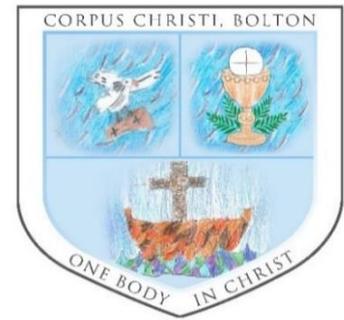


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

2 August 2020

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Weekly Reflection

Have you ever been asked to do the “impossible”? Perhaps someone has asked you to do something which is not only outside your skills set but is physically impossible even if you had all the necessary tools and the ability to succeed. We each know what we can do and what is beyond us, it is not a matter of not trying, it is a matter of indisputable fact. Today’s readings put you in good company; even if you were a prophet, an apostle, or a saint you would still have to admit defeat.

Isaiah listens to the Lord and gives His message to the people. He does this because he has faith in the Lord although what he is speaking about seems impossible. He tells the thirsty, the poor, the hungry, to come to the water and drink, to have all good things to eat, rich food to enjoy. Is Isaiah mad? How can these things be there for us without payment; what message is he trying to pass to us using such impossible language? Isaiah is trying to convince the people that if they believe in the covenant made with God, if they turn to Him, then these things become possible because the world in which they live will be changed.

Paul believes “nothing can come between us and the love of Christ”. Nothing; the trials and problems of the world can be conquered if we have that love in our hearts. Again, in our troubled world, we know that bad things can happen to us. In the current pandemic we have become worried, troubled, we may have suffered loneliness, unemployment, illness and loss: there is fear all around us. Paul lived in a troubled world, he faced all sorts of hardships but he knew that God’s love reigned in his heart and so he took courage and faced these demons. Love is his message to us today.

So, when Jesus asks the apostles to feed the people and they look at two fishes and five barley loaves, what do you think comes to mind. Impossible! Yet Jesus has said that this is enough for five thousand to have a meal, so they sit the people in groups and begin to serve them and there is enough, with more left over. Never underestimate the power of Christ to provide for you, even in the direst of circumstances. He will never ask you to do something beyond your ability. Do not lose faith in this time of trouble but be prepared to say to Him “Here I am Lord. I come to do your will”. *David Frank*

Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2;
Divine Office Week 2
Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm Romans 8:35 37-39;
Matthew 14: 13-21*

Sunday 2 August

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

Monday 3 August

No Morning Prayers
7pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 4 August - *St John Mary Vianney*

9.30am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 5 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 6 August - *The Transfiguration of the Lord*

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 7 August

Churches Closed

Saturday 8 August - *St Dominic*

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

Sunday 9 August

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

Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello

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

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Website: www.sbsj.org.uk

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In Our Thoughts & Prayers

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: Bill Ince, Margaret Ashcroft, Vincent Sheridan, James Coyne, Jeff Howarth, Bridget McDonagh, Stephen Smith

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Bill Ince, a Special Intention, Margaret Ashcroft, Vincent Sheridan, Jeff Howarth

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 (The Hidden Gem), Manchester, and for Mgr Anthony Kay, their parish priest.

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.

Masses: It has been wonderful to see parishioners returning to our weekday Masses. Approximately 70 people attended last week. Thank you for your help and patience as we slowly and carefully try to resume our Masses and services. I will update you as soon as possible to any further changes.

Caritas Vacancy

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 for an application pack or contact Rebecca Anderson on 0161 817 2264 or by email 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.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

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