

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

3 September 2023

Twenty-Second Sunday Ordinary Time



When I was trying to make sense of this week's reading's I looked for inspiration and I found it in a quote from Elisabeth Kubler Ross. She wrote "Throughout life, we get clues that remind us of the direction we are supposed to be headed". Perhaps this Sunday is one of those clues.

Jeremiah was trying to make sense of his life. His relationship with God was causing him problems with "other people". He felt he was a laughing-stock, he lived with insults and derision because he was faithful to God and felt driven to proclaiming His Word. He wants to walk away, to be as others are, but he cannot. He feels a fire inside, imprisoned in his bones, he knows he must keep faith in God but fears that he has not the strength to go on, he perseveres, because he serves the God who loves him.

The song of the psalmist gives us another clue. Each time we come to church we enter the sanctuary of God. When we are troubled, when life seems to be so hard, we can turn to God and He, who is always at our side, will give us the will and the strength to go on. Prayer is the mainstay of our faith, if we are in trouble we turn to God in prayer, and He, whose "love is better than life" will come to our aid.

Paul raises us above the ways of the world into a relationship with God through Christ. He speaks of "the perfect thing to do". We should not allow the values of the world in which we live to change us, rather, by modelling ourselves on the teaching of Christ we must act as beacons of love, and, by sharing that love with others, we can bring them into their own relationship with God.

At times, the world can be overwhelming. The news is seldom good, relationships can become strained, the behaviour of people around us can be very trying. It is so easy to turn away from God, lost in depression and misery. This is where the words of Christ can give us the hope we need to carry on. "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, he must renounce himself, take up his cross and follow me". Jesus does not say He will make it easy, but, He does say that the rewards for our efforts will save our lives

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1
Divine Office Week 2
Roman Missal: p 391*

Sunday 3 September

9.30am Mass (SJ)
11am Mass (SB)
12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

Monday 4 September

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 5 September

10am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 6 September

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)
9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 7 September

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 8 September - *The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

No Mass Today

Saturday 9 September

11am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)
11.30am Mass (SJ)
12.15pm Baptism (SJ)
5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - First Mass of Sunday
Special collection for the Catholic

Sunday 10 September *Education Service*

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

Parish Contact Details

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
Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees
Registered Charity - 250037
Diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

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HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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





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, Eileen Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Ken Goodwin, Michael O'Connor, Joyce Strickleton, Christine Gardner, Margaret Doreen Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Peter Carroll, Elsie Shields, Damian Rabbitt

Lately Dead: Caro Thornley, Eileen Williamson, Pat McKeown, Nichola Cunningham, Paul Brown

Anniversaries: Gerard Lamoury, Bridget & Jack Day, David Gracie, Mary Marshall,

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Fred Davies (Birthday Remembrance), Margaret Quayle, Gerard Lamoury, Caro Thornley, Bridget & Jack Day, David Gracie, Eileen Williamson, Colin Spragg (In Remembrance), Pat McKeown, John & Gladys Hall (In Loving Memory), A Special Intention, Mary Marshall, Nichola Cunningham, Joseph & Ethel Ward (In Loving Memory)

During Ordinary Time (autumn), we pray for: Students and 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 and their families.

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

Let us pray for the people of Our Lady and St. Alphonsus parish, Moss Side and Old Trafford, with Fr Pat Deegan, their parish priest and Dean. We pray for the parish primary schools, Loreto Sixth Form College, and the work of Cornerstone and the Morning Star Hostel. As they celebrate this week the Birthday of Our Blessed Lady may they, with St. Alphonsus, honour her as Mother of Mercy.

Offertory: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially.

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

Congratulations: To Lorcan Seals who was baptised last weekend. We pray that both he and his family continue to grow in faith.

Fair Trade Stall: Goods will be on sale before and after the 9.30am Mass today. Thank you for your continued support as each sale contributes to raising others out of poverty and some sales involve chocolate!

The Woman at The Well Retreat: Please see the poster in each church for more details.

Places are limited so please book using the parish contacts:

Tel. 01204 301927, Email: office@sbsj.org.uk

Christian Meditation: Starts again in September. The time is 7.30pm-8.30pm and all are welcome.

September

12th St John's

19th St John's

26th St Brendan's

October

3rd St Brendan's

10th St John's

17th St Brendan's

24th St Brendan's

31st St John's

St John's Coffee Morning: Thank you to all who came along to the coffee morning after Mass on Wednesday. The amount raised was £90.50 which will be used by the SVP to support families in need. The next coffee morning will be on Wednesday 27 September after 9.30am Mass.

200 Club August Winners:

1st Prize £50 J Marshall (10)

2nd Prize £25 A E Earp (19)

3rd Prize £15 J French (24)

Knights of St Columba National Relics Tour - Saint Andrew, Saint Margaret, Saint Columba:

An exciting opportunity to pray before the relics of three inspiring saints is heading to our diocese this month. The Knights of St Columba are proud to be accompanying the sacred relics of Saints Andrew, Margaret, and Columba on a tour of churches across the country, including a number of parishes in our diocese. Bishop John will be celebrating a special Mass in honour of the visit at St Mary's, Horwich, at 7pm on Monday 11 September. Find out more about the tour and where you can join in prayer at <https://ksc.org.uk/national-relics-tour-2023-september/>

Caritas Diocese of Salford's Big Sleep Out:

The annual Caritas Big Sleep Out is back! This autumn, people across the diocese are being challenged to sleep out under the stars for one night only to raise funds and awareness of people experiencing homelessness in our diocese. Taking place on Friday 13 October, this is one of the most important events in the Caritas annual calendar. Find out more and register at

<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/big-sleep-out-2023/>

Thought for the Week

"God is faithful, always faithful and continues to be rich in goodness and mercy."

Pope Francis

Readers For 9/10 September 2023

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
C Molyneux	A Gracie	F Evans