

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD  
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

**16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2011**

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Everyone on this earth belongs to God. All are made in his image. Therefore it is right that all men and women, 'from the rising to the setting of the sun', should know the God to whom they belong. The only desire of our God is that all should know and love him, and find in him the fulfilment that they seek. Even a pagan king like Cyrus is used to further this knowledge of God - just as Jesus uses Caesar's head to make the point again: all belong to God, and the mission of all who acknowledge that belonging is to help others to find it. This is exactly what we see Paul, Silvanus and Timothy doing, as they write to the people of Thessalonica to whom they carried the Good News of Jesus Christ.

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1</i> <i>Patmos Room - St John's (SJ); Harbour Room - St Brendan's (SB)</i>		<b>Prayers Please</b>
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB) 2pm Baptism (SB)	<p><b>Sick:</b> 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, 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 &amp; Rita Holder, Michael (six year old), Baby Rose, Calum Russell (baby), Margaret Edge, Simon Taylor, Frank Brazel, Cynthia Winstanley, Gordon Campbell, Graham Roberts and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> Helen Mulrooney, Rowland Coles, Bridget Farrelly, Stanley Barlow, Mrs Crompton</p> <p><b>Anniversary:</b> Mary Ann Quinn, Mary &amp; Walter Cranshaw</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Mary Ann Quinn, Intentions of helpful friends, Bridget Farrelly, Deceased members of the O'Kane &amp; Boardman families, Mary &amp; Walter Cranshaw, Stanley Barlow, Mrs Crompton, Rowland Coles, Very special intention, In thanksgiving for Golden Wedding, Graham Roberts, Holy Souls</p> <p><b>Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6):</b> We pray especially for: the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work &amp; the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners &amp; their families</p>
Monday <i>St Ignatius of Antioch</i>	9.30 Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday <i>St Luke</i>	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	10am Requiem Mass for Helen Mulrooney (SJ) 7.30-8.30pm Youth Group (Patmos Room)	
Thursday	9.15am School Mass in Church (SB) – Prayer Partners 11.30am-12.30pm World Peace Prayers [ <i>See overleaf</i> ] 7pm Meeting re Rome & Assisi (Patmos Room)	
Friday	No Mass Today	
Saturday	6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) 11.15am Mass (SB)	
<b>Collections, Donations, Gift Aid</b> <i>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.</i>		<b>Baptism or Marriage</b> <i>By appointment and with preparation</i> <i>You must give six months notice for Marriage</i> <i>See Fr Cooke to arrange</i>
<b>Find out about our Parishes, Masses, Events, Groups and so much more: <a href="http://www.sbsj.org.uk">www.sbsj.org.uk</a></b>		

**Congratulations:** To Katie Grace Walker who was baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that she and her family may continue to grow in faith.

**Congratulations:** To Margaret and Peter Riley who are celebrating their Golden Wedding.

**World Peace Prayers:** As part of One World Week, there will be a short prayer session on Thursday 20 October (11.30am-12.30pm) in Bank Street Unitarian Chapel. The programme will include music and the reading of peace prayers by members of our diverse Bolton community.

**Rome and Assisi:** There will be a meeting on Thursday evening (7pm in the Patmos Room) for those who are interested in the parish pilgrimage next September. If you have not already expressed an interest but would like to find out more, please come along.

**SVP Outing (SJ):** The next outing for the elderly and housebound is to Our Lady of the Valley (Clitheroe and Sabden) on Sunday 23 October. There are lists in the Patmos Room for names of those wishing to attend and for volunteers willing to help with transport. Alternatively, please inform any member of St John's SVP.

**Book Sale Thank You:** The Book Sale at St. John's was very successful last Sunday and raised £92.50. Of this, £50 goes to church and the rest to Book Club. It was a most pleasant morning with the rain holding off, so we were lucky. I have to thank all who supported the sale, those who contributed books and helped with the sale itself and especially Maureen and Frances from St. John's who made it all happen. Not forgetting patient husbands who carried tables, moved boxes of books, helped to clear up afterwards and transported many boxes here, there and everywhere. It was a good joint operation. Many thanks to members from St. Brendan's who manned stalls, organised books and disrupted their usual Sunday routine to help! Well done! *Madeleine*

**Piety Stall (SB):** Christmas stock is now available – cards, diaries, Advent calendars and more.

**Children of Eden:** Bolton Albert Halls from 18 to 22 October. Box office 01204 652804 or [www.bcmcs.co.uk](http://www.bcmcs.co.uk)

**ASPIRE Youth Mass:** The first monthly Mass and event for young people takes place on Sunday 30 October at The Spiritan Centre, Northallerton Road, Lower Kersal, Salford M7 3TP. Mass is at 6pm, followed by a social concluding at 8pm. For further information contact 0161 792 4195 or [aspire@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:aspire@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**Church Cleaning (SJ):** The Whittleston family

**St Brendan's Church Car Park:** From Monday 17 October, the car park gates will be locked when the church or school are not in use. On school days, the gates will be unlocked between 7am and 6pm. Key-holding parishioners are reminded that the locks must be locked to the gate fixings at all times, whether the gates are open or closed.

### Thornleigh Goes From Strength to Strength

The report from the recent OfSTED inspection has now been received. It acknowledges the significant steps that have been taken since the last inspection (2008) and judges Thornleigh to be “a good and improving school whose Catholic ethos underpins its work as an inclusive and tolerant community in which all individuals are respected, nurtured and challenged to do their best.”

This judgement reflects the inspection grades given under the various headings of the report. Pupil safety and care, guidance and support are judged to be outstanding (grade 1), whilst everything else is judged good (grade 2), with the exception of the Sixth Form provision which is satisfactory (grade 3) but with an acknowledgement in the text of the report that newly introduced systems in the Sixth Form have yet to have their full impact.

There has also been a Section 48 inspection this week (looking at Religious Education and the Catholic life of the school) and, whilst the written report is awaited, I can say that the inspector judged Thornleigh to be an outstanding Catholic school.

Congratulations must go to the headteacher, senior leadership team, the staff generally, and the governors\* who have worked hard over the past few years to bring about these improvements after a difficult period.

Pupils too have played their part. The OfSTED report says: “They are proud of their school, feel extremely safe within it, behave well and enjoy the increasing range of opportunities they have to shape its ways of working.”

Looking to the future, the report states that “The school's self-evaluation is accurate, objective and based on robust evidence. Leaders are clear about the school's priorities and how these are to be addressed. Their track record of securing improvement is strong and this, combined with a staff whose morale is high, supportive parents and carers, and clear management systems mean that there is good capacity to sustain improvement.”

The three points for action within the report are about building on the good to outstanding practice that is already present in the school.

I hope that these independent judgements (and the significant improvements that they represent) will mean that all parents in these parishes will see Thornleigh as the natural first choice of secondary school for their children. It is a shining example of all that is best in Catholic education and we should preserve this for present and future generations.

*Fr Cooke*

\*St John's is well represented on the governing body, with myself and two parishioners as foundation governors

This Newsletter is sponsored by

**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**

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



### Think Vocations

“Give to God what belongs to God.” Our very lives belong to the Lord. Let us be open, with the Blessed Virgin, for them to be disposed to His will: “Be it done to me according to thy word”.