

**We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends:**

Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Frances Skemp, Edwin Rankin, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Kathryn Browning, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Jane Manuel, Rita Margiotta, Pauline Dobson, Winifred Goodwin, Josie Doyle, Delia Ariff, Gwen Monk, a sick friend

**Lately Dead:** Gerard Cambridge, Joan Cranshaw, Alan Iddon, Polly Thompson

**Anniversaries:** William Hodget, Christopher Hailwood, Joseph Paul Cain, Janice Mary Brindle, Michael Joseph Whyte, Lew Brown

**Mass Intentions:** William Hodget (A), John and Joan Cranshaw, Gerard Cambridge (LD), Joan Cranshaw (LD), sick persons, Harry Dawson (100<sup>th</sup> birthday remembrance), Christopher Hailwood (A), Mrs. Jean Basey (LD), A Mass of thanksgiving for prayers answered to Our Lady, St John of God, St Martha, for a successful operation, Alan Iddon (LD)

**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.

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

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

**Walk with me booklets:** These are available at the back of church to help us as we journey through lent.

**We are asked to pray for these intentions:** We pray for the people of the parish of St. Anne, Crumpsall, and for Father Joshy Joseph, SSP, their parish priest, together with their parish primary school and the chaplaincy to the North Manchester General Hospital.

**CAFOD**

This Lent you can answer Christ's call to love your neighbour by supporting CAFODS Family Fast Day, helping families in countries like Bangladesh and South Sudan grow food in floating gardens to survive floods, and in places like Zimbabwe use solar-powered pumps to grow crops despite drought. By eating simply and giving generously this Fast day, you'll help more families put food on the table. We have attached a CAFOD envelope to this week's newsletter. You can also donate online using the QR code or at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)



There is a line from "The Lord's Prayer" which is linked to today's readings. We pray "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil". We probably learned the "Our Father" as children and, as with other prayers we heard at that time, it stays with us, but do we really pray the words or just recite them? Lent has begun, it is a time to review our spiritual and prayer life and learn, once again, the lessons we have experienced throughout our lives. As children we received them, as adults, we now must put them into practice.

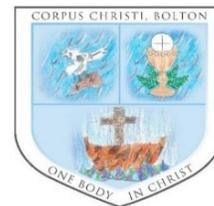
The Genesis reading reminds me that we received this passage in a simple way as children and now, perhaps, we listen with that same simplicity as adults. But the message is far from simple, it established from the beginning our relationship with Our Heavenly Father. We are given the gift of free will and how we use that gift is down to us. We can do wrong or right, we can be disobedient or righteous, the choice is ours. Eve and Adam choose to disobey God's warning of the fruit of the tree and so destroyed the harmony of Eden and brought sin into the world and, with it our deadliest enemy, death.

Paul usually wrote to those communities he had visited with words of encouragement or sometimes admonishment for error but his epistle to the Romans was to a people he had never visited and so the tone is somewhat different from normal. It is a teaching letter, a preparation for what is to come, and if you read this passage closely you will see a link between the first two readings. Paul sees the emergence of Jesus Christ as the blessing which will save mankind from sin as, through the cross, Jesus took our sins on himself and so we are forgiven. Jesus changes us from sinners into the righteous.

The Temptations passage from Matthew is filled with the Holy Spirit and is a gift to us when we are in danger of sin. It speaks to us of the Word; we cannot change stones to bread, but we can be guided by His word. We must not challenge the Lord by asking the impossible, but we can accept His gift of the possible. We may look to the world to provide for all our needs and be tempted by the false promises of prosperity and fame, but there is only one God and He is the only one who can fully satisfy us. Turn to Him.

David Frank

We are very grateful for your donations to Caritas. The amount raised from our second collection was £640.87



**SVP News:**

During Lent, as in past years, would like to support The Destitution Project by attempting to collect 40 of the following items during the Lenten period. As a parish your generosity continues to enable us to maintain our support for this vulnerable group. Thank you for continuing to support. Items suggested are:

- Vegetable or sunflower oil
- Tins of chopped tomatoes
- Kidney beans
- Chickpeas
- Long-life orange/apple juice
- Tuna in oil
- Sardines in oil
- Pasta/spaghetti-dried

The pick a date fundraiser which was very successful last year will be continued again this year. Over the next few weeks, we will be present after Mass on Sunday in both churches to give people the opportunity to participate and hopefully win some prize money. All the monies raised are used to support individuals and families in need.

**200 Club Subscriptions:** Are now due (£15 per number) The 200 Club is a great way to support the parish. Sadly, we have lost members over the last 12 months, so any new members are greatly appreciated and made very welcome. It may be difficult for some parishioners to get their subscriptions to me, so here are some options to help: 1. Post or deliver to the Parish Office; 2. Leave in the basket provided at each church; 3. Contact me on 07528027295. For option 1 & 2 please place your subscription and contact details on an envelope FAO Ann Gracie. Please make Cheques payable to **Corpus Christi**. If anyone requires additional numbers, please contact me on the above number. Thank you, *Ann*.

The Brixi Singers' next performance will be a special Lenten concert on March 8th, featuring John Rutter's Requiem and other seasonal music by Karl Jenkins, Howard Goodall, Purcell and Stainer. The concert will take place at Harwood Methodist Church and begins at 3 o'clock. Tickets are available on the door at £12 (including refreshments), with free admission for under-16s, making it a wonderful and accessible afternoon of choral music for the whole community.

This Newsletter is sponsored by  
**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**  
Peel House  
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.  
BL1 7AL  
01204 309609



**22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**

**First Sunday of Lent**

**Masses & Activities this week**

*Sunday Cycle A*

*Readings: Page 151 of Mass Book*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

- 9.30am Mass (SJ)
- 11am Mass (SB)
- 12.30pm Baptism (SB)

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

- School Mass 9am St Columba's
- 12pm Mass (SJ)
- 2pm funeral service for Polly Thompson (Overdale)

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

- Mass 10am (SB) with Year 3 children attending

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

- 9.30am adoration (SJ)
- 10am Mass (SJ)

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

- Mass 10am (SB)
- 12.30pm Requiem Mass for Alan Iddon (SJ)

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February**

- No Mass

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

- Confession and adoration 10.45am (SJ)
- Mass 11.30am (SJ)
- Mass 5pm (SB)

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

- Mass 9.30am (SJ)
- Mass 11am (SB)
- Stations of the cross followed by adoration 3pm (SB)

**Readers: 28 Feb/1 March 2026**

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
Lisa Lamoury	Alyson Grundy	Chris Owen

**Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 1 March**

Ann Gracie/Pat Partington

**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](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk)  
**Website:** [www.sbsj.org.uk](http://www.sbsj.org.uk)  
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