

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

6 March 2022

First Sunday of Lent



Lent is a special period in the church when we are called to repentance and self-sacrifice; it is a period of preparation for the events of Holy Week and Easter. In today's first reading we have the story of the first harvest

made by the people of God in the Promised Land. The fruits of this harvest are brought to the altar of God and offered to Him as a thanksgiving for the gift of this land. The pronouncement made is the essence of the story of the forty years spent in the wilderness after the escape from Egypt. Lent is an opportunity for us too to give thanks to our God for all the gifts he has given us especially the gift of forgiveness and new life which flows from the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The passage from Paul's letter to the Romans is a basic statement of faith in a God who is always faithful. It places special emphasis on the role of scripture in our lives. We are blessed by the work of those early scribes and gospel writers who have created for us a wonderful library of religious knowledge. At the Gospel reading we make the sign of the cross on our foreheads, lips and heart; this gesture is explained by Paul in this passage. He reminds us that the Word is very close to us; it is on our lips and in our hearts.

Jesus is alone, and perhaps, confused, His baptism in the Jordan has changed Him, giving Him an insight into His calling. We cannot know what thoughts are going through His head, he goes into the wilderness to try to discover who he is. The wilderness is a vast desert where life is difficult, hot searing heat in the day and ice cold nights; a place where the human spirit tests itself against the natural world. Temptation comes in the form of the devil, Satan, the fallen angel, set upon bringing chaos to our world. He tempts Jesus with the power of making bread from stone, of domination of all the kingdoms of the world and of being like God and having angels prevent him from harm. Jesus responds with words of scripture drawn from the desert experience of the people of Israel. His ministry is not of domination but of love, not of power but of compassion, freedom, and choice.

David Frank

Masses this Week

Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 1

Readings: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10;

Romans 10: 8-13; Luke 4: 1-13

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Sunday 6 March

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

2.30pm Rite of Election Service (Salford Cathedral)

3pm Stations of the Cross (SB)

Monday 7 March

10.30am Requiem Mass for Peter Riley (SB)

6pm Reconciliation Service for Yr3 Children (SJ)

Tuesday 8 March

9.30am Mass (SB)

12noon Funeral Service for Barbara Owen (Overdale)

Wednesday 9 March

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

6pm Reconciliation Service for St Columba's Yr3 Children (SB)

Thursday 10 March

10.30am Requiem Mass for Margaret Shanley (SB)

6pm-7pm Catechesis Confirmation Class (SJ Patmos Room)

6pm Reconciliation Service for Yr3 Children (SB)

Friday 11 March - CAFOD Family Fast Day

No Mass Today

Saturday 12 March

11am -11.25am Confession (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Mass (SB)

Sunday 13 March

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

3pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction (SJ)

Parish Contact Details

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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: Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Killeen, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta, Mary Bagg, Frances Skemp, Kathleen Banks, Penelope Booth (poorly infant), Colin Markland, Joan & Edwin Rankin, Philip Anderson, Vincent Hopkinson, Irene Clappison, Dorothy Killoran, Frank & Pat McDowell, George Denton, Richard Crichton, Josephine Ward

Lately Dead: Peter Riley, Margaret Ainscow, Margaret Senior, Margaret Hall, Margaret Shanley, Kathleen Bowes, Barbara Owen

Anniversaries: Frank Airey, Margaret Russell, Vincent Heron, Tony Coop

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Frank Airey, Margaret Russell, Peter Riley, Vincent Heron, Mary Scallan (90th Birthday Remembrance), Tony Coop, Barbara Grimes (Birthday Remembrance), Kathleen Bowes

During Ordinary Time; - we pray for: Candidates for the Sacraments; women; the needy & hungry of the world; penitents & wanderers.

At this present time, we pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine

Hope In The Future We pray for the parish of the Holy Spirit, East Manchester, for Fr Alphonsus Anaele, their parish priest, and for the Spiritan Fathers. We pray for their parish primary schools and for the work of the Mary and Joseph Home.

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 best resource for Sunday worship at home is through the **Universalis website**

(<https://universalis.com/mass.htm>)



Congratulations: To Daisy Primrose Eckersley who was baptised last Sunday. Let us pray that both she and her family continue to grow in faith

CAFOD: This Family Fast Day, (11th March) we remember that there are many people who need our love and support all around the world. Children experiencing malnutrition or as we are seeing now in Ukraine, families affected by conflict. Your small act of love can make big things happen. Donations to CAFOD this Lent will reach families around the world, enabling local experts to provide support to families in times of need or conflict. You can donate by using the envelope (attached) or by visiting the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/lent

Activities in Lent

Walk With Me: Booklets and calendars are available for you to take (free of charge).

Stations of the Cross & Benediction: This opportunity to journey with the Lord will take place each Sunday in Lent at 3pm.

Christian Meditation: Beginning at 7.30pm, the new dates for Lent are:

8th March - St John's

15th March - St Brendan's

22nd March - St John's

29th March - St Brendan's

5th April - St John's

Reconciliation: "Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart." (Joel 2:12). This Scripture sets the tone for the entire season of Lent. To reconcile with God is the reason for the sacrament of reconciliation. Fr Alf is always available for Reconciliation. **During Lent, there will be times for confession (as listed above)**

Environment Resources for Lent: This Lent, we are looking to renew our relationship with the earth and its Creator through the Lenten themes of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. As such, the diocese has created a pack with key environmental resources from across the Catholic community, in addition to stories and ideas from our parishes around the diocese. Please visit

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/lent-environment-resources-parishes/>

A Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

We pray for the people of the Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine. *Amen*

CAFOD Walk against Hunger: Two parishioners are going to take part in this Lenten challenge and sponsor forms will be available at each church. If you would like to take part in this activity for CAFOD, please contact any member of the CAFOD Group. Thank you - Peter Carolan. 01204 386006



For those who have visited St Brendan's Church in the last week, you will have noticed the Icon of our Lady of Perpetual Help (previously hung in St Columba's Church). This Icon was brought over to this country in 1927 from Russia. It was originally housed

at St Mary's, Higher Bridge Street and then brought to St Columba by Francis McCauley when he became Parish Priest in 1987. The Original icon is believed to have come from the Keras Kardiotissas Monastery on Crete and has been in Rome since 1499 - permanently enshrined in the Church of St Alfonso De Liguori. We would like to thank one of our parishioners for arranging for the framing and mounting of this beautiful piece of work

Mass for Young Adults: *St Augustine's Church, Grosvenor Street, All Saints, Manchester, M15 6BW Sunday 13 March at 5.30pm.* We are delighted to announce the return of our regular Mass for Young Adults. Our next Mass will include a social event following the celebration of the Mass. All are very welcome to attend. For any further questions, please email Alex at SalfordYoungAdults@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Opportunity for Retreat: The Loreto Spirituality Centre is based in Llandudno, North Wales. It is run by the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto Sisters) whose Founder is Mary Ward. The Centre offers space for people to come away and rest awhile with God, by offering individually guided retreats, preached retreats, themed retreats and conferences. For the programme of events please visit www.loretocentre.org.uk

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham led by Bishop John Arnold. Saturday 7 May: The cost for the day trip is £20. Those wishing to make their own way are welcome to join the pilgrimage in Walsingham. Further information on coaches and how to book will follow. Alongside this, there will be a youth pilgrimage for young people in years 7, 8 and 9 from Friday 6 May-Saturday 7 May The cost is £50 (including accommodation, food, and travel). To book a place, go to: <https://forms.gle/nwDThmqBFLV5LEjU7>

2022 Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage is Announced
Friday 29 July - Thursday 4 August 2022

We are delighted to announce that we will return to Lourdes this Summer for the 88th Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by the Rt Rev. John Arnold, Bishop of Salford. Full details, including travel and accommodation pricing, insurance details and volunteer application forms will be available in the coming weeks but may we ask in the meantime that if you may be interested in joining us this Summer that you, please fill in an 'expression of interest' form by clicking the links below. The form does not commit you to travelling with us but will enable us to make plans appropriately and will help us to keep you informed as details become available.

We look forward to welcoming you to Lourdes for our joyful return in July. [Click here to register your interest as a pilgrim.](#)

200 Club Subscriptions: Are now due (£12 per number). The 200 Club is a great way to support the Parish so any new members are greatly appreciated and made very welcome. You can:

1. Post/deliver to the Parish Office
 2. Leave at the front of either church in the basket provided
 3. Contact me on 01204 30291 /07528027295
- For options 1 and 2 please place your subscription and your contact details in an envelope F.A.O Ann Gracie. All cheques made payable to **Corpus Christi**. Thank You. *Ann. A payment was handed in last week without a name. Please could whoever handed it in contact Ann, so the payment can be allocated against the correct number. Thank you*



Synod Reminder: We have until 15 March to make our submissions. You can complete an online submission using the QR code or following this link: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3D3FXJ2.

Readers' Rota: The new rota will be issued next week. If you would like to become a reader, please let the office know before Thursday. Thank you.

Readers For (12/13 March 2022)		
A Grundy	M Parkinson	C Ezeogu

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Let Us Pray for Peace in Ukraine

The people of Ukraine are suffering untold privations at this time. Many thousands have fled to the west and to countries such as Poland and other neighbours. Salesians are working on the ground in Ukraine, hosting refugees and looking after vulnerable young people. They are also working to support refugees who have arrived in Poland with little or nothing. We are in solidarity with our Salesian brothers in their work for the displaced and the vulnerable. If you would like to contribute directly to this work please either:

1.) Send a cheque to Mrs. N. Howell at the Provincial Office, Sharples Park, Bolton, Lancashire, BL1 6PQ clearly marked UKRAINE. All cheques should be made out to SDB Trustees. We will ensure the money is collected and sent ASAP to the Salesians there.

2.) Access the Salesian Just Giving page and make a contribution online, using the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/SalesianGBRProvince>.

JustGiving sends your donation straight to Salesians of Don Bosco UK and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more. Please also keep the Ukrainian people and our Salesian brothers, who are remaining with the people they serve, in your prayers. Thank you for your support! *Salesians of Don Bosco UK - GBR Province*



Caritas Diocese of Salford strongly condemns the large-scale military intervention in Ukraine and brutal aggression towards its people. We deplore the consistent attacks on civilian lives and civilian infrastructure witnessed over the past days. Such acts of aggression endanger international stability and peace and bring international law into disrepute.

We continue to follow the crisis and humanitarian situation in Ukraine and the surrounding countries receiving refugees and those displaced. At Caritas Salford, we are receiving regular updates from Caritas Internationalis and in particular from Caritas Ukraine, Poland, Moldova and Bulgaria and are being asked advice from parishes and schools in our own diocese on how to donate to support those in crisis. Please visit <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/ukraine-crisis/> for ways you can help. *Thank you*

Job Vacancies

DBS Administrator for the Diocese of Salford

Appointment type: Full time (35 hours per week), 12-month fixed-term contract, subject to review and consideration for a permanent position. Part-time hours could be considered.

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

Closing date: Monday 28 March 2022, 12 noon

Salary: £19,000 - £22,000 per annum.

Find out more and apply: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

Communications Manager for Caritas Diocese of Salford

Appointment type: Full time (37.5 hours per week), part-time considered

Location: Caritas House, Manchester, with the opportunity to work flexibly

Closing date: Friday 18 March, 10am

Salary: £31,770 - £34,239

Find out more and apply: www.caritassalford.org.uk