

**NEWSLETTER FOR ST BRENDAN, HARWOOD, ST COLUMBA, TONGE MOOR  
& ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, BROMLEY CROSS**

**2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2013**

**THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**



The Eucharist is not an invention of the Church: it is a part of God's plan of salvation from the very beginning: it is prefigured in the Old Testament, seen today in the food offerings of Melchizedek, priest king of Jerusalem associated with Abraham, who chose bread and wine as the offerings. It is also revealed by the prophetic action of Jesus, in feeding the multitude, before he feeds the Church with the gift that is transmitted through the centuries. The Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, is our communication with the Father, in the Spirit: it is the real presence in the Church's here and now of the eternal God; it is Covenant, Memorial and Promise, Meal and Sacrifice, the heartbeat of the Family of Believers.

<b>Liturgy &amp; Activities This Week</b> <i>Sunday Cycle C; Weekday Cycle 1; Divine Office Week 1</i> <b>Sunday Missal:</b> page 826; Readings 835; Preface at Priest's choice		<b>Prayers Please</b>
Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SC & SJ)	<p><b>Sick:</b> Gladys Hall, Kevan Dunleavy, Mary Leigh, Joan Coles, Isabelle Owen, Laura Shuttleworth, Ethel Caton, Tony Winstanley, Bernard Edmundson, Jonathan Rimmer, Eunice Brierley, Elizabeth Patterson, Bernard Callaghan, Kathleen Humphreys, Eileen Jones, Cecilia Guest, Joseph Walton, Jean York, Caroline Vickers, George Cowley, Robin Tootill, Elzie Ball, Tricia Jennings, Mick Collins, Bernard &amp; Rita Holder, Michael, Baby Rose, Calum Russell, Eileen Murphy, Brendan O'Grady, Pauline Bowling, Margaret Walsh, Emma Turner, Joan Rankin, Guy Ryan, Maria Stott, Fiona Preston, Kathleen Hopwood, Catherine Crowley, John Barrett, Bea Gilmore, Roy Smith, Isabelle Karzynski, Fiona Oldham (nee Clappison), Emma Jiminez (baby), Stephen Tootill, Maureen Kennedy, Vera Evans, Denise Carolan, Julie Smith, Ernie Little, Mary Coyne, Anthony Axford, Mary Marshall, Joan Pearce, Joshua Almond, Jacqueline Kay, Wynn Elliot, Tom Wardle and all who are sick or recovering from serious illness.</p> <p><b>Lately Dead:</b> William McManus, Jessie Ferretti, Margaret Rose Bates</p> <p><b>Anniversaries:</b> Ada Jerstice, John Jerstice, Dennis Sugg, Guy Warburton</p> <p><b>Mass Intentions:</b> Joyce Knight, Ada Jerstice, John Jerstice, Dennis Sugg, Blythe &amp; Bill O'Shea (40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary), Mary Marshall, Dorothy Whyte, Ralph Gubbins (Wedding Anniversary Remembrance), In memory of Richard Marshall and Freda Ward, Guy Warburton, Philip Marshall (Birthday Remembrance)</p> <p><b>Exam Prayers:</b> At this time of year we pray especially for our young parishioners who are taking exams. We ask that they may be given guidance and support at this important time in their lives.</p>
Monday <i>St Charles Lwanga &amp; Companions</i>	9.30am Mass (SJ) 8pm SVP (SJ)	
Tuesday	7pm Mass (SB) 7.30pm SVP (SB)	
Wednesday <i>St Boniface</i>	9am Mass (SJ) – <i>Please note earlier time</i> 2-4pm Cameo Group (Harbour Room) 7-8.30pm Baptism Preparation (Patmos Room, SJ)	
Thursday	9.15am Mass (SB)	
Friday <b>The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus</b>	9.30am Mass (SJ)	
Saturday <i>The Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>	5.30-6pm Reconciliation (SJ) 6pm Mass (SC) 6.30pm Mass (SJ)	
Next Sunday	9.15am Mass (SJ) – with Children's Liturgy 10.15am Mass (SC) – with Children's Liturgy 11.15am Mass (SB) – with Children's Liturgy 2pm Baptism (SB) SJ SVP Outing to Wrightington <i>[see overleaf]</i> 4.30pm & 6pm Church at the Centre Celebrations <i>[see overleaf]</i>	
<b>Collections, Donations, Gift Aid</b> <i>All cheques (even for special collections) should be made payable to St Brendan's, St Columba's or St John's as appropriate. If you are a tax-payer, the parish can claim back the tax you have paid on any donations you make if you simply sign a Gift Aid form once. Please ask. Thanks.</i>		

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**Congratulations:** To Amelia Grace Trainor who was baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. Also to Xander Thomas Bryn Lee and Lexi-j Mason who were baptised at St John's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

**Baptism Preparation:** The next preparation session will take place on Wednesday 5 June (7-8.30pm) at St John's. This is for parents from any of our three parishes who are looking to have a child baptised over the coming months. Please let Fr Cooke or Fr Gee know if you will be attending.

**Thank You:** Stephanie Lamb and her family would like to thank parishioners for their prayers when Stephanie was rushed into hospital unexpectedly about ten days ago. Those prayers were a great support at that time and Stephanie is now recovering well.

**CAMEO Group:** The next meeting is Wednesday 5 June (2-4pm) in the Harbour Room. Everyone is welcome.

**SVP (SJ):** The outing for the elderly and housebound will be to St Joseph's at Wrightington, next Sunday (9 June) 2013. There are lists in the Patmos Room for names of those wishing to attend and for volunteers willing to help with transport. Alternatively, please contact any member of St John's SVP.

**SVP Sponsored Walk:** The annual sponsored walk in aid of holiday/activities and any other forms of help for families in need, takes place on Sunday 16 June. Anyone interested is invited to walk or, alternatively, please sponsor someone who is walking. Sponsor forms are available after Mass for the next 2 weekends.

**Harbour Room Book Club:** Thank you to all the members who braved the rain and came to the last meeting of the Book Club. It was informative, interesting and lively, as usual! The next meeting will be on 26 June and will begin at 1pm as we have voting and a raffle to fit in! Many thanks to all. *Madeleine*

**BRASS:** The collection of food items during June will be held at the weekend Masses at Brendan's. The following items are much appreciated: cartons of orange juice, vegetable oil, tinned fruit, chick peas, kidney beans, tinned tomatoes, coffee, jam, biscuits and sugar. *Thank you*

**Church Cleaning (SJ):** A Gracie & M Isherwood

#### Think Vocation

"O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine." These words from the Eucharistic chant used at Exposition or Benediction remind us that the Eucharist makes us holy by uniting us with Christ Himself who is truly present. May we always combine our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament with a heartfelt prayer for vocations to the sacred priesthood.

This Newsletter is sponsored by

**HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE**

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#### The Body and Blood of Christ - Transubstantiation

*As we celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi, I thought I would share with you the following reflection which was broadcast on Bolton FM's It's The Thought That Counts on Friday:*

Yesterday was the feast of Corpus Christi and I spoke to you about the special gift that Christ gave to the Church at the Last Supper with his disciples – the gift of his Body and Blood. When he had blessed the bread and wine and shared them with his friends, he said "Do this in memory of me" – and that is what the Christian Church does each time it celebrates the Eucharist.

Of course, different Christian denominations have different understandings of exactly what happens in the Eucharist. For some the bread and wine are merely a symbolic representation of Christ's words and actions but for others, especially for the Catholic Church, the belief is that these elements of bread and wine really do become the Body and Blood of Christ.

This transformation, through the prayers of the priest, using the words of Christ and invoking the action of the Holy Spirit, has a technical title – Transubstantiation. The understanding of this, from the earliest days of the Church, and expressed in philosophical terms from that period, is that the substance of the bread and the wine is changed into the substance of Christ's Body and Blood by the words and actions of the celebration.

Perhaps one of the reasons that people sometimes find it hard to understand this conversion of the elements is because they retain their physical properties. So they still feel and taste like bread and wine – even though they are now something different. It is the conviction that they are now the Body and Blood of Christ that causes us to treat them with great respect and to reserve the Blessed Sacrament in our churches both for prayerful reverence and for taking Holy Communion to the sick.

**Thank You:** Frank and Madeleine Evans would like to thank all those who came for coffee and cake after last Sunday's Mass. You helped to make our 40th Anniversary very memorable and hugely enjoyable. Many, many thanks.

**CAFOD:** The recent CAFOD box collection at St Columba's realised £109. Thanks.

**HCPT:** Chris & Lucy Peyton would like to thank all those who sponsored them for the Manchester 10k Run last Sunday. When all the sponsor money is collected, they should have reached their target of raising £750. Thanks.

**Holy Cross College, Bury:** There is an Open Evening on Tuesday 11 June (4.30-7.30pm) for anyone interested in studying for a BA (Combined Honours) in Christian Theology and Biblical Studies. For further details call 0161 762 4513 or visit [www.holycross.ac.uk](http://www.holycross.ac.uk)

**Church at the Centre:** Tonge Moor United Reformed Church invites friends (particularly from St Columba's) to join them in celebrating their 122<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Sermons Sunday on 9 June. We are invited to Afternoon Tea at 4.30pm and/or Evening Worship at 6pm.