

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

14 April 2024

Third Sunday of Easter



Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 3

Roman Missal: p752; Readings: p 755

Sunday 14 April

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

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

Monday 15 April

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 16 April

10am Mass (SB) - With Yr 4

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

Wednesday 17 April

9.30am Mass (SJ) - with Yrs 1,3 & 5

Thursday 18 April

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 19 April

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 20 April

10.45am Sacrament of Reconciliation with Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Vigil Mass (SB)

A Special collection will be held for the

Ecclesiastical Education Fund

Sunday 21 April - Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

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

Today, we look back in time to the first few weeks after the death and resurrection of Our Lord and we begin to see a growing realisation from the followers of Jesus of the real meaning of his teaching. We see this very clearly in their new understanding of forgiveness and reconciliation. Looking at the actions of the early church can teach us so much about our own understanding of the message of Christ and remind us again of how the mercy of God affects our lives today.

The passage from Acts is a real attempt by the Apostles to reach out to the people of Jerusalem, not in condemnation, but in a spirit of reconciliation. The people may have been ashamed by the events surrounding the Passover and the death of Jesus; now the apostles are appealing to them to reconsider their actions and turn again to God. This is the Christian way; to condemn the sin, but love the sinner. There are many dreadful acts of violence in our world today against Christian churches. If we are to act in the spirit of Jesus, then our response must be to forgive these acts and try to rebuild the relationships that has been broken. Saint John is writing to the infant church and advising them on their response to personal sin. This letter is a simple explanation of the Sacrament of Penance. It stresses the need to stop the actions which are causing sin, it urges us to turn to God in our sorrow for our actions and it reminds us that after forgiveness comes a firm purpose of amendment when we strive to keep God's commandments and sin no more.

The Gospel story follows the passage on the Road to Emmaus and the scene that the two disciples find when they return to Jerusalem. The disciples are talking about Jesus when he appears in their midst. This is a reminder to us of the truth that when two or three are gathered in his name Jesus is there with them. Jesus then teaches them again about forgiveness and reconciliation. He is not afraid to show his wounds, he reminds us that he, too, knows what it is like to suffer in an unjust world. He reminds them of the power of scripture, and he opens their minds, and ours, to understand the Word of God.

David Frank

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

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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, Irene Clappison, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Irene Sheridan, Kathryn Browning, Fr Leo Heakin, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Joyce Strickleton, Christine Gardner, Margaret Doreen Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Dr Allan Needham, Margaret Roberts, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Peter McGawley

Lately Dead: Ellen Rothwell, Nuala Tracey, Fr J Johnson, John Lawrenson, Claudine Ahmed

Anniversaries: Lubbine Susol Mark Rinaldo Villa, Margaret Mary Moss, Eileen Gill, Bernard Ramsden,

Mass Intentions: A Special Intention of Thanksgiving, Fr J Johnson, John O'Connor, Nuala Tracey, Bernard Ramsden, A sick person, Ellen Rothwell, Eileen & Victor Gill and the Owen family, Margaret Mary Moss,

During Easter time we are asked to pray for these intentions: Candidates for the Sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers.

We pray for healing, a peaceful solution and restoration in the Middle East.

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

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

Dona: We can now accept cashless payments, using our contactless system.

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

Congratulations: To Roseanna Emilia Maria Drabble who was baptised last weekend. We pray that both she and her family continue to grow in faith.

Ecclesiastical Education Fund: We are grateful to all those who support vocations within the diocese. We ask that you continue to pray for our seminarians and all those who are on the journey of discernment. We also give thanks to all those who have chosen to serve the diocese. You can find out more about the diocesan vocation's office [here](#). If you would like to support the work of the Ecclesiastical Education Fund, which funds the training and support of those in formation for the diaconate or priesthood for the Diocese of Salford, any contribution to our special collection at Masses next weekend would be appreciated. Fr Alf is meeting potential seminarians on Saturday we would ask for your continued prayers.

Thank you: The Destitution Project have sent us a letter expressing their heartfelt thanks for all the items and cash donations sent to them as a result of our Lenten Collection. The number of people who use the service has risen significantly and they now give out between 50 and 55 food parcels per week. Because of the rising food costs, they have had to reduce the amount of food given out each week so without the help of groups like ours, they would struggle to continue their work. Thank you to everyone for all your support.

Appeal: This summer, we would like to grow some more vegetables and flowers. To do this, we would like to build another raised bed at the front of St John's Church. If anyone has any pressure treated/tanalised panels (like the other bed) that they want to get rid of, we would be happy to take them off your hands! Please contact the parish office if you can help. Thank you.

Christian Meditation: Begins at 7.30pm. All welcome.

April: 16th St John's

23rd St Brendan's

30th St Brendan's

May: 7th St Brendan's

14th St John's

21st St Brendan's

28th St John's

Diocese of Salford's Annual Pilgrimage to

Walsingham: There are still a few places available for this year's diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham, taking place on Saturday 4 May, for both overnight and day options. If you would like to join, please fill out a booking form, available at

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/walsingham-2024> or you can get in touch by calling 0161 817 2214 or emailing

walsingham@pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Diocesan Day Retreat: The Cloud of Unknowing:

The diocesan day retreat programme continues in May with a closer look at the mystical text, *The Cloud of Unknowing*. Dating back to the 14th century, this profound work offers a spiritual guide to contemplative prayer. The retreat runs 11.30am - 3pm on Monday 13 May at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella's, Lostock Hall, and costs £20 to attend. Find out more and register.

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/retreat-may-2024/>

Readers For Easter 20/21 April 2024		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
T Proctor	A Grundy	L Lamoury
Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 21 April		
M Speed & M Cropper		