

# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**17 October 2021**

**Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time**



'Turning the world upside down' is a familiar phrase and it refers to a total upset of accepted rules and conditions. In a world which places rich important people at the top and the voiceless poor at the bottom it is a revolutionary idea that has far reaching effects on society. The idea that the powerful should be servants of the poor is treated as lunacy by the world in which we live but if we are to follow Christ then that is the reality we must face. Isaiah, in his suffering servant poems, speaks of a God who 'has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering'; this is a strange contrast with a God who is love, who is rich in forgiving, but we must accept that it is only through suffering that the mission of Christ can be accomplished for the values of the world will not accept his teaching on the worthiness of every human being. The reward for sacrifice is the promise that "through him the Lord's wishes will be done"; the crushed servant will 'see the light and be content'. We cannot expect fairness in our world; there are many who see riches and power as the only way of life; our ambition should be higher than this.

In Hebrews we are reminded that Jesus took on our human nature to show us that following him was possible even in our weakness and that even he was tempted by the world. We must rely on his grace and mercy to show us the way in which we may follow him.

The Gospel reminds us that even those closest to Jesus were troubled by the temptations of the world. James and John looked for places of power in the kingdom of heaven; they were human and spoke through human ambition. Jesus does not dismiss their request out of hand but he uses the moment to teach them, and the other apostles, of the consequences of following him. Mark's Gospel was written to people who were suffering from the casual, ruthless violence of a Roman world where power was everything. The fate of many in Mark's community was to follow Christ to a painful death. The life of Our Lord really did turn the world upside down and it continues to do that for if we are to be true to Him then we too must become servants to the poor. **David Frank**

## Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1  
Divine Office Week 1*

Isaiah 53:10-11; Hebrews 4:14-16;  
Mark 10:35-45

*Roman Missal Readings page 468*

*Preface: page 47*

### Sunday 17 October

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

1pm Baptism (SJ)

### Monday 18 October - St Luke

7pm Mass (SJ)

### Tuesday 19 October

9.30am Mass (SB)

### Wednesday 20 October

10.30am Requiem Mass for Tony McGowan (SJ)

### Thursday 21 October

10am Requiem Mass for Eileen Gartland (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

### Friday 22 October

No Mass Today

### Saturday 23 October

11am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Mass (SB)

*Special Collection for*

### Sunday 24 October

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.15pm Baptism (SB)

*Missio this weekend*

**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](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.sbsj.org.uk](http://www.sbsj.org.uk)**

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*Diocesan website: [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)*



**We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends:** Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Killeen, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta, Mary Bagg, Vernon Holt, Peter Riley, Frances Skemp, Kathleen Banks, Penelope Booth (poorly infant), Colin Markland, Joan & Edwin Rankin, Pat Howarth, Philip Anderson

**Lately Dead:** Eileen Gartland, Tony McGowan, Gerard Caldwell, Geraldine Plumtree

**Anniversaries:** Eve McArdle, Mary Josephine Pearce, Isabelle Owen, Kathryn Hinks, Jim McCarthy

***May They Rest in Peace***

**Mass Intentions:** Mary Josephine Pearce, Isabelle Owen, For the Owen family, Eileen Gartland, Gerard Caldwell, Kathryn Hinks, Herbert Winstanley (Birthday Remembrance), Jim McCarthy (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary), A Special Intention

**Cycle of Prayer Part 6 (of 6):** We pray especially for: students & teachers; the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work & the reverent use of creation; justice and peace in the world; all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families

**Hope in the Future:** This week we pray for the parish of St Alban, in Blackburn, for Canon Jude Harrison, their parish priest, and Fathers Joseph O'Carroll and Paul Taylor. We pray for the Franciscan Missionaries of St Joseph and for the parish primary schools. May the love of the Lord be upon them as they place their hope in God.

**Offertory:** We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively they can be made through Salford Diocese website, or by setting up a bank standing order. Thank you

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

**Prayer Resource** - For those at home the Liturgy Office has prepared "*The Lord's Day at Home*", to pray on your own or with your [Click here](#) to download the Mass sheet for Sunday 3 October (Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time).



**Congratulations:** To Eleni Day White and Henry Thomas Chew who were baptised on the weekend of 2 and 3 October. And to Olivia Rose Heaton and Ronnie Anthony Smith who were baptised last weekend. We pray that they and their families continue on their faith journeys.

**Do you want to know more about becoming Catholic?** In the past, we have run a course called "Becoming Catholic". This was aimed at those who might have thought about becoming a Catholic, or for anyone who simply wishes to know more about the Catholic Faith. We will be starting this course up again, in the near future, so if this is something that appeals to you, please contact the Parish Office on 01204 301927 or email [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk)

**World Mission Sunday:** Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. Please call **020 7821 9755** (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible: [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk)

**Parish Office - Administration & Property Management:** As our parish community gradually returns to more normal activity, following the pandemic, it is timely to remind everyone about how we would like to manage the parish's administration, including property services.

We are fortunate that we have parishioner volunteers who freely give their time to look after our parish properties and building services. It is important to remember that these volunteers do not provide a caretaker service and should not be contacted directly. Similarly, as Fr Alf (now our only priest) has a significant workload and his primary role is the pastoral care of our parish community, again, please try to avoid contacting him directly regarding routine matters. All items should be directed through the Parish Office.

The Parish Office, will now be open Tuesdays to Thursdays (inclusive) from 9am-3pm. Please direct all administrative and property matters to the office on 01204 301927 (24-hour answerphone) or email at [office@sbsj.org.uk](mailto:office@sbsj.org.uk).

This is important so that an overview of parish and property matters can be centrally coordinated, and duplication avoided. With thanks for your understanding.

**Harbour Room Book Club.** Please note that the next meeting will be on **Wednesday 27 October at 1pm**. The novel under discussion is an example of the popular "Scandie Noir" genre. *I'm Travelling Alone* by Samuel Bjork. All welcome!

## Diocese of Salford Training & Formation Events

**'Camino - Making the Journey' Resource Launch** - for Catechists leading Journey in Faith (RCIA).  
Wednesday 3 November 2021, 7.30pm - 9pm at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Lonsdale Road, Bolton,  
BL1 4PN (and via Zoom) [REGISTER HERE](#)

Or go to: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/camino-making-the-journey-resource-launch-tickets-188401523027>

**Genesis Mission Introduction Session:** Cathedral Centre - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021, 10am-1pm  
[REGISTER HERE](#) Or go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/genesis-mission-introduction-session-tickets-183519009297>

**Alpha Come & See** - Are you new to Alpha but have no idea how it works or what a typical session is like? Join the Alpha UK Catholic Context team for an online Come & See session tailored especially for Catholic parishes where you will be guided through a sample session and can ask all your questions.

*If you wish to join us, please choose to attend one of the following sessions on Tuesday 12 October at 11am - Register [here](#) :*

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJlIdO2srTsjE9xRGagxGb8PhZiHsXy4sjBs>

*or for the 7.30pm session Register [here](#) <https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJArdOCorzgph9QnUjG-NsP20cSWVrgsyj4b>*

**Come & See Alpha Day** - A key part of any Alpha is the Alpha Day. Join the Alpha UK Catholic Context team for an online Come & See Alpha Day. The team will guide you through a sample Alpha Day where you can ask questions and explore Alpha further.

Saturday 16 October at 10.30am - Register for the Come & See Alpha Day [here](#)  
<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJUrfuytpjMpGNM2W6gJy000Jdf7uAvMTBxE>

**Formation Series: 7pm-9pm** Conference Room 1, Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP  
Suggested Donation of £5.00 payable on arrival. The talks will also be streamed on Zoom.

**Fr Chris Gorton: Stage 4 - Proclaiming the Good News: providing opportunities for encounters** -  
Wednesday 20 October 2021 [REGISTER HERE](#)

**Fr Eamonn Mulcahy: Synods and the Church under Pope Francis** - Wednesday 24 November 2021  
[REGISTER HERE](#)

**Bishop John Arnold: Local reality of the Church in Salford** - Wednesday 9 February 2022 [REGISTER HERE](#)

**Holy Hour of Prayer  
With Adoration & Benediction  
3pm-4pm  
Sunday 31 October  
(All Saints Day)  
St Brendan's Church**

Let us join together in prayer for a  
successful outcome of the COP26  
meeting

**200 Club**  
The October Winners are:  
£50 M Cropper (55)  
£25 J Howarth (191)



Readers For Next Weekend (23/24 October)		
SB (5pm)	SJ (9.30am)	SB (11am)
L Lamoury	C Grundy	C Bridge

Thought for the week...  
"Doing little things with a strong  
desire to please God makes them  
great".  
St Francis de Sales

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



## Pastoral Letter of the Right Reverend John Arnold, Bishop of Salford Read and distributed on the weekend of 9 and 10 October

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is becoming all the more evident that the meeting of world leaders in Glasgow, for COP26, has an unprecedented urgency and importance. Scientific knowledge about the Environment has developed in recent decades so that there is now a real understanding of the damage that the human race is inflicting on our global home through climate change, and the consequences of our present way of living. What is perhaps particularly alarming is that the scientists have been accurate in estimating changing weather conditions and environmental events, but many are concerned that the deterioration is now happening even faster than had been predicted.

Care for the environment, for creation in all its complexity and abundance, is deeply rooted in our Christian Faith. We are the guardians of creation and responsible for its well-being. That aspect of our Faith is something that we have probably ignored or taken for granted, unaware of the actual damage that we are doing during this industrial age where we have developed a mistaken notion of progress and unthinkingly exploited our resources and the plant and animal life of our world, and each other. Much is now understood about the work that can and must be done in order to begin to repair the damage inflicted by climate change. We all have our individual part to play in making changes to our own routines and our personal response will have an important impact. There are many resources available to guide us in managing - among other things - our travel, use of electricity and water, food consumption, re-cycling and waste. We must certainly not dismiss the value and importance of our individual efforts and our Christian duty to care for creation. Certainly, much is being achieved by individuals and communities.

But the real progress for change must come at an international level, with agreements and pledges made by the most powerful countries in the world. As Pope Francis insists, we must think and act globally. Our political leaders must look to making realistic and achievable policies which will ensure that global warming is limited to targets which will allow sustainable living conditions for future generations. It is essential that COP26 promotes actions that are radical enough to ensure the results that are necessary. The Paris Agreement of 2015 made the right sort of statements, but the agreed goals were never achieved. I am writing to you today to ask that, while we must concern ourselves with our own achievable changes in our personal lifestyle, we must make determined efforts in prayer that those gathering at the COP26 meeting may understand the urgency of making those radical decisions which are required to secure a healthy environment for future generations.

I am asking that, as a family of the Diocese of Salford, we make Sunday 31st October - The Feast of All Saints - a day of prayer for the success of the meeting. There will be resources for events on that day should parishes have public gatherings. I recognise that many people still, understandably, feel cautious about attending Mass at this time. I would strongly recommend that we all pray daily for the COP26 meeting, particularly during the course of the meeting, which is 1st-12th November. CAFOD has prepared a letter which is being widely circulated and provided a prayer which is included at the end of this letter. I also offer this prayer, should you find it useful:

*Loving Father,*

*We acknowledge that, either through ignorance or greed, the Earth, our common home, is damaged.*

*That damage is felt most by people who have done little to cause it.*

*Industrialisation has exploited natural resources, endangering wildlife, causing climate change, and resulting in disasters and global warming.*

*Father, forgive us, and guide us in the right way.*

*Send your Spirit to encourage and strengthen our world leaders as they meet at COP26.*

*Cause them to discern the way that we must now go, agreeing the changes and decisions necessary to begin to repair the damage done and to prepare a healthy and secure world for future generations.*

*And we ask Mary, our Mother, to intercede for us, and with us, in our need. Amen.*

My brothers and sisters, I invite and encourage us all to place our trust in the power of prayer. Please distribute this letter to anyone that you may know who might join in praying for the successful outcome of this meeting.

“Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey”

+John Arnold

Bishop of Salford

A Prayer from CAFOD:

*Loving God,*

*We praise your name with all you have created.*

*You are present in the whole universe, and in the smallest of creatures.*

*We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us as stewards of your creation.*

*May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.*

*Instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.*

*We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son. Amen*