

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

# 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2017 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 4 Sunday Missal: page 328; Preface: At priest's choice



There is no room in a good field for weeds and rubbish: the Kingdom of Heaven, there is no room for 'all things that provoke offences, and all who do evil'. They must be got rid of, for the sake of the good wheat, for the sake of the good subjects of the kingdom. But this weeding out will

not take place until harvest time - in case one piece of good wheat is destroyed with the weeds. This shows the mercy of God: everyone has chance after chance to prove that they are wheat, not darnel; there are no quick judgements in the kingdom of heaven, and things are never as black and white as we think. Only at the end of time will evil stand out clearly, so that it can be disposed of, and only the Son of Man can judge.

#### Masses, Feasts & Activities

Sunday Masses 9.15am (SJ); 11.15am (SB); 2pm Baptism (SJ) Monday (24th) 9.30am Mass (SB)

Tuesday (25th) 2pm Requiem Mass for Veronica McGuire (SC)

2pm Christian Meditation (SB)

7pm Mass (SJ) – St James

7.30-9pm Parish Forum Meeting (SI)

Wednesday (26th)11am Requiem Mass for Jaceline Kay (SC) - St Joachim & St Mary (Parents of the Blesses Virgin Mary)

**Thursday** (27th) 9.15am Mass (SB)

7.15pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Friday (28th) No Mass Today. Lourdes Pilgrimage departs.

Saturday (29th) 5pm Mass (SC) – St Martha

# Think Vocation

We pray that with dedicated spirits, we will beg the Lord of the Harvest to provide an abundance of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life in our diocese who will help gather the wheat of souls into His barn.

### **Marriage Matters**

Attentive listening: The Gospel today raises questions about our ability 'to listen'. We easily hear criticism in a comment, or a question which often puts us at odds with each other. But if we listen with our hearts, in the way Jesus commanded us to do, we are enabled, in all our relationships, to follow His command "...listen, anyone who has ears"

## Cycle of Prayer Part 5 (of 6):

We pray especially for: a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; human life; seafarers.

# 30TH JULY 2017 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1 Sunday Missal: page 349; Preface: At Priest's choice



What a gift it is, to be able to recognise the true value of things, and choose those which will last forever and bring us true happiness! Solomon, renowned for wisdom, is able to make the right choices when offered the chance to have anything he wants. What would we choose? The parable in the Gospel tells us that, in a sense, the choice is already before us: we can see the kingdom

of heaven waiting for us: it is of greater value than anything else, and so all our hearts should be set on it. Nothing should stand in our way.

#### Masses, Feasts & Activities

**Sunday Masses:** 9.15am (SJ); 11.15am (SB)

**Monday**(31st) No Mass Today; 7.45pm SVP (SJ) – St Ignatius of

**Tuesday** (1st August) No Mass Today – St Alphonsus Mary Ligouri 7.15pm SVP (SB)

Wednesday (2<sup>nd</sup>) No Mass Today

Thursday (3rd) No Mass Today. Lourdes Pilgrimage returns.

Friday (4th) 9.30am Mass (SI) – St John Mary Vianney

**Saturday** (5th) 11am-12noon Adoration & Reconciliation (SJ) 5pm Mass (SC)

Next Sunday (6th) 9.15am (SJ); 11.15am (SB) - The Transfiguration of the Lord

## Think Vocation

Let us hope for a greater awareness of the richness of every vocation to love Christ and that more men and women will respond to his invitation to follow Him as priests, deacons and in consecrated life.

# **Marriage Matters**

Discover what loving really means: Instead of praying for 'treasure', King Solomon prayed for wisdom 'to discern good from evil'. When discerning what 'loving' really means, you find 'hidden treasure' in these weekly reflections on Scripture. They will also help you to discover the 'hidden treasure' in each other. Sharing this, you sow 'seeds' of love in the minds and hearts of others.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

#### HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Peel House 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.



### **Prayers Please**

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, Linda Southern, Callum Fazackerley, Elaine Jansen, Josephine Knowles, Mary Cassidy, 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, Edwin Rankin, Father Francis McCauley, Margaret Patterson, Zachary Ainscough (aged 7), Mary Bagg, Mary Castle, Peggy Ainscow, Canon Dorran, Christine Everitt, Priscilla Martin, Mark O'Brien, Philip & Marie Derbyshire and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness

Lately Dead: Jacqueline Kay, Callum Grimes, Geoff Bradshaw, Veronica McGuire, Bernard Carney, Peter Westwell,

Anniversaries: James & Doris Conlon, Ellen Day

Mass Intentions: Philip Hall (Birthday Remembrance), Our Lady & Padre Pio for help & guidance, Joe Cassidy, Hannah Kilroy, John Murray, Teresa Murray, Patrick Murray, Mary Cassidy, Callum Grimes, Geoff Bradshaw, Joe Parker (Birthday Remembrance), Bernard Carney, Ellen Day, James & Doris Conlon



Summer Holidays: Our schools have now finished or will be finishing for the summer holidays. It is a time to thank all members of staff for all their professional dedication and hard work during the last academic year. We pray for all our Yr 6 pupils, Yr 11 pupils and our Sixth Form students who are moving on. We ask that they may be given guidance and encouragement as they continue their journeys.

The Children's Liturgy, at St Brendan's and St John's, will also take a break over the summer and we must thank all those who volunteer to run the groups as they become increasingly popular!

Many of you will be setting off on holiday over the coming weeks. Whether you are staying in this country, or travelling overseas, we wish you a safe journey and we hope that the sun will shine!

## St John's School - 40th Anniversary Celebrations

This September marks the 40th anniversary of the opening of the school in 1977. To mark this milestone, the first Mass of the new academic year (15 September 2017) will be dedicated to this special occasion. As well as the Mass, the school will be hosting an evening celebration "St John's Through the Decades" and there will of course be a celebration in school for the children (dates for the above are to be advised). All will be welcome.

In the meantime, we are asking for your help; if past staff, children, parents, grandparents, governors and friends could have a look for any photographs, newspaper cuttings, extracts of information, or any special memories you have in connection with our school, and would be willing to allow us to use them for display purposes and to create a Memories Book, these would be gratefully received. The items loaned to us, should include the sender's name so that they can be returned. Many thanks.

Fr. Netto: His funeral took place in Farnborough on Wednesday (19th). May he rest in peace.

Save The Date: St John's SVP are holding a charity concert with the Eden Singers on Friday 15 September (7.30pm) at Dunscar Conservative Club. The musical evening will include a Tribute to the Beatles and Decades of Pop from the 1940's up to the present day and promises to be a very enjoyable event. Tickets priced at £8 will be on sale soon and will include a pasty supper. There will be a full bar facility available at the Conservative Club.

Theatre Lovers: I have provisionally booked 20 places for the Octagon's production of Jane Eyre on 27 January 2018. This will be a matinee 2pm performance on a Saturday. The price is £18 and I have booked the rear rows we prefer. Also, I have booked 6 seats for the front row with a ground floor entrance, (no stairs, no lift) to make access easier. If you would like to book seats for this event please ring me on 303505. I will not be collecting any money until September. Madeleine.

# Parish Forum Meeting Tuesday 25 July (7.30pm-9pm) in the Patmos Room

This meeting is open to all parishioners from our three parishes and is an important opportunity to be involved in shaping our future. There are major items to discuss, so please come along if you can.

As you know from the letter read in St Brendan's and St John's on Sunday 25 June, Bishop John has asked us to start the formal process of bringing these two parishes together into one. We will discuss the process for doing this, the consultation required, the proposed boundaries, and possible names for the new parish. We are, of course, starting from the strong position of having been working together for almost ten years, with St Columba's also involved for almost five years.

It is not yet clear when St Columba's will amalgamate with Holy Infants and so we need to plan to still have pastoral responsibility for this parish even after our other two parishes have amalgamated. There are however very serious issues about the property and financial position of St Columba's. Revised costs for the demolition of the presbytery and parts of the sacristy, together with secure fencing around the site are coming in at around £130,000 (without fees and VAT). This is a huge debt to burden the parish with, when the bank balance and weekly income are very low. These costs do not include any of the work that will also need to be done on the church building to put it into good repair. With these things in mind, we have to seriously consider how best to move ahead, even perhaps reversing the decision to retain the church.

A number of parishioners from each of our three parishes have recently completed the deanery lay leadership course and will, with the priests, form a Parish Enabling Team to help coordinate the various activities of these parishes. It is not a matter of them doing all the work but enabling and co-ordinating it, so we will still be looking for lots of volunteers to take on different

In October, the diocese will be launching a new initiative entitled Hope in the Future which will help us to develop our parishes as missionary parishes. We will have some initial discussion about this at the meeting.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for 29/30 July		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SC)	M Maybury	P & F McDowell & E Clarke
9.15 (SJ)	P Barnes	M Russell, A Grundy, A Rawlinson, D Ramsden, J Carroll, A Gracie
11.15(SB)	T Proctor	T Smith, T Proctor, J Proctor
Readers and Eucharistic Ministers for 5/6 August		
Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SC)	C Molyneux	F Ginty, C Molyneux, J O'Connor
9.15 (SJ)	C Grundy	E Rothwell, D Ramsden, A Gracie, F Smith, M Speed, M Cropper
11.15(SB)	C Owen	T Smith, J Proctor, T Proctor,