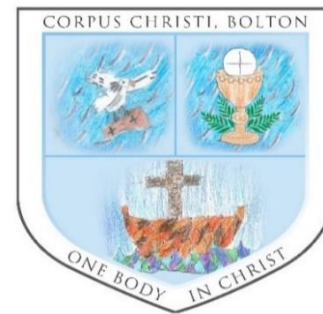


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

18 August 2024

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time



Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2
Divine Office Week 4
Roman Missal: 371; Readings: p374*

Sunday 18 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)
11am Mass (SB)
12.15pm Baptism (SB)

Monday 19 August

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 20 August - *St Bernard*

10am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 21 August - *St Pius X*

9am Adoration (SJ)
9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 22 August - *The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 23 August

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 24 August - *St Bartholomew*

10.45am Adoration & Confession (SJ)
11.30am Mass (SJ)
5pm Vigil Mass (SB)

Sunday 25 August

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

The Eucharist, which we celebrate through the sacrifice of the Mass, was always seen as in the context of a meal. After the ascension of Jesus, the apostles were left with the example of the Last Supper as a way of remembering Him. Just as the Last Supper was a meal, so the eucharistic celebration took the form of a meal and, indeed, a meal that could last for hours as the whole community celebrated together. Over the centuries this meal has changed until we have the Mass as it is today but the essential meaning of what we celebrate remains the same.

Sometimes the first reading leaves us puzzled, "What on earth was that about". This is because we cannot know the context from where the reading comes unless we are biblical scholars and I am afraid to say, myself included we are mostly far from that. However, today's passage is about "Wisdom's Feast" and so has a great affinity with the Mass we celebrate. Wisdom prepares her feast carefully, setting out her table, then sends her servants out into the town calling the people to join her, much as we are invited by the Lord to this mass. It speaks of bread and wine and how through this meal we may "live and walk in the way of insight".

Saint Paul was very concerned about the way the eucharistic celebration was held. There had been cases of the meeting getting out of hand and being over celebrated! Paul urges his listeners to be careful about the sort of lives they lead. He calls for psalms and hymns to be sung when the people celebrate and for the songs to remain in our hearts throughout our lives. If you struggle to pray, please remember our hymns are songs of praise to Father, Son and Spirit and can be used as prayers if we struggle otherwise to find the words to express our hopes and fears.

Language can often be taken out of context and used as a weapon against the speaker. Our Lord, in trying to express the relationship between himself and those who believe in him speaks of a meal in which he, Himself, is consumed. Detractors, over the centuries, have used this idea to condemn our faith. However, Jesus is talking about life and how, by following Him, we become part of the life of God and can attain eternal life with the Father in heaven. In our Eucharistic meal we consume the Body and Blood of Christ so that we may live in Him as He lives in us.

David Frank

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HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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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: Rinaldi Villa, Doris Hackney, Betty O'Leary, Rose Alomi, Julian Rishton
Anniversaries: Mary Ellen Gilmartin, Robert Whaley, Mary Carter
Mass Intentions: John Marshall, Doris Hackney, Mary Ellen Gilmartin, Betty O'Leary, Rose Alomi, A special intention, Robert Whaley, Mary Carter

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

Harbour Room Book Club Notice: Please note that "Slow Horses" for 26 March has been withdrawn and replaced with. "A Terrible Kindness" by Jo Browning Wroe. Hope you are all having a good break, and we look forward to seeing you in September.

SVP Coffee Morning: The next coffee morning will be held after the 9.30am Mass on Wednesday 28 August. Proceeds will be donated to the Children's Liturgy groups for resources. All most welcome!

Adoramus: We are looking for two volunteers from our parish to attend Adoremus at Oscott College, Birmingham for the National Eucharistic Congress on Saturday 14 September. The event is free (apart from a small fee for coach travel) and is scheduled to coincide with the 53rd International Eucharistic Congress in Ecuador (8-15 September), enabling us to unite with the universal Catholic Church as we come before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Please see Fr Alf if interested.

Other News from Around the Diocese

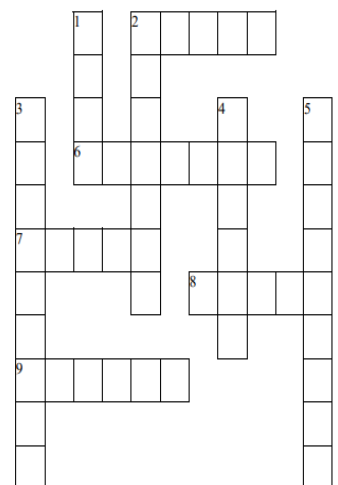
Votive Mass of St Monica: Join in for a Votive Mass of St Monica followed by the opportunity to venerate her relic and invoke her intercession on the Feast Day of St Monica, (27th August) at St Mary's Church in Oswaldtwistle at 7pm. The statue of St Monica will be placed on the sanctuary, with a prayer box before her. Everyone is welcome and invited to write the names of family and friends and place them in the box asking for St Monica's prayers.

World Youth Day Rome 2025: Are you aged 16-35? Are you looking for an unforgettable opportunity to share your faith with other young Catholics? Pope Francis has announced a special World Youth Day in Rome next summer to celebrate the Church's Year of Jubilee and our diocesan Youth Ministry team invites you to be part of this once-in-a-25-year event! The pilgrimage will take place between 28 July and 3 August. For more information and to register your interest, please email youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk



My flesh is true food
 John 6:51-58

<http://www.nocbuscc.org/nab/bible/john/john6.htm#v51>



Across

2. ...the bread that I will give is my _____ for the life of the world.
6. Life in God.
7. I will _____ him on the last day.
8. The one who _____ on me will have life because of me.
9. Jesus is _____ bread.

Down

1. For my flesh is _____ food, and my blood is _____ drink.
2. Eternity
3. They had an argument.
4. He sent Jesus.
5. They ate and still died.

A Thought for the week...

"Holy Communion is a gift of Christ who makes himself present and gathers us around him, to nourish us with his Word and with his life."

Pope Francis

Readers for 24/25 August 2024

| | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| 5pm Vigil (SB) | 9.30am (SJ) | 11am (SB) |
| L Lamoury | S Copley | K Denton |
| Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 25 August | | |
| A Gracie & M Cropper | | |