

# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**26 January 2025**

## The Third Week of Ordinary Time



In our Mass we have two liturgies, firstly of the Word and then of the Eucharist. Basically, we have a period of scripture and teaching, the Word and then a shared meal, the Eucharist. We are following, in effect, an ancient tradition as we can see from today's first reading from the prophet Nehemiah. Here we have a ceremony where the people are gathered, and the Jewish Book of the Law is proclaimed. Ezra the scribe was chosen to read, he spoke from an elevated position so that he could be seen. It was important that the people not only heard the word, but they also understood the meaning so, as Ezra paused from time to time, the Levites went among the people and gave the meaning to them. Afterwards they had a feast, and food was distributed to those who could not come to the ceremony.

One of the purposes of the reading of the Book of the Law was to unify the Jewish people with a common purpose. When Paul speaks to the people of Corinth, he is aware of the different factions operating in the city. He needs to bring these diverse groups together and he does so by comparing different parts of the body to show their need to work together for the benefit of all.

This unity of purpose is essential in all we do. We cannot survive as a church community if we are divided. We are the body of Christ, one body, blessed by God, formed to be His body on earth. If there are divisions, they must be healed, so that we can walk together on our Pilgrimage of Hope.

In today's Gospel Jesus goes to an elevated position in the synagogue and reads from the Book of Isaiah, He is repeating the actions of Ezra and, following the example of the Levites, He then begins to teach His listeners, giving the meaning to them. The chosen piece of scripture is a proclamation by Jesus of His ministry. The Spirit of the Lord is working in him. He comes to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and proclaim the year of God's favour. He then sits down and begins to speak "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing". Can you imagine the reaction of the people? What is your reaction to the challenge set by Our Lord? *David Frank*

### Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle C*

**Sunday 26 January - CARITAS Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> collection**

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

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

**Monday 27 January**

10am Mass (SB Church)

**Tuesday 28 January - St Thomas Aquinas**

No Mass Today

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

**Wednesday 29 January**

No Mass Today

**Thursday 30 January**

No Mass Today

**Friday 31 January - St John Bosco**

12noon Mass (SJ)

**Saturday 1 February**

10.45 Confession & Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

12.15pm Baptism (SJ)

5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy

**Sunday 2 February**

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

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

1pm Baptism (SJ)

### 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, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Kathryn Browning, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Joyce Strickleton, Margaret Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Dr Allan Needham, Margaret Roberts, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Peter McGawley, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Arnold Banks, Terry Smith, Michael Kitching,

**Lately Dead:** Rita Tunstall, Mike Hall, Maureen Holroyd

**Anniversaries:** Margaret Gibson, Fr Gerard Duffy, George Brooks, Eleanor Owen, Alan Yates, William Hurst, Winifred Kenyon, Mary Roe, Bernard Coop

**Mass Intentions:** Margaret Gibson, The Maher Family, Rita Tunstall. A sick person, Mike Hall, Fr Gerard Duffy, George Brookes (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary), Eleanor Owen, Alan Yates, William Hurst, Winifred Kenyon, Mary Roe, Bernard Coop

**We are asked to pray for these intentions:** Peace on Earth; Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The sick & those who care for them; Victims of trafficking and those who work to combat it; the Unemployed

*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; if you are UK taxpayer please consider gift aiding your kind donation, the parish will benefit at no extra cost to yourselves.

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

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

**Caritas Sunday:** This annual occasion is a great opportunity to celebrate the work of our diocesan charity, Caritas Diocese of Salford. To find out more about the work of Caritas Salford and how you can get involved, please visit:

<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/caritas-sunday/>.

We invite you to keep our diocesan charity in your prayers over this coming week.

**Young Adults Pilgrimage to Rome:** Young adults across the diocese are invited to join our Diocesan Youth Ministry Team for a rare pilgrimage to Rome this summer. Pope Francis has announced a special Jubilee of Youth in celebration of the 2025 Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee, which also coincides with the canonisation of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. To find out more about this remarkable opportunity and to register your interest, please visit <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/jubilee-of-youth-rome/>

**Jubilee for Communications:** In celebration of the Holy Year, we are having a Jubilee of Jubilees to shine a light on a number of different themes represented in our diocese. We begin with our Jubilee for Communications, in which we explore this month's Gospels to reflect on how we can share the Good News in our world today. Access the resources

now at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/jubilee-2025/calendar/>

**Accessible Prayer Walk:** The Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre is teaming up with diocesan charity Caritas Salford to host an accessible prayer walk. The session offers an opportunity to explore the beautiful, accessible grounds of the Laudato Si' Centre along with a peaceful prayer reflection, taking place between 10 and 11.30am on Friday 31 January. Find out more and register by emailing [laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**Thought for the Week...**

**"Jesus was sent to bring the Good News to enter the heart of each one of us."**

**Pope Francis**

D	N	I	L	B	P	A	C	Y	R	REPUTATION
E	I	N	N	E	W	S	A	E	T	SYNAGOGUE
L	B	D	O	O	G	E	P	U	E	CAPTIVES
L	L	O	R	C	S	U	T	G	H	PROPHET
I	R	D	I	T	T	T	I	O	P	STORY
F	A	T	O	A	N	H	V	G	O	WORD
L	E	R	T	T	E	G	E	A	R	SCROLL
U	Y	I	O	X	V	U	S	N	P	POOR
F	O	O	N	O	E	A	N	Y	E	BLIND
N	R	A	E	L	P	T	E	S	T	GOOD
										TEXT
										NEWS

**Readers for 1 / 2 February 2025**

<b>5pm Vigil (SB)</b>	<b>9.30am (SJ)</b>	<b>11am (SB)</b>
S Mikolajewski	G Drabble	Fely Doloroso
<b>Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 2 February</b>		
V & A Rawlinson		