

  
**DIOCESE OF SALFORD**

**Corpus Christi Bolton  
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY  
7<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**PRAYERS PLEASE**

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends. Bernard Holder, Christopher Scott, Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Hurst, Margaret Padfield, Anne Killeen, Fred Heywood

**Lately Dead:** Sr M Catherine Vose (Missionary Sister of Charity) Bishop Vincent Malone (Liverpool), Peter Galloway, George Floyd

**Anniversaries:** Patrick O'Donnell (11<sup>th</sup>) Johnny and Peg Crowley(11<sup>th</sup>) Nancy Delvard (5<sup>th</sup>) Fr William O'Connor(5<sup>th</sup>)

**Mass Intentions:** Patrick O'Donnell, Peter Galloway, John Cranshaw, Colin Spragg, Special Intention, Nancy Delvard, Sr M Catherine Vose (Missionary Sister of Charity), Johnny and Peg Crowley(11<sup>th</sup>)

Let us continue to pray for the victims of this pandemic, their families and loved ones. Remembering also the key workers who are on the front-line during this current pandemic. We thank them for all they are doing and ask the Lord to keep them safe.

**Hope in the future**

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St. Bernadette, Withington, for Fr. Colin Wright, their parish priest, for Loreto High School, and for the Marist Sisters.

**The Holy Trinity**

The mystery of the most Holy Trinity is a basic doctrine of Faith in Christianity, understandable not with our heads but with our hearts. It teaches us that there are three distinct Persons in one God, sharing the same Divine Nature. Our mind cannot grasp this doctrine which teaches that 1+1+1 = 1 and not 3. But we believe in this Mystery because Jesus who

is God taught it clearly, the Evangelists recorded it, the Fathers of the Church tried to explain it and the Councils of

Nicaea and Constantinople defined it as a dogma of Christian Faith.

St Augustine wrote: "You see the Trinity if you see love." Accordingly, the Father is the lover, the Son is the loved one and the Holy Spirit is the personification of the very act of loving. This means that we can understand something of the Mystery of the Holy Trinity more readily with the heart than with our feeble mind.

Importance in Christian life: 1) All prayers in the Church begin in the Name of the Holy Trinity and end glorifying the Trinity. 2) All Sacraments are administered (we are baptized, confirmed, anointed, our sins are forgiven, and our marriage blessed, and our Bishops, priests and deacons ordained) in the name of the Holy Trinity. 3) Where Church bells ring thrice daily, they remind us to pray to the Holy Trinity. 4) We bless ourselves, and the priest blesses us, in the name of the Holy Trinity.

Pope Francis reminds us: - The mystery of the Holy Trinity reminds Christians that *"we are called to live not without each other, over or against the other, but with one another, and in one another."*

**The Holy Trinity Reflection**

With thanks to David Franks

Exodus 34: 4-6. 8-9                      Daniel 3: 52-56    2  
Corinthians 13: 11-13    John 3; 16-18

**The God of Love and Peace be with you**

There is a sense, today, of a new beginning, we start with the basic message of our faith, that God is Father, Son and Spirit. The readings lead us to the birth of a fresh understanding of God

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and His love for our world. Each passage is relatively short; they are stepping stones to this new understanding. The last few months we seem to have come to a standstill, our churches are closed, communication has been reduced to technological messages rather than through direct human contact. We are human, we need to touch with our senses the word that is spoken. It seems artificial to see and not be there, to listen and not hear the words that are used as they enter the hearts of those around us, to watch the raising of the host and not experience the receiving of Christ into our hands. We yearn for the return to familiar ways, to see the faces of our family, our friends our community, those known to us and the strangers in our midst. We are being deprived of love.

The Exodus is a story of God's people on the move. They have left familiar places behind and are trusting in the God of their Fathers. As the journey continues, they become more disillusioned about why they started, where they are going, why are they travelling to a future they cannot see. It is easy to note with hindsight the attitude of these travellers, to hear their grumbling voices, to see them turn to other gods, the gods who always seem to please and not ask for anything in return, the easy gods. But Moses calls to the God of tenderness and compassion, the God who is rich in kindness and faithfulness, the God who is slow in anger, the God of love; and pleads that his headstrong people be adopted as God's heritage.

Paul takes the call of Moses and clothes his plea in the knowledge of the resurrection. He has seen the God of his Fathers become human in Jesus Christ and sees also that God has not changed.

He urges the people of God to try to grow perfect, to help one another, to be united and live in peace. His message speaks strongly to us of this present time when the fruits of the Holy Spirit need to burn brightly in our lives and in those we meet. His prayer should be the blessing constantly on our lips "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all"

The meeting between Jesus and Nicodemus is an insight into the love of God. "God loved the world so much that he gave his only son" expresses the depth of God's love for us. Their discussion ranges from an explanation about Baptism, how we must be born again, changed, in order to become part of God's family, to the core message behind the coming of Christ. Jesus turns to His own image. He speaks of those who come to believe in Him. Moses feared that God would abandon the people in the desert, but Jesus speaks of saving the world that those who believe may have life eternal.

David Franks

### ONLINE MASS

[www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) or  
[www.mcnmedia.tv](http://www.mcnmedia.tv)

If you have no internet-The Diocese of Middlesbrough are now offering Mass by phone. The number is 01642 130120

Calls are charged at local rate or free if included in your phone package

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**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR  
CHILDREN EASTER 2021**

Do you know any Catholic children currently in year 7 at Secondary school (Thornleigh/Canon Slade, Bolton School etc) who reside in our parish and are still to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Confirmations are scheduled to take place at Easter 2021

Unfortunately, the current situation has delayed the Diocesan plans of preparation but once we return to normal, we will be arranging catechism for the children who wish to be Confirmed in 2021.

It will be easier liaising through the schools in due course but any interested families can register their interest by emailing the parish office [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk)

**Happy parish feast day on Tuesday**

**St. Columba 521-597**, Born probably in Donegal Ireland of royal descent he studied at Moville under St. Finnian then in Leinster at the monastery of Clonard under another St. Finnian. He was ordained before he was twenty-five and spent the next fifteen years preaching and setting up foundations at Derry, Durrow, and Kells. Possibly because of a family feud which resulted in the death of 3000 and for which he considered himself partly responsible he left Ireland at 42 and landed on the island of Iona off the coast of Scotland. There he built the monastery which was to become world famous. With SS Canice and Comgall he spread the gospel to the Picts; he also developed a monastic rule which many followed until the introduction of St. Benedicts. He died on Iona and is also

known as Colm, Colum and Columcille.  
**Feast day is June 9.**

**St Columba Pray for us**

**Father William O'Connor RIP**

**Founder of the parish of St Brendan,  
Harwood**

William O'Connor was ordained in June 1954 at St Patrick's, Carlow, he was then appointed to the newly opened parish of Our Lady, Langley as their first curate, in 1960 he moved to St Columba, Tonge Moor again as curate, but in 1971 he was tasked with splitting off a portion of that parish to establish St Brendan's, there he built a church and presbytery and served for 16 years, in 1988 he moved to the parish of the Holy Family, Kirkholt, Rochdale where he spent the remaining 8 years of his ministry before retiring to Ireland in 1996, he died 5 June 2008.

**May he rest in peace.**

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Some of you may have caught Bishop John being interviewed on the BBC on Thursday evening. Bishop John confirmed our return to church, as expected, will be a slow and gradual one with safety a priority.

Churches will open initially for private prayer only for a limited time per day. The Diocese will concentrate on the larger churches opening at first to allow social distancing compliance.

Once we know which churches can open and when we will, of course, let you know.

I hope you are all keeping safe and well; this was the first week without a funeral- may all our faithful departed rest in peace. I'm keeping you in my prayers God bless you all

*Fr Alf*