

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

18TH SEPTEMBER 2016 – TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



How easy to take the words of Jesus out of context: “Use money to win you friends,” is one of those lines that sounds strange to us outside the context of the parable and the teaching in today’s Gospel. Even the parable itself can seem a little strange – is Jesus really recommending that we act like dishonest stewards? No, of course not! The point that reveals this is hidden half way down: “The children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind...” Jesus in a way praises the effort of the dishonest steward, but wishes that it was directed less to worldly things, but to the things of heaven. And this is the message that we are to take: where do we direct our energies – to making money, fame, fortune and success, or to finding “friends in heaven”?

Liturgy & Activities This Week <i>Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 1</i> Sunday Missal: page 423; Readings 429; Preface at Priest’s choice		Prayers Please
Sunday <i>Home Mission Day</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) - With Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) - With Children’s Liturgy <i>A Day of Special Prayer for the Spread of the Gospel – Today we will have a second collection for the bishops’ national work of evangelisation</i>	<p>Sick: Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Maureen Kennedy, Joan Pearce, Peter Cranmer, Anthony Axford, Pauline Bowling, Caroline Garside, Sarah Parkinson, Mary Long, Linda Southern, Rita Brooks, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Bernard Corri, Winifred Coyle, Josephine Knowles, Rita Bell, Mary Cassidy, Derek Crompton, Roy Shepherd, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, Barbara Stoppard, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, John James McLaughlin, Carrie Roscoe, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Josephine Gell, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Dot Waring, Darren Hickey, David Stuart, Mrs Keane, Donna Taylor, John Peel, Anna Germoni</p> <p>Anniversaries: Michael Clarke, Frank Greenhalgh, Rosemary Davies, Gordon Hollinshead</p> <p>Mass Intentions: Mrs Keene, In thanksgiving for a wonderful Wedding day, Donna Taylor, Michael Clarke, John Peel, Anna Germoni, Frank Greenhalgh, Rosemary Davies, Margaret Holt (90th birthday celebrations), Gordon Hollinshead, Jim Smith (Birthday Remembrance), A Special Intention</p>
Monday (19 ^h)	No Mass Today 7.45pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday (20 ^h) <i>St Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong & Companions</i>	7pm Mass (SJ) 7.15pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday (21 st) <i>St Matthew</i>	9.15am Yr5 Class Mass (SC) 9.30am Mass (SJ) 7pm Adult Formation – Schoenstatt, Kearsley	
Thursday (22 nd)	No Mass Today 7pm Flower Festival Preview & Service (St Brendan’s) 	
Friday (23 rd) <i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) 10am-5pm Flower Festival (SB)	
Saturday (24 th) <i>Our Lady of Walsingham</i>	10am-5pm Flower Festival (SB) 11am Baptism (SC) 5pm Mass (SC) – With Children’s Liturgy	
Next Sunday (25 th) <i>Harvest Sunday</i>	9.15am Harvest Festival Mass (SJ) - With Children from St John’s Primary School 11.15am Mass (SB) - With Children’s Liturgy 1pm-4.30pm (Closing service for Flower Festival, SB)	
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		
Collections & Donations: All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan’s, St Columba’s or St John’s as appropriate.		
Mass Intentions: Cheques should be made payable to St John’s		
Gift Aid: 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		

Parish Priest: Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG

Assistant Priests: Rev Seán O’Brien & Rev Francis Parkinson

Parish Office: St John’s Presbytery, The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL7 9JP

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Congratulations: To Ruby Kathryn Hopkins and Ciarán Michael Stone who were baptized at St John's last Saturday and to Ella Faith Hill who was baptized at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

Tanzania Project: At our Masses this weekend we welcome back Alex & Zach who will give us feedback on their recent trip to Tanzania.

Harvest Festival Mass: At the 9.15am Mass next Sunday, we will be joined by children from St John's School and David O'Keefe from the Destitution Project. David will give a talk about the work of the Project and what we, as parish communities, do to help. Besides all the usual food & clothing items, that are always kindly donated, if anyone has any clean bedding and unwanted rucksacks please bring them along to the 9.15am Mass next week. Many thanks.

Becoming Catholic: You may, or may not be aware that we have previously run a programme for any adult who has an interest in becoming Catholic or simply wants to know more about the Catholic Faith. This year we are beginning another programme which will start on Tuesday 18 October (7.30pm) and will be held in the Patmos Room at St John's Church. The programme will run until Easter and is for anyone in any of our parishes. If you would like more information and think that this is something that you would be interested in, please contact our parish office on 301927 or office@sbsj.org.uk.

Trips to the Octagon: *Educating Rita* by Willy Russell has been booked for Wednesday 8 February (2pm matinee). The cost is £14.90. Money before Christmas please. *Talking Heads* by Alan Bennett is on Wednesday 21 June (2pm matinee). The cost is £14. Money after Christmas please. If anyone wants to pay for both performances at once, that is fine. Please make all cheques payable to *The Octagon Theatre*. Seats for all performances are booking very fast! please ring me on 303505 to book seats. Thank you *Madeleine*

Meditation Groups: Following some successful pilot sessions earlier this summer, 2 weekly groups will start meeting in the Harbour Room at St Brendan's. The first meetings will be Tuesday 27 September (2pm-2.45pm) and Wednesday 28 September (7.30pm-8.15pm). For enquiries please contact Mary Durkan on 07786 033449

Mount St Joseph Former Students Association: Are having their Annual General Meeting on Saturday 1 October at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Lonsdale Road, Bolton, BL1 4PN in The Beckett Suite. The meeting will commence at 3.30pm followed by some light entertainment with Win Dawson and tea and biscuits. We will join the Parish Mass at 5pm. *All past pupils are cordially invited.*

Foster Carers Needed (Caritas Fostering): There continues to be a desperate need for more foster carers, especially for teenagers, sibling groups and parent & child placements. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in providing a young person (who is unable to live within their own birth family) with a home, please call Caritas Fostering on **0161 817 2250**, where you will be assured of a warm welcome by Lindsey, Clare or Neil.

St John's 200 Club

The September winners are:

- £50 I Smith (195)
- £30 A Blackburn (138)
- £20 W Latham (41)



SVP News

Annual Mass for the Sick & Housebound: This will be celebrated on Saturday 1 October (11am) at St John's. Everybody is welcome and refreshments will be available after the Mass. If you require transport to attend, please contact any member of the SVP.

Autumn Outing: This will be held on Sunday 23 October for the sick and housebound. More details to follow.

Destitution Project: Our collection of items continues during September. Besides the food and clothing items, there is a request for bedding, rucksacks, bars of soap, toothpaste and toilet rolls. If anyone also has any carrier bags lying around, these are also really useful.

Thank you for all your continued generosity!

Flower Festival

Friday 23 - Sunday 25 September
at St Brendan's Church, Harwood

Tickets £3

(Accompanied children free of charge)

The Festival will open with a short service and preview on Thursday 22 September at 7pm. This is a ticket only event (£5) and they will be on sale after Sunday Masses.

Marriage Matters – twoinoneflesh.org

Money, money, money...not much changes! Dishonest traders, crippling taxes, money lenders and unpaid debts – things haven't changed much since the time of Amos. Honesty and trust are vital regarding all forms of wealth. Let us ask God for the gift of wisdom when deciding together how to use our money, wealth or scarcity. Dishonesty about money shows lack of trust and often leads to divorce.

Think Vocation

"Praise the Lord, who raises the poor." Many people are inspired by the Gospel message of reaching out to the poor and marginalised. To present yourself at the service of the Church as a priest or Religious can be an opportunity to really make a difference to the lives of people in need. Let us ask ourselves whether we really are sincere in our prayers and generous with our financial contributions.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Next Weekend

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5.00 (SC)	L Seals	M Hilton, J O'Connor
9.15 (SJ)	P Margiotta	M Russell, F Smith, J Carroll, A Rawlinson, M Fau-Goodwin, M Cropper
11.15(SB)	J Proctor	T Taylor, J Proctor, T Proctor

This Newsletter is sponsored by

HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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