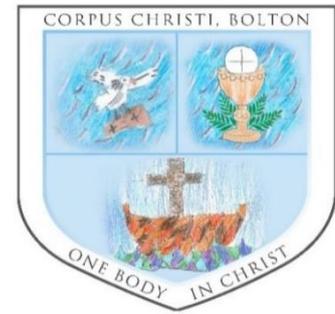


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

2 April 2023

Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord



Holy Week is a reflection of life, we never seem to be prepared for what is to come, even when we know what is to happen, it is a week full of familiar voices, repeating the same events, yet each time we come to it anew. There is a great need to listen, reflect and absorb the lessons of this Holy week.

Isaiah recognised the needs of his calling as God's prophet to the people of Israel. Not for him the role of a subject, his part was to speak clearly to the people, to lead them away from their sins, their mistakes, their reluctance to follow the way of the Lord. His voice was strong, his message clear, he was to raise weary hearts, to strengthen the faith of the people, to bring them back to the love of God. He knows the path he must tread, a path that will lead to rejection and pain, yet he cannot turn away, he has been given a disciple's task and he is steadfast in his duties.

Paul seeks to explain a crucified Christ to the people of his time. He can see the contradictions of his teaching; how can he explain the power of Christ when it appears to be mired in weakness. This passage in his letter to the Philippians is a masterpiece; he draws a picture of the absolute acceptance by Jesus of His mission to bring all people to believe in the love of God. Christ strips himself of all power to become the lowliest of God's creation. He suffers a horrendous death so that all people can be released, forgiven, brought to salvation, reborn into new life with His heavenly Father.

Matthews Gospel brings fresh insight into our understanding of the sacrifice of Christ. We may be concerned that we fail Christ by our sins, our omissions, our reluctance to stand up for our faith, yet we meet, in Matthew's Gospel, Judas and Peter, both of whom betray our Lord in different ways, and we see His apostles falling asleep when they are needed by Him in His agony in the garden. The lesson we can take from this Holy Week is that no matter what our failings we are loved by God and all we need to do is ask, with a trusting heart, for the forgiveness, won for us by the sacrifice of Jesus, and that forgiveness will be freely given to us.

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1
Divine Office Week 2

Roman Missal: Roman Missal; p. 597; Readings p. 608



9.30am Mass (SJ)- With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB)
2pm Walk of Witness (Christ's Church, Harwood)
Sorry, no Stations today due to above walk

Monday 3 April

9.15am Mass (SC)-parishioners welcome
5.30pm Stations of the Cross (SJ); 6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 4 April

10am Mass (SJ) *Please note the change this week.*

Wednesday 5 April

10am Requiem Mass for Mary McStay (SB)

Easter Triduum

6 April Maundy Thursday - 7.30pm

Mass of the Lord's Supper & watching at the
Altar of Repose until 10pm (St Brendan's)
A Special Collection for our SVP Societies

7 April Good Friday

9.30am Confessions (SB)
10.30am Stations of the Cross (SB)
3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
(St John's)
A Special Collection for Shrines of Palestine

8 April Holy Saturday - 7.30pm

The Easter Vigil (St Brendan's)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Sunday 9 April - **Easter Sunday**

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
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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, Mary Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Helene Draper, Terry Scott, Ken Goodwin, Michael O'Connor, Daniel Cockton, Joyce Strickleton, Fred Davies

Lately Dead: Mary McStay, Peter Wareing, Ted Waring Marie, Higham, John Brandwood

Anniversaries: Jim Smith, Alfeo & Bonifacia Doloroso, Maureen Southworth, Jessie Carter, John Reddy, John Brandwood

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Jim Smith, Margaret Quayle, A sick person, Mary McStay, Alfeo & Bonifacia Doloroso, James McGrath (Birthday Remembrance), Maureen Southworth, Jessie Carter, John Reddy, John Brandwood

During Lent, we pray for: Candidates for the Sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers.

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

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the parish of St Anne, Crumpsall, and for Fr David Glover, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school and for all who are treated at or work at the North Manchester General Hospital, as well as Fr John Adio, their parish priest. May they walk this Holy Week with the Lord.

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*

St John's Coffee Morning: Thank you for all those who came along to the coffee morning on Wednesday. The amount raised was £135.65 which will be used for families in need.

Flower Demonstration: Thank you to all who attended our fantastic spring demonstration. A big thanks to Margaret Fazakerley for her talent and time, and to all who helped out on the day. We raised a fantastic £385.20 which will help towards the transport for St Columba's School Children to attend Mass at St Brendan's.

Churches in Harwood - 2 April Palm Sunday Walk of Witness: Meet at Christ's Church, Harwood at 2pm. All most welcome.

Lourdes Petitions: Fr Alf will be visiting Lourdes for five days after Easter on retreat, if anyone has any petitions, please feel free to leave them for him to take to Our Lady of Lourdes.

Destitution Project Lenten Donations: We have had an amazing response to this appeal. Thank you so much. The totals are as follows:

- Chickpeas - 61 tins
- Red kidney beans - 70 tins
- Tinned Tomatoes - 107 tins
- Sugar - 53 bags
- Oil - 50 bottles
- Sardines - 74 tins
- Misc items - 22

The volunteers at the Destitution Project wish to send their heartfelt thanks to everyone.

Fair Trade Stall: There will be a fair-trade stall before and after the 9.30am Mass this Sunday. Thank you for your continuing support.

Murder Mystery Play

Friday 28 April.

Who killed the Holiday Maker? or Olive and Let Die

Tickets are now on sale at £7.50pp

This includes a pasty supper

Last year was a sellout, let's hope for the same again!

Money raised will be for our Parish



Feast of Divine Mercy

Sunday 16 April

A Special Celebration for the Bolton Area at the Parish of St Cuthbert

St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Heaton
1pm-3.30pm

Exposition, Confessions, Special Prayers and Talk by Sean Booths

3pm Holy Mass

Refreshments & All Welcome

Newsletter: Next week the newsletter will be published on Wednesday. Please could any items or Mass Intentions be submitted before then. Thank you

200 Club Subscriptions: There are still some subscriptions outstanding. Please could these be submitted as soon as you can. Many thanks.

All cheques made payable to **Corpus Christi**. Thank You. *Ann*

Readers' Rota: The new Rota will be available in the next couple of weeks. If anyone would like to consider reading, especially at the Saturday Vigil, please contact the office. Similarly, if you are no longer able to read, please let us know.

Readers For 8/9 April Easter Sunday 2023		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
TBA	A Gracie	F Evans