptitude and / or experience in property and safety matters, then we would be pleased to hear from you. Key tasks include dealing with day-to-day property matters, updating risk assessments and facilitating repairs and service visits in co-operation with the parish priest and parish office. If think you could help, please have a word with Fr Alf or contact the parish office. Thank you.

Readers Rota: The new rota is now available at the back of church.

Children's Liturgy: Will take a break over the Summer. Thank you to all our volunteers who help.

Other News from Around the Diocese

Lourdes at Home - Stations of the Cross: To celebrate the centenary of our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, our Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage Coordination Team is delighted to offer an opportunity for people across the diocese to join in prayer with our pilgrims in Lourdes. Join us at Salford Cathedral's Temporary Church at 4pm on Sunday 28th July as we pray the Stations of the Cross before Mass at 5.30pm. All are welcome!

Readers for 27/28 July 2024		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
L Lamoury	A Grundy	P Brennan
Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 7 July		
V Rawlinson & M Speed		