

NEWSLETTER FOR CELEBRATION WEEKEND

40 YEARS OF ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD

50 YEARS OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS

18TH SEPTEMBER 2011

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



We can never hope fully to understand God: especially God's generosity. We are very good at working out who is deserving of good fortune and who is not - unfortunately for us, God's gifts go to those God chooses, not those we choose. An example is forgiveness: those who have done the most wrong are those who receive the greatest forgiveness when they turn to God - perhaps at times we begrudge this gift. Today's lesson is simply this: God's ways are not our ways, God's thought are not our thoughts. "Why be envious, because I am generous?"

Liturgy & Activities This Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1
Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)*

Sunday	9.15am Parish Celebration Mass (SJ) 11.15am Parish Celebration Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SJ) <i>Special Celebration Collection</i>
Monday	9.30am Requiem Mass for Kathleen Smith (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)
Tuesday	12noon Requiem Mass for Ralph Gubbins (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB) 7.30-9pm Marriage Preparation Course [Kearsley] <i>Ss Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang & companions</i>
Wednesday	9.30am (SJ) – School Mass in Church [<i>Seeds & Gardeners</i>] <i>St Matthew</i>
Thursday	9.15am (SB) – School Mass in Church
Friday	10am Requiem Mass for Martha Ryder (SJ) 7.30pm Parish Quiz Night (Dunscar) <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>
Saturday	12noon Baptism (SB) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ) <i>Our Lady of Walsingham</i>
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy* 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy* 2pm Baptism (SB) [*Children's Liturgy will be weekly from now on]

Parish Celebration Weekend

**We give thanks to God for...
40 years of St Brendan's parish**



50 years of St John's parish



**...and ask God's blessing
on our future together**

Collections, Donations, Gift Aid
All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's or St John's as appropriate. If you are a tax-payer, the parish can claim back the tax you have paid on any donations you make if you simply sign a Gift Aid form once. Please ask. Thanks.

Baptism or Marriage
*By appointment and with preparation
You must give six months notice for Marriage
See Fr Cooke to arrange*

Find out about our Parishes, Masses, Events, Groups and so much more: www.sbsj.org.uk

Home Mission Sunday: This weekend, amidst our parish celebrations, we are asked to pray for the spread of the Gospel in our own locality and reflect on our response to the Lord's invitation to share our faith. The theme this year is *Fresh Wind In Our Sails* which is what the Holy Father is reported to have said that his visit to the UK gave him. On this day we give thanks for the Pope's visit last year but also focus on the future, reflecting on where we are being called to set sail to, reinvigorated for our ongoing missionary journey in England and Wales. For more information about this special Sunday see www.catholic-ew.org.uk/home-mission

Celebration Collection: Some parishioners seem to have been a bit confused about this special collection. It is not to pay for the celebration weekend but to make a contribution to our parish funds for future generations. The idea is that, whilst we are celebrating what we have inherited from previous parishioners and what we have contributed ourselves to present parochial life, we put something aside for the future of our parishes.

Congratulations: To Isabella Mary McBride who was baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that she and her family may continue to grow in faith.

CAMEO Group: Thanks to everyone who supported the flower arranging event on 8 September. Margaret Fazackerley impressed everyone with her flair and expertise, making this an enjoyable afternoon. There will be more fun to follow. The CAMEO Ladies

Coffee Morning: Thank you to those who helped raise £88 for Depaul UK.

Vouchers: Our primary schools are again collecting the Morrisons Let's Grow vouchers and the Nestle Box Top Book Tokens. They can be left in church for them.

Marriage Preparation: Please pray for the couples who are attending the current preparation course and all those who are planning to get married in the coming year.

SVP: The annual "Awareness Month" highlights aspects of the work of the SVP. This year's theme is *Seeking Christ in Our Midst*. Please take time to look at the posters and to pray for the work of the SVP during this month.

Quiz Night: A few tickets (£5 including refreshments) are still on sale for the quiz night at the Dunscair Conservative Club on Friday 23 September at 7.30pm. Please note that there is a maximum of 6 members per team.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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Think Vocations

The Lord rewards those who follow vocations faithfully from a point later in life with the same reward as those who began in youth. May those who do not have the courage to respond to a vocation to the priesthood or religious life be given fulfilment and peace in whatever way they live their lives.

Thornleigh: Please pray for our local Catholic High School as it undergoes an OFSTED inspection on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. The Open Evening last Wednesday was terrific and Thornleigh proved to be an excellent venue for the diocesan *Relay of Prayer* event last Thursday.

Prayers Please

Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Philip Blackburn, Laura Shuttleworth, Bill Kay, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Baby Guy, Bernard Edmundson, Jonathan Rimmer, Maria de los Angeles, Paul Preston, Elizabeth Patterson, Eunice Brierley, Betty Boyle, Bernard Callaghan, Judith Oldham, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Rowland Coles, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Paul Whittle, Caroline Vickers, Bill Sharples, George Cowley, Marie Donnelly, Alice Coyne, Robin Tootill, Gerard Walker, Elzie Ball, Karen West, Tommy Lenihan, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Marie Rigby, Francis Xavier Price (new-born baby), Alf Isherwood, Bernard & Rita Holder, Michael (six year old), Baby Rose, Calum Russell (baby), Margaret Edge and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.

Lately Dead: Ralph Gubbins, Martha Ryder, Kathleen Smith, Michelle Urmston, Mark Fryers, Danny Rigbye, Paddy Healy, Betty Browne, Frank Greenhalgh

Anniversary: Bridget & Michael Ryan, Ann Ryan, Michael Clarke, Henry & Frances Ramsden

Mass Intentions: Mark Fryers, John Hall (Birthday Remembrance), Kathleen Smith, Danny Rigbye, Margaret Edge, Mairie & Michael Russell, Calum Russell, Bridget & Michael Ryan, Ann Ryan, Paddy Healy, John Hamer, Jim Smith (Birthday Remembrance), Betty Browne, Michael Clarke

Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6): We pray especially for: the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work & the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families

Celebration Weekend...and beyond...

It is a great privilege to serve the parishes of St Brendan's and St John's as parish priest and I am delighted to be here for these special anniversaries. Compared to many parishes in the diocese, we are quite "young" but 40 and 50 years are worth celebrating.

Each of the parishes has a solid core of loyal parishioners, some of whom have been here from the beginning. Each parish also has a good Mass attendance and, of course, we have our two excellent primary schools. So there is plenty of hope for the future.

How that future will shape up is obviously unknown but I am looking forward to being part of that future with you, as our two parishes work closer and closer together.

Together, we have a great legacy from the past, a good present, and real potential for the future. Let us thank God for all our blessings...and those still to come. Enjoy this weekend!

Fr Michael Cooke