

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

28 September 2025

Twenty-Sixth Week of Ordinary Time



This week we continue to reflect on our lives and how we should change our ways while we have the time on earth to do so. The world demands that we seek success in this life, above all other considerations, but being successful often means that we pour all our energy into making earthly gains and fail to build for ourselves treasure in heaven, by doing good to those around us. The Gospel story today may be very familiar. It is the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus. Like all the parables told by Jesus it has a much deeper meaning than at first sight. There is a great danger that we may become complacent about our faith and feel that, as long as we come to church each Sunday, we are safe in the barque of Peter. If you recall the recent Sunday readings, you will have noticed a call to us reconsider our attitude to the pursuit of success and to concentrate on what really matters, care, compassion and love for all God's creation.

The first reading may be about you and your relaxed attitude to your faith. You may not have an ivory bed, but you may still be very comfortable in the life you have created. Beware, for, as the prophet says, "the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away".

The Rich Man (and the Pharisees) are the Gospel's equivalent of the Old Testament sprawler. They believe they deserve heaven and fail to see the poor man, Lazarus, even though he sits by their gate, a daily reminder that all is not well. Lazarus, with his sores, is an image of Christ, battered and scourged, brought before the power of Rome. Just as Lazarus is treated with contempt; so is Christ. Both represent the poor ignored in their pain.

Perhaps Jesus tells this story to encourage people to change their ways, he understood the human condition and was sad that even this story would not convince the rich to repent and change their ways. With sadness he reflects that "Even if someone should rise from the dead they will not be convinced". A reminder that the shadow of the cross falls upon each of us and that we must repent and take action to change our ways before it is too late. **David Frank**

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 28 September

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy
1pm Baptism (SJ)
SVP Annual Sponsored Walk Today

Monday 29 September - *Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael*

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 30 September - *St Jerome*

10am Mass (SB) - with Yr 5
7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

Wednesday 1 October - *St Therese of the Child Jesus*

9.30am Adoration (SJ)
10am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 2 October - *The Holy Guardian Angels*

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 3 October - *CAFOD Family Fast Day*

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 4 October - *St Francis of Assisi*

9.30am Adoration & Confession (SJ)
10am Mass (SJ) - This week only
5pm Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy

Sunday 5 October

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

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, 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, Bernard Earp, Arnold Banks, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel, Alice Leggett, Rita Margiotta, Ethel Connelly

Lately Dead: Julie Nally, Dominic Newberry

Anniversaries: Barbara Grimes, Mary Hurst, Tony Edwards, Maisie Rebello

Mass Intentions: Tony Edwards, Bernadette Dargan (Birthday Remembrance), Barbara Grimes, Geoffrey Bradshaw (Birthday Remembrance), Mary Hurst, Julie Nally, Dominic Newberry

We are asked to pray for these intentions: Students & teachers; the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work; the reverent use of creation; justice & peace in the world, all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families

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

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest: Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope attached to this newsletter, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10.

SVP Coffee Morning: Thank you to everyone who came along to our coffee morning on Wednesday. The amount raised was £189 which will be used by our SVP.

Midweek Mass Change: As the evenings will be drawing in, during the winter months our Monday Mass will change to 12noon from Monday 5 October. Once the spring comes, we will revert to 6pm.

Newsletter: On Thursday 9 October 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 8 October. *Thank you*

5 October 2025

Twenty-Seventh Week of Ordinary Time

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 5 October

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

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

Monday 6 October

12noon Mass (SJ) - **New Time until March**

Tuesday 7 October - Our Lady of the Rosary

10am Mass (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Wednesday 8 October

9.30am Seeds & Gardeners Mass (SJ)

Thursday 9 October- St John Henry Newman

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 10 October - St Denis

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 11 October

No Morning Mass Today

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

Sunday 12 October

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

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

Confirmation Course 2025/6: Will be starting again soon (date TBC) for students in Year 8. If your child attends a different high school than Thornleigh and wishes to be included in this year's programme, please contact the Parish Office as soon as you can. *Thank you.*

Other News from Around the Diocese

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2026: Next year's pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 2 May. You can now register your interest by calling our pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209 or emailing walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Volunteer Van Driver needed for Caritas Salford: Could you please spare a few hours to help them to transport donations in their electric van? Van drivers are vital to Caritas services and are essential to their day-to-day running. To find out more, please contact Matt on m.yates@caritassalford.org.uk or visit www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer

Readers for 4/5 October 2025

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
G Drabble	S May	C Owen

Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 5 October

V & A Rawlinson

Readers for 11/12 October 2025

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
A Grundy	M Morrison	K Wilkinson

Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 12 October

P Partington & A Rawlinson