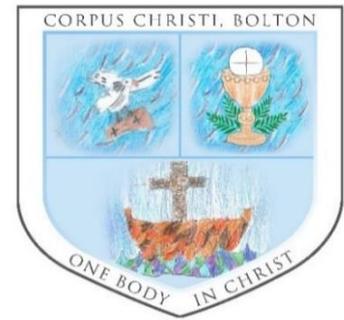


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

18 October 2020

Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time



“We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all”.

Everyone is loved by God. There are no exceptions. God created us and loves us: no matter what our beliefs or way of life, we are cherished and held by our loving Father. There are many who do not know God and there are those who have turned away from God and who place their trust in worldly things. God reveals himself in many ways and we believe he has revealed himself to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. It is impossible to know the mind of God, to understand His ways. Isaiah is trying to make sense of the actions of Cyrus, a pagan and King of Persia, who has conquered Babylonia and released the Israelites from captivity. Cyrus does not know God, yet he does His bidding, returning the Jews to their homeland and rebuilding the Temple. This reminds us that God works through whoever He chooses, “Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun, that, apart from me, all is nothing”.

In the Gospel passage Jesus is handed a coin and asks, “Whose head is this?”, in reply to the Pharisees and Herodians who are trying to trap him into an injudicious answer. Caesar’s image represents the things of this world, a world that holds the Israelites in slavery to a foreign power, a world of false idols and deities. The real image, the face we see in our family and neighbours, is an image of our God, for we are made in his likeness, and even though we use many things of this world for earthy needs, our allegiance is always to our heavenly Father.

Paul, at the beginning of his letter to the Thessalonians, writes to their church and reminds them of the basic building blocks of God’s purpose in the world. He speaks of a community dedicated to faith in action, a people working for love and persevering in hope. In light of today’s epidemic can you see how Paul relates to our problems today. There are no easy fixes but if we keep faith, work together in love and persevere in our hope for a brighter future then we can emerge from this time with stronger communities and a Diocese strengthened by the faith and conviction of the people of God. David Frank

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 1

Isaiah 45:1.4-6

Thessalonians 1:1-5

Matthew 22:15-21

Sunday Mass Times: 9.30am at St John’s and 11am at St Brendan’s. Each church is limited to attendance of 43 people (St Brendan’s) and 50 (St John’s) this doesn’t include “bubbles”. If you wish to attend please let the office know by email: office@sbsj.org.uk, or by phoning 301927, so that we can make a note of numbers. *Thank you*

Sunday 18 October - World Mission Day

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

World Day of Prayer for the Spread of the Gospel

A Special Collection will be held for Missio

Monday 19 October

2pm Private Funeral Service for Mary Banks

(Overdale)

7pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 20 October

9.30am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 21 October

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 22 October

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 23 October

No Mass Today

Saturday 24 October

11am Exposition and Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

Sunday 25 October - British Summer Time Ends

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Clocks go back one hour

11am Mass (SB)

Parish Priest: Fr Alfred Rebello

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

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Diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk



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 & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Madeleine Evans, Barbara Pearl, Howard McArdle, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta

Lately Dead: George Wild, Jim McCarthy, Mary Banks, Nancy Tiernan, Suzanne Leigh, James Hill
Anniversaries: Mary Josephine Pearce, Doreen Molyneux, Isabelle Owen

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: George Wild, Mary Josephine Pearce, Andrew & Rose McGarry, Intentions of the Owen family & Fr Chris Lough, Isabelle Owen (1st Anniversary), Doreen Molyneux, Nancy Tiernan, Jim McCarthy, Suzanne Leigh, Anne Killeen (sick)

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: Students & Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; The Harvest; The Fruits of Human Work and the Reverent Use of Creation, Justice & Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners & Their Families

Hope in the Future

Let us pray, this week, for the people of the parish of St Francis of Assisi, Oldham, and for Fr Derek Woodhead, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools, for the chaplaincy to the Royal Oldham Hospital and for the Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph.

Offertory Envelopes

We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Currently, there are still a few offertory envelopes to be collected. If you would like these to be delivered to you, please do let us know and we can arrange this. 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. Again, many thanks for your continued generosity.

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

Prayer Resource - Lord's Day at Home

The Liturgy Office has prepared a service called *"The Lord's Day at Home"*, based on the Sunday Scriptures, that you can pray on your own or with your family. It is particularly aimed at those not able to follow a Mass on the internet. This week's Lord's Day at Home prayer sheet [can be found by clicking here](#).

**World Mission Sunday
'Here I am, send me!'**

World Mission Sunday supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important retiring collection to help sustain the future of our Church.

SVP Sponsored Walk: We would like to say a huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who took part in the walk, but more importantly to everyone who has sponsored us. We are thrilled to say we have reached our target and we will publish the amount in due course. It was a fantastic day and the sun shone down on us!

Destitution Project: If you are able to donate, the usual items are: Tins of fish, tomatoes, chick peas, red kidney beans, sweet corn, corned beef, fruit. Also, Cartons of apple or orange juice, Rice, Long-life milk, tea bags, coffee and vegetable oil. Items can be left at each church, and members of the SVP will take them to the centre. Thank you, as always, for all your help and support

Urban Outreach - Christmas Dinner

on Jesus: This year Churches In Harwood have been asked to collect 200g cartons of gravy granules for the food hampers. As a parish we have been asked to collect 200. If you are able to donate, the final date is 7 December. Thank you for your continued support.

Online Talks from Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst

"The Answer is 43": An evening talk on St Thomas Aquinas' vision of "Life, the Universe and Everything". Part of the online series on "Saints, Scholars and Spiritual Masters", this talk will be given by Fr Richard Conrad, O.P., at 7.30pm on Thursday 22 October.

"Newman 101: Why Newman Matters": An online colloquium celebrating the 10th anniversary of beatification and 1st of canonisation. Leading Newman scholars will present short papers on different themes from Newman's legacy at 4pm on Saturday 31 October. For both the above, please visit www.christianheritagecentre.com/events/newman for more information and registration.

'Family is Sacred' Zoom Course

Running alternate Wednesdays, 7.30pm-9pm. It is better to attend all sessions but please note, these are also standalone if you are just able to commit to some. The course is designed to enrich and support marriage and family life and the building up of the Domestic Church. There will be input from various speakers followed by small group discussion and Q&A. All Welcome! Register your free place by emailing formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

21 October - *Man & Woman - Equal in dignity, but distinct in attributes*

4 November - *Man & Woman - Communication & Sexuality*

18 November - *The Sacrament of Matrimony - A reflection of the Love of Christ*

2 December - *The Sacrament of Matrimony - A reflection of Christ's faithfulness & fruitfulness*

16 December - *Fatherhood & Motherhood - The challenge of Authority*

13 January 2021 - *Fatherhood & Motherhood - Mutual complementarity*

27 January - *The Importance of Family Life - The human significance*

10 February - *The Importance of Family Life - The religious significance*

24 February - *Love and the Importance of Home*

10 March - *Love and how we understand work*

24 March - *Family & suffering*

7 April - *The Mission of the Family*

[Family is Sacred Course All Dates Poster](#)

Diploma in Pastoral Ministry and Leadership

Once again, this year the Diocese, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Liverpool and Wrexham Diocese, are offering a Diploma in Pastoral Ministry and Leadership. The Diploma is a combination of Online Learning and a series of leadership workshops, leading to a Loyola University Chicago Certificate and a series of Liverpool Hope CPD Awards. The course starts in January 2021 and ends in December 2023. The full Diploma costs £2500, which is payable over three instalments. An increasing number of parishes are willing to part-fund students towards the Diploma. More information can be found on the website below. Here you will find testimonies from past students, information booklets on the modules, application forms and an online form to book on one of the Zoom information Webinars

www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/diploma

The Zoom information Webinars are at the following dates and times:

- Tuesday 27 October: 10.30am - 12noon
- Thursday 29 October: 7pm - 8.30pm
- Wednesday 4 November: 7pm - 8.30pm
- Saturday 7 November: 2pm - 3.30pm
- Tuesday 17 November: 7pm - 8.30pm

Please do not hesitate to contact Fr Paul Daly paul.daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or John Griffin john.griffin@dioceseofsalford.org.uk for further information.

Online Laudato Si Weekend Retreat - Your Parish and Your Planet (16 - 19 October):
To attend, please email Sr Margaret Atkins on margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk.

The God who Speaks - Online Talks
Wednesday 28 October: *The God who speaks to us today: Contemporary Challenges through a Biblical Lens*, by Father Joe Evans.
Wednesday 25 November: *The God who speaks in the Gospel of John*, by Fr Michael Winstanley, SDB, Salesian priest and Scripture Scholar, based at the Salesian community in Bolton. Each evening begins at 7pm. To book a place please email formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk



A Thought for the Week...

"The heart that knows how to say 'Thank you'. Is a good heart, it is a heart that is content".

Pope Francis

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Peel House
638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
BL1 7AL
01204 309609

