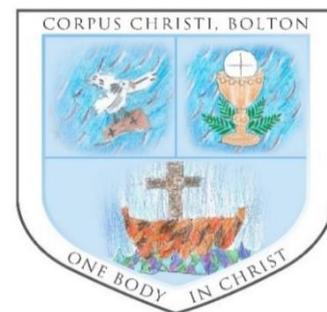


# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**8 October 2023**

## Twenty-Seventh Sunday Ordinary



Being able to reassure people when things are getting difficult is a tremendous gift; Paul, writing from prison to his friends in Philippi, can see past his own problems and find time to give solace to those who need his strength in their infant church communities. What gives him the power to do this? From somewhere he finds the only answer he can give them; they must pray for those things that worry them and the God of compassion will come to their aid. Prayer is the great consoler; it gives us hope, it frees us from anxiety, and it strengthens those around us. It leads us to the peace of God which, as Paul assures us, is much greater than we can understand.

Today's passage from his letter to the Philippians shows Paul at his best; when faced with overwhelming odds he always brings us back to the simple truth; If we live in the way that Jesus taught us then no matter what we face we can go forward with hope and the love of God and those around us will circle us and give us peace and strength. He urges us to be true, be noble, be good and pure; these Christian virtues are the only real things of value in life, hold to them and by your example others will find strength and consolation.

The first reading and the Gospel both have a common theme; the creation of a vineyard. In Isaiah the vineyard is built for the benefit of the people of Israel. They however will not look after it; they leave it to the briar and the thorn. Instead of the vineyard being a source of wealth it becomes a source of division, and it is laid to waste. In the Gospel the vineyard is rebuilt this time by an owner who wants desperately for it to succeed. However, those who work within, for the owner, mistreat his servants and, when the owner sends his son to them, they seize him and kill him. Jesus foretells his own death through the parable of the vineyard. He warns the people of Israel that if they reject the vineyard once again then it will be taken from them. In our day this story still runs true; we are now the workers in the vineyard; we too must work to ensure only good wine is created for the warning in the parable applies to us today. *David Frank*

### Masses & Activities this Week

*Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1  
Divine Office Week 3  
Roman Missal: p 444*

#### Sunday 8 October

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

#### Monday 9 October - St John Henry Newman

9.10am Yr5 Class Mass (SC School)  
6pm Mass (SJ)

#### Tuesday 10 October

No Mass Today  
6.30pm for 7pm Woman at the Well Retreat (St John's Church)

#### Wednesday 11 October

9.30am Whole School Mass (SJ) *Seeds & Gardeners*

#### Thursday 12 October

10am Requiem Mass for Pat Hollingsworth (SJ)  
6pm Confirmation Course (Thornleigh)

#### Friday 13 October

12.45pm Requiem Mass for Damian Rabbitt (SB)

#### Saturday 14 October

10.45 Sacrament of Reconciliation, Exposition & Adoration (SJ)  
11.30am Mass (SJ)  
5pm Vigil Mass (SB) - *With Children's Liturgy*

#### Sunday 15 October

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, 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, Joan Turner

**Lately Dead:** Elizabeth Williams, Damian Rabbitt, Pat Hollingsworth, Bryan Foster, Canon Kevin Kenny, Thomas Mullins

**Anniversaries:** Mary Mealey, Emily Conn, Curt Vosper, Margaret Almond, Mary Hurst,

**Mass Intentions:** A Special Intention, Mary Mealey, Thomas Mullins, Emily Conn, Curt Vosper, Damian Rabbitt, Elsie Shields, Canon Kevin Kenny, Brian Foster, Margaret Gibson, Margaret Almond, Mary Hurst, Elizabeth Williams

**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.*

This week we pray for the people of the parish of St Mary and St John Fisher, Denton, with Fr Joe Gee, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools and for St Thomas More High School. May the God of peace be with them.

**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

**SVP Coffee Morning:** Thank you to all who came along to the coffee morning last week. The total raised was £157 which will be used for aid to SVP prisoner projects.

**Redecoration of St Brendan's Church & Harbour Room:** Will commence from Monday 16 October for approximately two weeks. During this time both the interior of the Church and the Harbour Room will be unavailable. On 21/22 October the 5pm Vigil Mass and 11am Sunday Mass will be transferred to St John's. It is hoped that the usual Mass times and locations will resume from Saturday 28 October, but any changes will be notified in due course.

**Fair Trade Stall:** Goods will be on sale before and after 9.30am Mass this Sunday. There will be Real Advent Calendars (including a child friendly booklet telling the story of Christmas as well as other fair-trade gifts.

**Diocesan Synod - Appeal for Big Listen Participants:** Our Diocesan Synod is well underway, and the next stage of the Synodal Journey is called "*The Big Listen*". As the name suggests, this is the listening stage of the Synod preparations that will run from mid-October until January and it is your chance to be heard. The Diocese wants to hear from the members of its parishes in order to inform the Synod, to better understand the the Diocesan Church and its perceived status in the parishes. This consultation is open to both practising and non-practising Catholics as well as non-Catholic parishioners.

Our parish will be holding Big Listen events for the following dates, locations and times:

Date	Location	Time
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Synod Big Listen St John's	6.30pm
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Synod Big Listen St Brendan's	6.30pm

These sessions will last one hour and your participation in one of these events would be greatly appreciated. We encourage you to invite any friends and family who live in our parish and would be happy to attend, whether they are regular churchgoers or not: if you live in our parish, we want to hear from you!

Your task at these events will be simply to give us your honest answers to a series of questions provided by the Diocese. Thank you in advance for your participation. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office or speak to Julie Summerton and Guy Drabble (your parish's Synodal representatives

**Catholic Youth Ministry Internships:** Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their Internship Programme. The scheme lasts for one or two years and gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the Lake District. For more information contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

**Newsletter:** Due to holidays, the newsletter (next week) will cover two weeks. If you have any Mass Intentions or items of news that fall over this time and you would like included, please send into the office before 12noon on Thursday 12 October. Thank you.

Readers For 14/15 October 2023		
<b>5pm Vigil (SB)</b>	<b>9.30am (SJ)</b>	<b>11am (SB)</b>
C Grundy	J Carroll	C Bridge