

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

1 June 2025

The Seventh Sunday of Easter



One of the sad features of Christianity is the divisions between believers. Whilst understanding that the love of God, within all denominations, is the driving force of our faith, the fact that we cannot fully worship together tends, I believe, to diminish each of us. In the early church any cause of division was subjected to discussion and, through prayer to the Holy Spirit, decisions could be made, based in compromise, that maintained unity across the emerging church. This was illustrated in last week's readings when a dispute arose over the law of circumcision. It is a pity that this Spirit of compromise seems to have deserted Christianity over the centuries and resulted in the different communities that worship through Christ today. Stephen, the first martyr, died for the church of God; he was a Jewish convert and his belief in the message of Jesus led him to his death by stoning. This belief was fanned into a flame by the Holy Spirit and gave him the courage to accept his cruel death and to forgive those responsible. This same Spirit has inspired Christians down the ages; many have suffered, and continue today to suffer,

In the final chapter of the Book of Revelation, which is today's second reading, the vision for the church, as revealed to John, reaches its climax in the call for all those who believe to "let the one who desires take the water of life without price". The vision is complete with the promise of the second coming "Surely I am coming soon". Shall Christ come to a church of many factions, or will He come to a church united in faith and love? The prayer of Jesus in the Gospel passage is "That they may all be one". Jesus sees the whole church united with God the Father, Himself and the Holy Spirit as one brotherhood uniting all those who believe. Through the Apostles, this prayer is offered so that the glory of the Son, given by the Father, may pass to the Apostles and all those who come to faith. Our hearts cannot fail to be uplifted by the promise of Jesus, to future generations, about the Father; "I have made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them"

because of their love of Christ.

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 1 June

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

A Special Collection for Catholic World Communications Day

Monday 2 June

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 3 June - St Charles Lwanga & Companions 10am Mass (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Wednesday 4 June

9am Adoration (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 5 June - St Boniface

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 6 June 12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 7 June

10.45am Adoration & Confession (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

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

Sunday 8 June - Pentecost

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, Frank Vickers, Kathryn Browning, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Joyce Strickleton, Margaret Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Dr Allan Needham, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Arnold Banks, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel, Alice Leggett Lately Dead: Margaret Roberts, Terry Smith, Elizabeth Malone, Brian Pollitt, Paul Gerrard, Brian

Anniversaries: Bill Owen, Harry Dawson

Mass Intentions: Kathleen Banks (Birthday remembrance), Arnold & Kathleen Banks (Wedding Anniversary remembrance), Eleanor & Bill Owen and the Owen Family, In Thanksgiving, Harry Dawson, Terry Smith, Brian Moore

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 and Ukraine.

We pray for all our students who are taking exams at this time. We pray they are given the Lord's guidance and support. Help them to stay calm and focused with their preparation and exams so they can perform to the best of their abilities.

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

Congratulations: To Felicity Mae Williams who was baptised last Sunday. Let us pray that both she and her family continue to grow in faith.

Mary's Meals Coin Collection: Mary's Meals currently works in 16 of the world's poorest countries, feeding over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education. They are asking you to donate any leftover foreign currency or obsolete UK currency that you may have lying around. Please bring any foreign or old coins/notes to church throughout June, July & August and we will pass them on. The money raised from this initiative will help Mary's Meals bring hope to more desperately hungry children across the globe. Every 10p is enough to provide a hungry child with a nutritious meal in school. Mary's Meals would like to thank you for your continuous support & prayers. Baskets will be left at the back of each church. Thank you.

SVP News

Pick a Date Winners:

1st Prize - £100 R Worthington (9th October) 2nd Prize - £50 L Cain (13th July)

Sponsored Walk: A huge thank you for your wonderful generosity in sponsoring Michael's walk for our SVP work in the parish. With just a few donations outstanding, the total is approaching £600. A fantastic response!

Coffee Morning: the next coffee morning will be held after 9.30am Mass on Wednesday 25 June. All most welcome.

World Communications Day: The theme for this year's World Day of Social Communications, chosen by the late Pope Francis, is 'Share with gentleness the hope that is in your hearts'. The theme centres around the need to communicate responsibly to foster a culture of hope and peace. If you would like to read further details and the Pope's full message about this day, please visit: www.cbcew.org.uk/world-communications-day/

Newsletter: Next week our newsletter will be available on Wednesday. Please could all news items and Mass Intentions be handed in by Tuesday 3 June. *Thank you*.

Fair Trade Stall: There will be a stall selling fairly traded goods before and after 9.30am Mass at St John's this Sunday. We will be highlighting new jewellery including some from Iran. To read the producers story, google "Papital."

Other News from Around the Diocese

Mass for Married Couples: Are you celebrating a special anniversary this Jubilee year? Join us on Tuesday 3 June at 7pm at St Bernadette's in Whitefield. Friends and family are welcome. https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/mass-married-couples-2025/ or call 0161 817 2214.

Can you help? This week, we celebrate national volunteers' week, and the Diocese of Salford's Laudato Si' Centre is on the hunt for green-fingered volunteers to help care for and nurture our beautiful walled garden and woodlands. Whether you're seeking to learn more about caring for our common home, looking to develop new skills, or simply spend more time in the great outdoors, this is the opportunity for you! Email us at laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more!

Readers for 7/8 June 2025		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
C Molyneux	A Grundy	C Bridge
Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 8 June		
P McArdle & J Summerton		