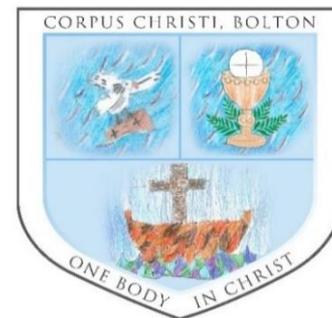


# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

Incorporating St John, the Evangelist, Bromley Cross,  
St Columba's, Tonge Moor and St Brendan's, Harwood

**26 July 2020**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**



## Weekly Reflection

*"I have seen the sun break through to illuminate a small field for a while and gone my way and forgotten it. But that was the pearl of great price, the one field that had treasure in it. I realise now that I must give all that I have to possess it"* *The Bright Field, RS Thomas*

Today's readings are based on the word "treasure"; but what does that word mean to you? To some it is something of great wealth that will raise them to the heights of prosperity but to others it can be the face of a loved one. It depends, I suppose, on how we look on life and what our values are based upon. If they are based in faith then our treasure is held in our hearts, if they are based in the world then we look for material gain and status and treasure is a longing for good fortune. RS Thomas in his poem "Bright Field" describes it as "the eternity that awaits you".

Solomon would have appreciated RS Thomas. In an age when men looked to rule kingdoms and sought fame and fortune Solomon, given a limitless range of gifts, chose Discernment. He understood that in order to rule people's lives he had first of all to rule in their hearts. This is of course the basis of our faith, Jesus taught us to love one another, not to seek to dominate but to share in each other's lives and so bring His kingdom to life in the world. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, gives an insight into how he believes God works in us. First of all, God calls us, individually, into faith in Him, then he tests us to see if we share the love in our hearts with our neighbours, then he welcomes us to share His glory. In this way "God co-operates with those who love him".

In today's parables we have a glimpse of the treasure, the future that awaits us. It is something beyond price, a gift that we must give everything to possess. We live in a world which is capable of great good, as we have seen in recent months, but it is also a place where evil lurks. Jesus asks us if we have understood? We need to discern what is in our reject that which is evil, not to throw away all we have experienced but to treasure that which is good and be prepared to accept new ideas, new understandings, which will lead us, in RS Thomas' poem, "to the eternity that awaits you" *David Frank*

### Activities this Week

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

1 Kings 3:5,7-12; Psalm 118 Romans 8: 28-30;  
Matthew 13; 44-52

#### Sunday 26 July

2pm-4pm Private Prayer (SB) with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

#### Monday 27 July

10am-12noon Private Prayer (SJ)  
11am Burial of Ashes of Peter Hodgkinson (Astley Bridge Cemetery)  
7pm Mass (SJ)

#### Tuesday 28 July

9.30am Mass (SB)

#### Wednesday 29 July - St Martha

9.30am Mass (SJ)  
11am Private Funeral Service for James Coyne (SJ)

#### Thursday 30 July

10am Private Requiem Mass for Jeff Howarth (SB)  
12.30pm Funeral Service for Stephen Smith (Radcliffe Crem)

#### Friday 31 July - St Ignatious of Loyola Churches Closed

#### Saturday 1 August - St Alphonsus Mary Liguori

10.30am-11.20am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (SJ)  
11.30am Mass (SJ)

#### Sunday 2 August

2pm-4pm Private Prayer (SB) with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

*Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello*

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

**Lately Dead:** Vincent Sheridan, Brenda Wark, James Coyne, Jeff Howarth, Christopher Scott, Bridget McDonagh, Stephen Smith  
*May They Rest in Peace*

**Anniversaries:** Ellen Day

**Mass Intentions:** Ellen Day, James Coyne, Bridget McDonagh, A sick person, Christopher Scott, Jeff Howarth, a Special Intention, Irene Parkinson

We continue to pray for victims of the Covid-19 virus, and for all those who are still working tirelessly to keep us safe.

**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

#### Hope in the Future

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St Mary, Heaton Norris, and for Fr Geoffrey Marlor, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school and for St Anne's High School

#### Offertory Envelopes

These are now available for collection in the respective churches. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively donations can be made through Salford Diocese website, or alternatively by setting up a Bank standing order.

**Cheques: Please make all cheques payable to *Corpus Christi*. Thank you.**

## Weekday Masses - Good News!

As Bishop John has previously mentioned, I would like to re-iterate our appreciation to all those volunteers in the parish who are helping to keep our church open as a safe place for prayer. We will all be glad when some normality returns, whatever normal may look like in the future. Let's keep asking for the intercession of Our Lady and the Saints to help with this new and, hopefully, temporary challenge.

After the first few weeks of re-opening our churches for silent private prayer, we can now announce the next phase will be for the re-commencing of weekday Masses from **Monday (27 July)**. If all goes well our next future phase will be the return of weekend Masses in due course. As we have all come to learn during this Covid-19 pandemic, things can change daily let alone weekly. Let's keep looking after each other and praying as always for God's help as we continue to move forward safely.

As you can understand, there are some guidelines that we need to follow in order to keep us all safe:

### Holy Mass Preparation

- We are all still dispensed by the Bishop from the Sunday obligation.
- Numbers will be greatly restricted so we will begin with weekday Masses at first. As we are still following the 2metre distancing plan, the government and the Bishop have limited the number of people attending funerals/weddings and baptisms to 30. The limit for Holy Mass is more flexible: -

At St Brendan's to approximately 42. This is an estimate there are 14 benches with three people per bench- e.g. a couple and single sitting at two metres apart but this can vary if families/people in the same bubble attend.

At St John it would be two people per bench sitting on the edges 2metres apart but again this could vary. At first glance we could get 50 into St John's.

Some churches are adopting a booking system, but as we are starting with weekday Mass I do not think this is necessary at this stage; but please note that once we have reached capacity, sadly, we will have turn people away.

- Face coverings are currently mandatory on public transport and will be mandatory in shops and in supermarkets from 24th July 2020. People are also strongly encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet, such as a church.

- There will be no public toilet facilities for the time being in church.
- The frequency of Masses and liturgies available is entirely dependent of the generosity of time that volunteer stewards are able to give. We thank the stewards for their assistance without their help we could not open church.
- Worshippers should limit their interactions with anyone they are not attending church with, i.e. if they are attending corporate worship with one other household, wherever possible they should maintain social distancing with anyone outside of this group.

## Holy Mass

This section deals with the requirements and conditions for celebrating the Holy Mass by both the diocesan authorities and the Bishops Conference of England and Wales.

- People are asked to come to church in plenty of time before Mass begins in order to make life easier for the volunteer stewards.
  - As you enter church please wait at the back, social distancing, and a steward will greet you and direct you to your allocated seats. One of our Vicar Generals, Mgr. Daly has reminded us to say: 'Advise all that their 'usual seats' will not be available.'
  - There will be no Sacristans, Altar Servers, Choirs, musicians or Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, at this stage. The Bishops have made clear that for the celebration of Mass, no-one except the Priest is permitted inside the Sacristy, only the Priest should touch the chalice, vestments and sacred vessels, and no-one should approach the Priest while he is on the Sanctuary.
  - If you are a reader, we will adopt using two lecterns are both Churches, but the reader must wear protective gloves for the reading and the lectern will have to be cleaned after each Mass.
  - There will be no Prayers of the Faithful (Bidding prayers).
  - There will be no Sign of Peace.
- After the prayer and its response "Behold the Lamb of God...Lord I am not worthy," the Principal Celebrant should hold up the Host to the Congregation and say audibly "The Body of Christ" to which all respond "Amen."
- In the same way, he elevates the chalice and says, "The Blood of Christ" and again all respond "Amen."
- Holy Communion will be distributed by Fr Alf at the end of Mass instead of at the usual time. Stewards will direct parishioners, row by row, to come forward for Holy Communion, after which they will direct parishioners to leave the church via the one-way system. This is in order to avoid the danger of people gathering together in the church after Mass, to relieve pressure on Stewards to police this (remember they are already kindly giving their time) and to ensure the church can be cleaned and disinfected straight after. This is the method for receiving Holy Communion recommended by the Bishop's Conference at this time.
  - There will be no singing or music during Mass.
  - Priests have been asked not to sign any Mass cards to discourage anyone coming into the Sacristy before or after Mass. If you would like a Mass offered, please write the priests name on the card and post the donation with the intention through the presbytery letter box. I will pre sign cards at both Churches ready for purchase.
  - We have also been asked not to display any notices at the back of church except the poster with details of the Parish Safeguarding Representatives in case this causes people to "bunch up" whilst reading or looking at notices.
  - Social distancing of 2 metres will be observed by all who are not living in the same household or sharing the same social bubble. Under the recent guidelines masks are now encouraged in churches (please provide your own).
  - There will be no access to toilets or sinks. If you require water during Mass, please bring your own bottle of water with you.

**Thank you for your continued patience and understanding.**

## Caritas Vacancies

### Support Worker

1x 25.9 hours (3.5 days per week) - £19,171 per annum (£6,709 actual salary) plus Essential Car User Allowance

6-month Fixed Term Contract based in Manchester.

The Support Worker will support isolated older people, who may be vulnerable, living at home in North Manchester. They will provide a highly valued visiting and support service for people with limited mobility, declining coping capacity and poor mental health. Experience of working with the elderly or disadvantaged groups in a similar setting is essential.

### Hostel Operations Manager

37 hours per week SCP20-25 £25,295 - £28,785 per annum

Qualification bar SCP23

To apply, please visit the Caritas website [www.caritassalford.org.uk](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk) for an application pack or contact Rebecca Anderson on 0161 817 2264 or by email [r.anderson@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:r.anderson@caritassalford.org.uk)

**Closing date: Friday, 14 August 2020**



### Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

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