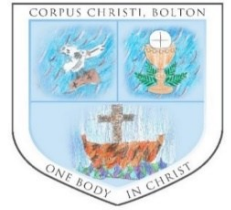


**Thirty First Week of Ordinary Time**  
**All Saints**



**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, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Tony Martin, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Jane Manuel, Rita Margiotta, Pauline Dobson, Winifred Goodwin, Josie Doyle, Shaun Smith, Stafford Sashoua, John Livesay, Martin Manning, Vera Broughton, Mary Hayler, Teresa Hall, Anne Magee, Bernie Coughlin

**Lately Dead:** Annie O'Brien, Mary Nugent, Michael Hogan, Margaret Neyman

**Anniversaries:** Florence and Louis Hodgkinson, Victor Gill, Bernard Ramsden, Dorothy Hodget

**Mass Intentions:** Mary Nugent (LD), Michael Hogan (LD), a sick person, Florence and Louis Hodgkinson (A), Victor Gill (A), Bernard Ramsden (A), Dorothy Hodget (A)

**Offertory:** We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially; if you are a 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

**Sick and Retired Clergy Collection:** This Sunday there will be a second collection for the sick and retired clergy fund Our diocesan Sick & Retired Clergy Fund ensures our retired priests can begin the next chapter of their vocation with confidence, knowing the Church they have served will continue to accompany them as they age. Every gift to the fund helps to provide the care, dignity and practical support our priests deserve after years of dedicated service. Please remember our retired clergy in your prayers and if you can, make a gift to the appeal today. (Scan the QR code to go to the donate page).



31st October/1st November Let us pray this week for the parish of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Westhoughton, for Fr. Christopher Dawson, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2026**

**Thirty First Week of Ordinary Time**

**All Saints (Cycle A)**

**Masses & Activities this week**

*Readings: Page 184 of Mass Book*

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November All Saints**

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11.00am Mass (SB)

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November All Souls**

9.30am Mass (SJ)

12 noon Mass for all the faithful departed (SB)

6.00pm Mass for the intentions of the Holy Father (SJ)

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

11.30am requiem Mass for Annie O'Brien (SB)

7.30pm meditation (SJ)

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

9.00am Adoration and Benediction

9.30am Mass

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

10.00am Mass (SB)

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

12.00 noon Mass (SB)

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

10.45am Confession, Adoration and Benediction (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5.00pm Mass (SB)

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2026**

**Thirty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Remembrance Sunday (Cycle A)**

**Masses & Activities this week**

*Readings: Page 152 of Mass Book*

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11.00am Mass (SB)

3.00pm Benediction and SVP afternoon tea for the elderly

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November**

12.00 noon Mass (SJ)

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

10.00am Mass (SB) Year 3 attending

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November Saints Simon and Jude**

9.00am Adoration/Benediction (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November**

10.00am Mass (SB)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

12.00 noon Mass (SB)

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

9.45pm Confession/Adoration/Benediction

10.30am Mass (SJ) **Please note time change**

5.00pm Mass (SB)

| Readers 7 <sup>th</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                    |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <b>5pm Vigil (SB)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>9.30am (SJ)</b> | <b>11am (SB)</b>  |
| Nicola Bunting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Julie Summerton    | Chris Owen        |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 8<sup>th</sup> November</b><br>Pat McArdle/Julie Summerton                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                    |                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                    |                   |
| Readers 14 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                    |                   |
| <b>5pm Vigil (SB)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>9.30am (SJ)</b> | <b>11am (SB)</b>  |
| Chris Molyneux                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Peter Barnes       | Kathryn Wilkinson |
| <b>Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 15<sup>th</sup> November</b><br>John Carroll/Steve May                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                    |                   |
| <b>Readers Rota:</b> The new Rota will be available in the next few weeks. If anyone would like to be added/removed please contact the office. Thank you                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                    |                   |
| <b>Relics of St Gerard Majella:</b> St Gerard is the Patron Saint of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession. As part of the 300th anniversary of the death of St Gerard Majella we are privileged to have his relics visit St Brendan's church Harwood on Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> November. The schedule is arrival 6.00PM with a time for prayer and devotion then Mass at 7.00PM. Fr Royston Price will preside and preach.                                                                                                                                                              |                    |                   |
|  <p><b>November: The month of Holy Souls</b> This week starts the time in the Church's liturgical calendar, when we remember the faithful departed, to that end, envelopes will be available (at the back of each church) for anyone who wishes to have their deceased relatives and friends remembered during November. Please feel free to take an envelope, and paper slip, to insert your intention (and optional donation) and place in the baskets at each Altar. The names of all those in the baskets will be remembered and prayed for in November</p> |                    |                   |
| <b>SVP News:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                    |                   |
| <b>Annual sponsored walk:</b> Thank you to everyone who supported this event. If you have sponsored someone, please hand any sponsorship money to a member of the SVP. Thank you for your support, it is greatly appreciated.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                    |                   |
| <b>Coffee Morning:</b> Thank you to all who came to the coffee morning. The total raised was £200, this will go to the destitution project. The next coffee morning will be on Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November. Money raised will go the prisoners fund.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                    |                   |
| <b>Adoration/Benediction and afternoon tea for the elderly of the parish:</b> This will take place on Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> November at 3pm at St John's.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                    |                   |
| <b>Mass for Carers</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                    |                   |
| A Mass is being celebrated for all Carers within our Communities at St Cuthbert's RC Church, Palatine Road, Withington, Manchester. M20 3LH. Mass will start at 12 Noon on Saturday 28 November 2026. Following the service sandwiches and refreshments will be served in the parish hall. Mass will be live-streamed through the parish website - <a href="http://www.stcuthbertswithington.com">www.stcuthbertswithington.com</a> - so please attend online if you are unable to attend in person.                                                                                                                                            |                    |                   |



We all seek the same thing, a place in the Kingdom of Heaven. Today we are presented with a set of steppingstones. We begin at the end of the journey with a reading from Revelations, then we pass through a letter from John, which gives us hope, and finally a passage from the Sermon on the Mount which becomes the beginning of our journey.

The Book of Revelation is a vision of the end days when all those loved by God, for their actions in this world, gather, together, in heaven and offer Him praise for their salvation. The vision is a message of hope to those who faced persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God, their Saviour and symbol of hope. The first followers of Christ were considered small in this world but, in heaven they are marked as "the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb".

Saints are ordinary people, some rise above their station in life by doing extraordinary things, but most are steadfast, faithful, loving and loved. They are truly, as John writes in his letters "children of God". Knowing and believing in God is a special gift; it grants us access to His everlasting love. Many years ago, I heard a speaker talk of "love without limits", he believed that the love of God surpassed everything and that God's forgiveness was also without limits. We are God's children, He loves us and encourages us to live our lives as a testimony to Him: to be vessels of faith, hope, and charity in His world.

When Jesus stood on that hillside in Galilee, he did not paint a picture that was all beauty and light. He understood that the way he was going, and asking us to go, would not be easy. The Sermon on the Mount is also called the Proclamation of the Kingdom. Jesus speaks of the poor, the humble, those who mourn, those who are persecuted, imprisoned, those who hunger and thirst for what is right; these are the ones he calls as saints. On this the Feast of All Saints, when we remember all those who have gone before us, as saints, into heaven we must remember, also, those who are saints on this earth today and keep them in our prayers.

**David Frank**



#### **St. John's Children's Liturgy Planting:**

After entering a flower and veg patch completion run by Bolton Lever Rotary in the summer, we were gifted 500 purple crocus bulbs from them.

The children were busy planting them in the church garden last Sunday and so hopefully, there will be a lovely show in the springtime and they'll provide some much needed early food for the insects too.

We had a fair few left over with some being donated to St. John's school for their new garden area and the rest were planted in pots for parishioners to buy.

They will be on sale this Sunday after the 9.30am mass for £2 per pot, funds will go to our Childrens Liturgy group for seeds for next year.

Bolton Rotary have a Purple for Polio Campaign with the aim to eradicate polio across the world; the purple crocus is a symbol of their work.

Please do take the time to read their poster in the Patmos room which includes further information about this very important initiative.

**Meditation:** The next session will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 7.30pm at St John's. All are welcome.

#### **Free Catholic Social Teaching Webinar**

Catholic Social Teaching has been referred to as 'the Catholic Church's best kept secret' (Mark Shea). Many people are unaware of the depth of the Church's teaching on social justice, which applies the Gospel to current social issues impacting our communities. On Wednesday 11 November from 6pm to 7.15pm, our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford will be holding a free online session on Catholic Social Teaching, in advance of World Day of the Poor.

To register to join the free webinar, visit:

[www.caritassalford.org.uk/CSTWebinarNov26](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/CSTWebinarNov26)

#### **Italian Mass at Salford Cathedral**

There will be Mass celebrated in Italian at Salford Cathedral at 2PM on Sunday 6 December. Please do come along.

**Chairs:** We have several foldable wooden chairs that are surplus to requirements. They are in excellent condition and would be great as "emergency chairs" at Christmas. If anyone could find a use for these you are welcome to collect for a small donation to the parish.

## URBAN OUTREACH (BOLTON)

The SVP are once again helping to provide Christmas hampers for the vulnerable people in our community. This year we have been asked to provide 200 Christmas puddings. These have to be non-alcoholic and 400g in weight (to serve four people). As this is quite specific we have arranged with Tesco to purchase these at a cost of £2.50 each. We are asking for donations as we need to raise £500 to cover the cost. We have a large Christmas pudding collection box at the back of both churches, please give what you can and help us to give vulnerable families a Christmas dinner.

**Confirmation:** The Sacrament of Confirmation is a profound step in a person's faith journey. Through it, one receives the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which strengthen faith and deepen commitment to God. For those baptised as infants in the Roman Catholic Church and who have already received their First Holy Communion, the opportunity to be confirmed is available from Year 8 onwards within our Diocese.

To help young people prepare for this once-in-a-lifetime Sacrament, Thornleigh Salesian College will co-ordinate a preparation Programme. This will consist of a series of sessions held either at Thornleigh or within the Parish. Further details of dates, times, and venues will be shared in due course. **Any students who wish to take part but do not attend Thornleigh, please collect a form from Fr after Mass. Applications need to be submitted by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Fr Alf would like to thank everyone for their well wishes during his recent illness. He is now feeling much better and is very grateful for all your kind thoughts and prayers.**

#### **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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St. Gerard Majella was born in Muro Lucano, Italy, on April 6, 1726, into a family of humble circumstances. From his parents Gerard learned the love of prayer and sacrifice. When his father died, Gerard, being the only son, had to provide for his family by working as a tailor. At the age of 14 he sought to enter the Capuchin friary but was rejected because of his poor health. After a short time as the domestic servant of the bishop of Lacedonia, he returned to tailoring but earned a minimal income.

In April 1749 after attending a Redemptorist mission in Muro, Gerard succeeded in getting himself accepted by the congregation. Following a trial period and a year of novitiate in the house at Deliceto, he professed religious vows on July 16, 1752. Gerard was noted for his observance of the Redemptorist rule, and collecting money for the material needs of the community. His presence to people who were weighed down by poverty and illiteracy was a sign of hope to them. Gerard had great empathy and testified to trust in the love and the compassion of God.

During his five years as a lay brother in the congregation, Gerard was remarkable for his apostolic zeal, patience in sickness, love for the poor, deep humility in the face of false accusation, heroic obedience, spirit of penance and constancy in prayer. He wrote numerous letters of spiritual direction. The Lord favoured him with many spiritual gifts, including prophecy, the reading of people's hearts, and the gifts of

miracles. He died at Materdomini on October 16, 1755.

Gerard was beatified by Leo XII on January 29, 1893, and canonized by St. Pius X on December 11, 1904. He is invoked as patron of mothers, especially in time of pregnancy. Couples hoping to conceive a child also seek St. Gerard's intercession.

The shrine of St. Gerard Majella is at the basilica in Materdomi.

### Prayer to St Gerard

St Gerard, passionate lover of Jesus crucified and his mother Mary, you spent your short life helping countless souls by your powerful prayers, especially mothers and families and so earning the title of "The Mothers' Saint". Pray for me that I may obtain what I earnestly ask in the name of Jesus and grant me the grace to accept wholeheartedly God's will in my life.

