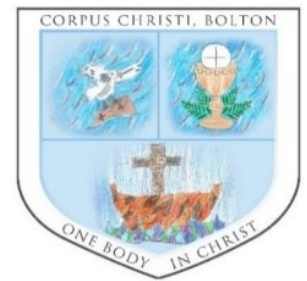


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

31 August 2025

Twenty-Second Week of Ordinary Time



Over the last few weeks, the readings have been based on the qualities of those who follow Our Blessed Lord. Today we come to, perhaps, the most difficult of these qualities, Humility. Today we need to stop and consider just what it is that Christ is calling us to do. The passage from the Book of Sirach calls upon us to be humble. Pride is a malady, a failure to love others more than ourselves. Humility should be at the heart of all we do and speak the greater we are, the more wealth we possess, the harder it is to be humble.

There is something majestic in the reading from Hebrews. It is a reminder that what we believe in is not small or insignificant but something so huge, so awesome that it passes beyond our understanding, something that may not even be touched. We are "the assembly of first born who are enrolled in heaven". We are called to the heavenly Jerusalem. If we could only understand that, when we live in the love of Christ, we become the "spirits of the righteous", then we would begin to recognise what His great gift to us truly means.

The parable in the Gospel reading reminds us that we should not be judged by the way the world looks upon us but by our actions. Jesus is teaching the rich people who are listening about humility. They and we may judge a person by his wealth or his looks and reputation; Jesus looks beyond these things into the heart and sees the motives behind the action. He urges us not to seek the highest place at the feast but be satisfied with the low place for then we will be judged as ourselves and not by our presumed status. We can then rise to our proper place and find our seat at the banquet of heaven.

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 31 August

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

Monday 1 September

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 2 September

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

Wednesday 3 September- St Gregory the Great

1.30pm Requiem Mass for Joyce Strickleton (SJ)

Thursday 4 September

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 5 September

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 6 September

10.45am Adoration & Confession (SJ)
 11.30am Mass (SJ)
 5pm Mass (SB) - *With Children's Liturgy*

Sunday 7 September

9.30am Mass (SJ) - *With Children's Liturgy*
 11am Mass (SB) - *With Children's Liturgy*

Parish Contact Details

Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello
 Parish Office: St John's Presbytery,
 The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP.
 Tel: 01204 301927. E-mail: office@sbsj.org.uk
 Website: www.sbsj.org.uk
 Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees
 Registered Charity - 250037
 Diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Peel House
 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
 BL1 7AL
 01204 309609





We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Frances Skemp, Edwin Rankin, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Kathryn Browning, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Margaret Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Arnold Banks, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel, Alice Leggett, Rita Margiotta, Phyllis Rocke, Ethel Connelly

Lately Dead: Dorothy Hall, Pat Margiotta, Joyce Strickleton Tony Kosecki, Terry Higginson, Margaret Gillard, Janos Arnold

Anniversaries: Betty White (30th Anniversary), David Gracie, James Dowbakin, Bridget & Jack Day

Mass Intentions: A Special Intention, In Thanksgiving for a Golden Wedding anniversary, Dorothy Hall, David Gracie, Tony Kosecki, Joyce Strickleton, James Dowbakin, Bridget & Jack Day, Barbara & Kevin Proctor

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.

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 Leia Rose Edwards who was baptised last weekend. We pray that both she and her family continue to grow in faith.

SVP Activities

Coffee Morning: Thank you to all who came along to our coffee morning on Wednesday. A total of £200 was raised and will be donated equally to our Children's Liturgy Groups.

Annual Sponsored Walk: Sunday 28 September. If you would like to be involved, or be a sponsor, please see the posters on our church noticeboards.

Newsletter: Next week, the Newsletter will be a 2-week edition. Please could all items of news and Mass Intentions (that fall over this period) be handed in by 12noon on Wednesday 3 September. *Thank you.*

Christian Meditation: Will start again on Tuesday 2 September at St Brendan's Church (7.30pm). All Welcome.

Our Schools: We keep all members of staff and children in our prayers as they embark on a new school year this coming week. May the year be full of learning, blessings and friendship!

Other News from Around the Diocese

St Osmund's Music Night: The Flatcappers, Irish dance and music band, are returning to St Osmund's Church Hall, Brightmet, Bolton BL2 6EB on Saturday 11 October (7pm-11pm). Tickets £10 including pastie supper. Entrance is by ticket only (on sale in September). Phone 01204 522770

Season of Creation: This September, we once again celebrate the Season of Creation - an ecumenical celebration running from 1st September to 4th October that invites Christians around the world to reflect on our call to be loving stewards of God's creation. This year's theme is "Peace with Creation" and further information and resources can be found at <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

The Martyr-Saints of the North-West: A priest of Salford Diocese will be leading a weekend of study exploring more about the Reformation-era martyrs of the Northwest. Part-retreat, part-biographical, the weekend will be led by Mgr John Allen, who has recently published a book on the history of the diocese. The study weekend runs from 12-14th September at the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst. For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-martyr-saints-of-the-north-west/>

Mini Pilgrimage Opportunity: The Northern Dioceses Environment Group - of which the Diocese of Salford is a member - is organising a mini pilgrimage from Leeds City Station to Kirkstall Abbey on Saturday 20 September (12.45pm - 4pm). The 4.7-mile pilgrimage runs mainly along the Leeds Liverpool Canal Towpath. All are welcome to join. Find out more by emailing: laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

The Mercy Brothers: Enjoy a family-friendly night of musical entertainment with clergy band, The Mercy Brothers. The concert will raise funds for our Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund, which supports our sick pilgrims and medical team. The concert takes place on Friday 3rd October at St Michael's RC Parish, Whitefield. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets cost £15 for adults, £10 for 16-21-year-olds, and free for under 16s. Food will be provided and included in the cost. Book now by emailing Lourdes.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or phone the pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209.

Thought for the Week..

"The world tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service and love."

Pope Francis

Readers for 6/7 September 2025

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
L Lamoury	L Fakanule	F Doloroso
Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 7 September		
M Cropper & A Gracie		