

# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**14 May 2023**

## Sixth Sunday of Easter



The Holy Spirit is the presence of God in our lives. When something is beyond our imagination, yet we believe in its presence, we often clothe that belief in "mystery". To those who cannot understand, who do not have faith, this may appear to be nonsense but to believers in Jesus and His word it gives hope, and that hope is what keeps us in communion with Him. The early church lived close to this mystery, their faith was so strong that they had to go out to the world and proclaim it. We meet people today who have a certain aura around them, and we recognise in them this same Spirit; the Spirit that we need to sustain us in this troubled world.

It took great courage for Philip to go to the Samaritan people to proclaim the Christ to them. There was enmity between the two groups caused by events that happened many hundreds of years before and the two simply did not mix. Jesus had shown the disciples before, in His meeting with the woman at the well, that, to God, this division did not exist and so Philip followed His example and was received with great joy. The Spirit of God was enkindled in the people of Samaria, and many came to believe in the message of Christ.

Peter talks of reverencing the Lord in our hearts. When we take courage and speak about our faith, we find a sense of peace within ourselves because we carry with us the Spirit of God; we may not always be welcomed, our voices may not always be heard or understood. The early believers often suffered persecution and death because of their faith and we, in our own time, are often scorned by those who have no faith, but we should persevere for, through our word and example we may find a small flame of faith is planted on the lives of those who listen.

Today we continue the "farewell discourse" in John's Gospel. There is a feeling here of Jesus reaching out to each of us with words of reassurance and faith. He understands how His disciples are struggling with their understanding of the events that are to come. They see Him as imperishable, as the Messiah who will lead Israel to triumph over its enemies. They cannot grasp that the battle is for people's hearts not for worldly gains. Jesus promises them a Spirit of Truth, that same Spirit is with us today if only we can find belief in His power. *David Frank*

### Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1*

*Divine Office Week 2*

*Roman Missal: p 772*

#### Sunday 14 May

9.30am Mass (SJ)- With Children's Liturgy  
11am Mass (SB)

#### Monday 15 May

9.15am School Mass (St Columba's School) -  
Parishioners welcome

#### Tuesday 16 May

10am Mass (SB)  
7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

#### Wednesday 17 May

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)  
9.30am Mass (SJ)  
6.30pm Vigil Mass (SB) - First Mass for the  
Ascension of the Lord

#### Thursday 18 May - *The Ascension of the Lord*

*Holy day of Obligation*

9.15am St Columba's School Mass (In School)  
9.15am St Brendan's School Mass (SB)  
10.45am St John's School Mass (SJ)  
6.30pm Mass (SJ)

#### Friday 19 May

No Mass Today

#### Saturday 20 May

10am First Holy Communion Mass for St  
Brendan's Children (SB)  
12.30pm Baptism (SJ)  
5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - with Children's Liturgy  
*A Special Collection for the*

#### Sunday 21 May *Catholic Communications Network* *Seventh Sunday of Easter*

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy  
11am Mass (SB)

#### Parish Contact Details

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We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Pat Margiotta, Frances Skemp, Edwin Rankin, Philip Anderson, Vincent Hopkinson, Irene Clappison, Dorothy Killoran, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Irene Sheridan, Thomas Baker, Kathryn Browning, Rachel Edge, Fr Leo Heakin, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Mary Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Helene Draper, Terry Scott, Ken Goodwin, Michael O'Connor, Daniel Cockton, Joyce Strickleton, Christine Gardner, Margaret Doreen Kay

**Lately Dead:** Tom Roache, Helen Faulkner, James Jennings, Ginette Daly, Margaret Crane, Terry Whittaker, Paddy King, Win Connor

**Anniversaries:** Robert Hall, John Smith, David Badley

### ***May They Rest in Peace***

**Mass Intentions:** Tom Roache & Family, Robert Hall, Josephine Ward, Prayers answered, John Smith, David Badley, James Wheeler (Birthday Remembrance), Gerard Lamoury (Birthday Remembrance)

**During Easter, we pray for:** New members of the Church, vocations, the right use of the media, the Church and human work

*We continue to pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine*

Let us pray for the parish of Christ the King, Newton Heath, and for Fr Derek McCartney, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school. May they always listen to the voice of God's spirit.

We pray for all our pupils and students who are sitting exams and tests in the next few weeks. May they be kept from anxiety and stress and grant them peace to do the best they can.

**Financial Support:** We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Thank you

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

**Standing Order:** Please contact us if you would like to set up a direct payment. *Thank you*

**Congratulations:** To Imogen Elsie and Thea Joan Johnston who were baptised at St John's Church last weekend. Let us pray that both they and their family continue to grow in faith.

**James Jennings RIP:** The funeral service for Mr Jennings (who was caretaker at St John's School) will be held at St Ethelbert's Church, Bolton on Monday 15 May at 10am with committal at Overdale at 11.15am.

**Volunteers (St Brendan's):** Thank you to the parishioners who have kindly offered to help out at Children's Liturgy (on Sunday mornings). If anyone would be able to assist with church cleaning or with after Mass refreshments, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

### **Parish of Corpus Christi SVP Society Sponsored Walk**

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023 the SVP Society is holding a sponsored walk to raise funds to provide support for individuals and families in need at Christmas time.

#### **CAN YOU HELP?**

One way is to sponsor one of our SVP members taking part in the walk. SVP members will be available after weekend masses to take your pledges.

Another even better way would be to take part yourself. The walk follows a beautiful route around any combination of the Jumbles, Wayoh and Entwistle Reservoirs (3, 7 or 10 miles). You could ask family, friends or work colleagues to sponsor you. You can pick up a sponsorship form from the back of church or by contacting any SVP member.

Alternatively, please speak to Arthur Rawlinson Tel: Bolton 418204. Thank You.

### **Diocesan Synod 2023-2025**

At the Chrism Mass 2023, Bishop John convoked our Diocesan Synod, inviting us all to prayerfully discern how we can best address the changing needs of our diocesan community. A Diocesan Synod is an opportunity for the bishop, clergy and lay-people of our diocese to come together in a spirit of prayer, discerning what God is asking of His Church in our Diocese. Please prayerfully consider how you can contribute to our Synod and pray to The Holy Spirit for the right people to come forward as prospective Synod Members for our parish. The next Synod session will be held on Tuesday 16 May 2023, 7pm-9pm - Mount Carmel RC High School, Accrington. Register your place at [www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod)

### **Readers For 20/21 May 2023**

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
L Lamoury	S Copley	M Day

### **Thought for the Week....**

"The Holy Spirit helps us to view others with fresh eyes, seeing them as brothers and sisters in Jesus, to be respected and loved."

*Pope Francis*

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