

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

2ND MARCH 2014 – EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In these weeks, as we follow the Sermon on the Mount in Saint Matthew’s Gospel, it can feel as though we are dealing with some very “obvious” and familiar teachings. Last week we had “Love your neighbour”, and this week the extremely simple message that God loves and cares for us. This is because the Sermon on the Mount is a great summary of the most basic teachings of our faith, and we should take this opportunity to renew within ourselves our awareness of these teachings. After a simple, yet beautiful image in the first reading, Jesus elaborates on the idea of the constant care of God for us with some more beautiful images: he invites us to look at the birds and the flowers, which do not have money, mortgages, computers, cars or so many

of the things we have and worry about, and yet manage to be beautiful and happy in what God provides. The message is simple, and is expressed right at the beginning of the Gospel: trust God; be the servant of God, relying on God for everything, not on money or the other things of this world.

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 4</i> Sunday Missal: page 248; Preface at priest's choice		Prayers Please
Sunday	9.15am (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy <i>A Day of Special Prayer for the unemployed</i>	<p>Sick: Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Jonathan Rimmer, Eunice Brierley, Bernard Callaghan, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Caroline Vickers, Robin Tootill, Elzie Ball, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Bernard & Rita Holder, Michael, Baby Rose, Calum Russell, Eileen Murphy, Pauline Bowling, Emma Turner, Joan Rankin, Guy Ryan, Fiona Preston, Kathleen Hopwood, John Barrett, Roy Smith, Fiona Oldham (nee Clappison), Stephen Tootill, Maureen Kennedy, Vera Evans, Julie Smith, Ernie Little, Anthony Axford, Mary Marshall, Joan Pearce, Joshua Almond, Jacqueline Kay, Wynn Elliot, Tom Wardle, Bob Taylor, Noel Gannon, Sheila Derbyshire, David Walton, Dr Bernard Higgins, Winston Shanley, Vera Casey Shaw, Heather Goil, Joni Horton, Mary Long, Teresa Hastings and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Paul Cranshaw, Bob Seemark, Winifred Gasey, Geraldine Hegarty, Peter Kelly, Albert Burrows, Mary Clavin, Maisie Stanley, Anne Rule, Ivy Hamer, Henry Hopwood</p> <p>Anniversaries: Nora Greene, Albert Lomax John Carolan, David Greenhalgh</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Paul Cranshaw, Bob Seemark, Ivy Hamer, Mary Clavin, Nora Greene, Winifred Gasey, St Joseph (for a special intention), Geraldine Hegarty, Peter Kelly, Harry Dawson (Birthday Remembrance), Stuart Pollock (seriously ill), Albert Lomax, John Carolan, David Greenhalgh, Our Lady & St Jude for prayers answered and favours received</p>
Monday	10.30am Requiem Mass for Ivy Hamer (SB) 1pm Funeral Service for Henry Hopwood (SB) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday	9.15am Mass (SC) – School attending 9.30am Mass (SJ) – School attending 1.45pm Service of Ashes (SB) – School attending Ash Wednesday 7pm Mass (SB) Day of Fasting & Abstinence	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB) 1pm-3pm - Teapot time (Harbour Room, SB)	
Friday	8.15am Mass (SJ School) <i>St Perpetua & St Felicity</i> <i>Women’s World Day of Prayer</i>	
Saturday	10.30am-12noon – Baptism Preparation Course (Patmos Room, SJ) 2pm -5pm – Marriage Preparation (Schoenstatt, Kearsley) 5pm Mass (SC) 5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 10.15am (SC) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy 2.30pm Rite of Election (Salford Cathedral)	

Parish Priest and Rural Dean: Rev Michael Cooke

Assistant Priests: Rev Joseph Gee & Rev Francis Parkinson

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Congratulations to: Blake Dante Taylor who was baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that he and his family may continue to grow in faith.

Social Activities

Tea-pot time: Our opening went well. People attended from all three parishes enjoying the chat, scones and toasted teacakes! Our next date is 6 March (1pm-3pm in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's. Come along and have a cuppa and a natter. *Ursula*

Signature Restaurant: The Second lunch has been arranged for Wednesday 12th March. There are still a few places left. To book please contact Ursula (392591)

Harbour Room Book Club: Thank you to all those who attended the last Book Club meeting. It was, as usual, lively and informative! Thank you especially to all those who help in any way to make the meetings go so smoothly. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 26 March to discuss *Dissolution* by C.J. Sansom. All welcome. *Madeleine*

Baptism Preparation: Our next preparation session will take place on Saturday 8 March (10.30am-12noon) in the Patmos Room at St John's. This is for parents from any of our three parishes who wish to have a child baptised in the coming months. Please let one of the priests know if you will be attending or email office@sbsj.org.uk.

Marriage Preparation: The second session of the first deanery course for this year takes place on Saturday 8 March (2-5pm) at the Schoenstatt Shrine, Kearsley.

BRASS: The collections take place at St Brendan's during March. *Thank you for your continued support.*

Fairtrade Fortnight: This continues up to 9 March. The Fairtrade stall will be available at both this and next weekend's Masses at St John's.

The Joy of the Gospel: Following on from the popular and successful Scripture course before Christmas, Fr Gee is offering a short course to help parishioners reflect on the recent papal document *Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel)*. There will be four sessions on Thursdays of Lent: 13 & 20 March, 6 & 13 April. More details to follow. If you are interested in attending these meetings, please indicate this by signing the sheet at the back of church.

Parish Forum: A reminder that the next meeting of the Forum (for all three parishes) will be on Thursday 27 March. If there is anything you would like to place on the agenda, please put the suggestion (and your contact details) in writing or e-mail office@sbsj.org.uk

Church Cleaning (SJ): S Copley

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HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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Lent 2014

Walk with Me

Please take the special booklets and calendars to help you through the Lenten season

Ash Wednesday

Please note that we will have one Mass in each of our churches and Ashes will be distributed at those Masses.

This is a day of fasting and abstinence marking the beginning of the season of Lent

Stations of the Cross

As indicated weekly on the Newsletter

Churches in Harwood Lent Course

Parables and Possessions

Monday Evenings 7.30-9pm

10 March – Christ's Church

17 March – Harwood Methodists (Tottington Rd)

24 March – St Brendan's

31 March – Christ's Church

7 April – Harwood Methodists (Tottington Rd)

14 April – St Brendan's

Materials for these sessions can be downloaded from www.ctbi.org.uk/lent

Tuesday Morning Mass

In St Columba's Church at 8.15am from 11 March

Deanery Station Masses

Wednesday Evenings 7.30pm (Confessions from 7pm)

12 March – Our Lady of Lourdes, Farnworth

19 March – St Thomas of Canterbury, Heaton

26 March – St Osmund, Brightmet

2 April – Holy Family, New Springs

9 April St Joseph, Halliwell

Churches in Tonge Moor Lent Course

(Based on Les Miserables)

Wednesday evenings (7.30-9pm)

In the Crypt at St Augustine's

Friday Morning Mass

In St John's School at 8.15am from 7 March

Churches in Harwood Walk of Witness

Palm Sunday (13 April) afternoon. Details to follow

Churches in Tonge Moor

Holy Week Service

Either Tue 15/Wed 16 April (to be confirmed)

7.30pm at St Augustine's

All are welcome to attend any of these activities

Think Vocation

Jesus says that you cannot be the slave of both God and money." Those who enter religious or consecrated life are asked to live out the "evangelical counsels". They take vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. Having no possessions of their own frees them to be able to dedicate their lives to living out the Gospel. Many others also be called to give their lives generously to serve the Lord in the Church.