

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

12TH FEBRUARY 2017 – SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



Back in the 60s some groups “adopted” Jesus Christ as an icon of rebellion, overturning authority and tearing up the rule book – possibly because of the frequent confrontations between Our Lord and the Pharisees. Today’s Gospel, however, shows us Jesus not as rule-breaker, but as rule-fulfiller, bringing an even greater depth to the rule that had guided the people of Israel for centuries. Jesus does not throw out the rulebook – or as the first reading says, He does not command us to be godless! He challenges us in this Gospel to see how far our keeping God’s Law will go: will it just be about the letter of the Law (“I have never killed anyone”), or will it look deeper (“Have I ever been angry? Have I been violent in my thoughts?”). The challenge of the Kingdom of Heaven is to keep the commandments first and foremost from within, so that our outward behaviour conforms to the requirements of God’s Law.

Liturgy & Activities This Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 2

Sunday Missal: *page 227; Preface at priest’s choice*

Liturgy & Activities This Week		Prayers Please	
Sunday <i>Racial Justice Sunday</i>	9.15am Mass (SJ) - With Children’s Liturgy (<i>Fairly Traded Goods will be on sale this weekend</i>) 11.15am Mass (SB) - With Children’s Liturgy	<p>Sick: Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Holder, Eileen Murphy, Joan Pearce, Peter Cranmer, 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, Tony Wright, Janet Rabbett, Mike Greenhalgh, June Dawson, Greta Barlow, Cassie Wilson, Christine Hasleden, Suzanne Freeman-Hill, Jude McCann Brown, Ann Cunliffe, John Pryor, Maureen Woodward, Rose Adams, Valerie Piddock, Irene Parkinson, Robert Morissey, Father Harry Jones, Edwin Rankin, Father Francis McAuley, Margaret Patterson, Jessie Carter and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p>Lately Dead: Arthur Darbishire, Josephine Gell, Michael Mertz, Joan Cropper, Brian Harrison, Martin Liptrott, Joan Brierly, Margaret Parkinson, Peter Walsh,</p> <p>Anniversaries: Terence Cocker, Tess McSherry, Frederick Martin, Thomas Baker, Geraldine Hegarty, Edward & Margaret Brandwood</p> <p>Mass Intentions: In honour of St Jude, Terence Cocker, Josephine Gell, Michael Mertz, Deceased members of the O’Kane & Boardman families, Tess McSherry, Frederick Martin, Thomas Baker, Geraldine Hegarty, Brian Harrison, Eileen Wakes (for a speedy recovery), Joan Cropper, Edward & Margaret Brandwood</p>	
Monday (13 th)	9.30am Mass (SB) 7.45pm SVP (SJ)		
Tuesday (14 th) <i>St Cyril & St Methodius (Patrons of Europe)</i>	6.30pm Deanery Mass for Vocations (St Mary’s, Horwich) – <i>All Welcome.</i> No Evening Mass at St John’s. 7.15pm SVP (SB) <i>Day of Special Prayer for Europe</i>		
Wednesday (15 th)	9.15am Yr5 Class Mass (SC) 9.30am Mass (SJ)		
Thursday (16 th)	9.15am Mass (SB) 1-3pm Colouring Social Group (St John’s Patmos Room)		
Friday (17 th)	9.30am Mass (SJ) 10am Church Cleaning (SJ) – Team 1		
Saturday (18 th)	2pm Mass for Engaged Couples (Salford Cathedral) 5pm Mass (SC)		
Sunday (19 th)	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children’s Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children’s Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SC)		
<p>Collections & Donations: <i>All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan’s, St Columba’s or St John’s as appropriate.</i></p> <p>Mass Intentions: <i>Cheques should be made payable to St John’s</i></p> <p>Gift Aid: <i>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></p>			<p style="text-align: center;">Cycle of Prayer Part 2 (of 6):</p> <p>We pray especially for: peace on earth; Christian unity; the sick and those who care for them; students and teachers; the unemployed</p>

Parish Priest: Rev Canon Michael Cooke VG

Assistant Priest: Rev Francis Parkinson

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

Tel: 01204 301927 E-mail: office@sbsj.org.uk Website: www.sbsj.org.uk

Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity – 250037 Diocesan website: www.salforddiocese.ne

Apologies: For the confusion caused with the time last Saturday for Adoration and Reconciliation! The next one will be on Saturday 4 March at the usual time of 11am-12noon.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2017: There have been several enquiries from within our three parishes regarding this year's Lourdes pilgrimage (28 July – 3 August). I now have application forms available for those who may wish to attend. The cost will be approx. £700-£750, dependant on hotel choice. If you require forms or further details, please contact Margaret Russell (St John's), Peter Carolan (St Brendan's) or myself on 01204 305832. *Terry Smith*

Young Christian Adults: A new Christian Young Adults (18+) group called *Rooted*, has started in Bolton (although, mainly based in Harwood). *Rooted* is open to any young adult, who wants to come and explore their faith together. They meet every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. There are also *Rooted* social nights, the first being on Thursday 16 February. Any young adults are interested in the group can join them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/rootedbolton with any questions by email: rooted@harwoodmethodist.org.uk

Fr Seán O'Brien: A number of parishioners have asked how he is getting along. In these initial months, he is not in contact with people outside the monastery so it may be a little while before we hear from him. There have also been some rumours that he was "sent" to Ampleforth but that is far from the truth. This was his own decision and is something that he has been thinking about seriously for a number of years. Let us continue to pray for him during his time of discerning whether or not he has a monastic vocation.

Vocations: Each deanery has been asked to have a special Mass for Vocations during 2017. For our deanery, it is on Tuesday evening (6.30pm) at St Mary's, Horwich. Please come along and pray for all vocations to the Church.

Deanery: Mgr John Dale has moved to Christ the King parish in Walkden and is no longer our dean. Bishop John has appointed Fr Kevin Foulkes (Haigh and New Springs) as the acting dean during this period of re-structuring our parishes. Please keep him in your prayers.

Colouring Social Group: Will be held again on Thursday 16 February 1-3pm in the Patmos Room at St John's. If you would like a sociable afternoon come along and enjoy! The group is for all ages and refreshments are available.

DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL CO-ORDINATOR

The diocese has an exciting job opportunity for an experienced practitioner to develop and support catechetical formation at diocesan and parish level. The new co-ordinator will develop the training and support of volunteer catechists in delivering a range of activities, and identify or develop materials to support new and existing programs in formation in faith across the diocese. Please see the parish noticeboard for further details, or for further information, job description and an application form, contact Patrick O'Dowd, Director of Administration and Personnel, Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP; Email: recruitment@dioceseofsalford.org.uk. Tel 0161 817 2203. The closing date for applications is Friday 17 February 2017. Further details are also available on the diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Marriage Matters (www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)

Making the right choices: Choices! How difficult sometimes to make the right choices. What to eat today, how to save money, what clothes to wear, what we or our children need. For Christians, prayer and a set of Christian values influence the choices we make. Why not ask the Lord's help to decide what issue is uppermost for us today and dialogue about it?

Think Vocation

"Man has life and death before him." We are faced with making choices every day of our lives and sometimes we make wrong choices and we sin. One of the greatest gifts our Lord gives to the Church through the sacred priesthood is the power to forgive sins. May we grow in our appreciation of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and pray that all our priests who are channels of the Lord's mercy will celebrate the gift of forgiveness with compassion and love.

APF Mill Hill Red Mission Boxes: St Brendan's require a volunteer to help collect the Red Mission Boxes. It entails visiting about half a dozen houses four times per year. If anyone is interested, please phone Peter Hosie on 591435.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for Next Weekend (18/19 February)

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5.00 (SC)	N Villa	F Ginty, C Molyneux, J O'Connor
9.15 (SJ)	M Parkinson	E Rothwell, M Speed, A Gracie, A Grundy, M Cropper, D Ramsden
11.15 (SB)	K Denton	J Murphy, K Wilkinson, P Carolan

C	A	P	U	R	P	O	S	E	E	Y	ABOLISH	COMPLETE	PURPOSE
O	N	U	E	L	O	A	R	F	R	KINGDOM	HEAVEN	VIRTUE	
M	C	R	N	L	V	B	O	A	G	ANCESTORS	KILL	ANGRY	
P	E	P	O	I	L	O	T	F	N	ALTAR	THRONE	FOOTSTOOL	
L	S	O	R	K	T	L	S	O	A				
E	T	T	H	S	A	I	E	O	L				
T	U	S	T	A	E	S	C	T	I				
E	R	O	M	O	D	G	N	I	K				
T	O	E	H	N	E	V	A	E	H				
L	S	H	S	I	L	O	B	A	S				



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