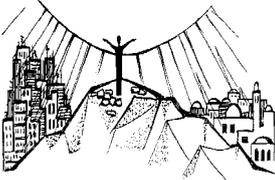


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

<p style="text-align: center;">1 March 2020 - First Sunday in Lent <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 1</i> Sunday Missal: page 532 Preface page 541</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8 March 2020 - Second Sunday Of Lent <i>Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2; Divine Office Week 2</i> Sunday Missal: page 543 Preface page 552</p>
<div style="display: flex;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>In the Cycle of Sunday Readings, the oldest are those of Year A in Lent - these Gospels have accompanied the Church for many centuries. We must realise why: Lent was originally the time of immediate preparation of candidates for Baptism at Easter (something which has been reintroduced to the Church by RCIA): those already baptised used it as a time to prepare for the renewal of Baptismal promises. This is why so much of the Scripture in Lent is about Baptism, New Life and Salvation. What is the new life of Baptism? What are we set free from? What is sin? We begin Lent by hearing about sin and temptation; the Gospel will tell us of Jesus' own temptations, something he shares with us, though he did not sin. The other Scripture readings prepare us for the Gospel, in which Jesus, the new Adam, triumphs over temptation.</p> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Lent is a Season of preparation for the whole Paschal Triduum - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday: not just a time to reflect on the Cross. Often our Lenten devotions can focus exclusively on the Cross, and the idea of Baptism can be lost. This is why the Church invites us to join the disciples in looking beyond the cross this Sunday: we see the glory of Easter, the glory of the resurrection and the glory of the baptised. We see all this in the Transfiguration: we are invited to recognise who Jesus is. It is the glorified Jesus, whom we will celebrate at Easter, who calls us to journey through Lent, just as God called Abram to journey far from his home. So the readings lead to us acknowledge that Lent is a very special 'calling', to follow the Lord of glory to the renewal of baptismal purity.</p> </div> </div>
<p style="text-align: center;">Masses, Feasts & Activities</p> <p>Sunday 1 March Masses:9.30am (SJ); 11am (SB) - <i>Both with Children's Liturgy</i>; 1pm Baptism (SJ); 3pm Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction (SJ) Monday 2 March: No Mass today; 7.45pm SVP (SJ) Tuesday 3 March: 6.30pm Adoration; 7pm Mass (SJ); 7.15pm SVP (SB) Wednesday 4 March: 9.45am Funeral Service for John Burke (Overdale); 12noon Mass (SJ) Thursday 5 March: 9am Adoration; 9.30am Mass (SB); 2pm Christian Meditation (Harbour Room, SB) Friday 6 March: 9.30am Mass (SJ); 3pm Funeral Service for Lynne McCormack (Overdale Crem)- CAFOD Fast Day; Women's World Day of Prayer Saturday 7 March: 10.30am Adoration & Reconciliation (SJ); Mass (SJ); 11.30am Mass (SJ); 5pm Mass (SB) <i>With Children's Liturgy - Ss Felicity & Perpetua</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Masses, Feasts & Activities</p> <p>Sunday 8 March Masses:9.30am (SJ); 11am (SB) - <i>Both with Children's Liturgy</i>; 1pm Baptism (SB); 3pm Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction (SJ) Monday 9 March: 9am Adoration; 9.30am Mass (SB); 7.45pm SVP (SJ) Tuesday 10 March:12.30pm Funeral Service for Kenneth Martin (Radcliffe Crem); 6.30pm Adoration; 7pm Mass (SJ); 7.15pm SVP (SB); 7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ); 7.30pm Finance Committee Meeting (Patmos Room (SJ) Wednesday 11 March: NB: 9am Mass (SJ); 9.30am SVP Coffee Morning (SJ) Thursday 12 March: 9am Adoration; 9.30am Mass (SB); Friday 13 March: No Mass Today Saturday 14 March:10.30am Adoration & Reconciliation (SJ); Mass (SJ); 11.30am Mass (SJ); 5pm Mass (SB) <i>With Children's Liturgy</i> Sunday 15 March: 9.30am (SJ); 11am (SB) - <i>Both with Children's Liturgy</i>; 3pm Stations of the Cross followed by Benediction (SJ)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Think Vocation</p> <p>Today, at the Cathedral, the Bishop will accept catechumens and candidates to become new Catholics at Easter. We all have a part to play in spreading the faith. May we ask ourselves each day of Lent what it is that we need to do to ensure that our lives fully radiate the loving warmth of Christ so that others may be drawn to the Lord and his Church through our witness</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Think Vocation</p> <p>Temptation is a very powerful force at work in our world. It is as strong today as it ever was. Society can make us narrow minded and think only of ourselves and what we can get out of life. This can lead to destruction of the spirit of generosity needed to foster vocations within the Church. Temptation can make us closed to the promptings of the Holy Spirit that lead us closer to God. If we are tempted to despair over the future of the Church, then let us reconnect during this Holy Season of Lent with the New Covenant established in Our Lord Jesus Christ.</p>

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

Prayers Please

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends.

Bernard Holder, Christopher Scott, Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Margaret Russell, Anne Hurst, Colin Spragg, Margaret Padfield, Rita Ray

Lately Dead: John Burke, Lynne McCormack, Kenneth Martin, Pat Lacey

Anniversaries: Kathleen & Harry Howarth, James Mathen, Tony Coop

Mass Intentions: Kathleen & Harry Howarth, A Special Intention, James Mathen, Tony Coop, A sick person

Hope In The Future

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St. John Southworth, Nelson, with Christchurch shared Catholic and Methodist Church. We pray for Fr Gerard Kelly, their parish priest, and for their parish primary schools.

Cycle of Prayer Part 3 (of 6):

We pray especially for: candidates for the sacraments; women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents and wanderers.

Congratulations: To Phoebe Louise Fisher who was baptised at St John's last Sunday. We pray that she and her family may continue to grow in faith

Congratulations: To Jordan Luke & Amy Nicholson who were married at St Brendan's on Friday. We pray that they will have a long, happy and fulfilling married life.

Lenten Activities 2020

Walk with Me

Please take the special booklets and calendars to help you through the Lenten season

Stations of the Cross: 3pm on Sundays at St John's with Benediction afterwards

Deanery Station Masses

Wednesday Evenings 7pm

(Confessions from 6.30pm)

4 March - St John Fisher, Kearsley

11 March - St Teresa, Little Lever

18 March - To be advised

Monday 23 March - Sacred Heart, Westhoughton
(Bishop John Arnold will celebrate this Mass)

Wednesday 1 April - St Ethelbert, Deane

Churches in Harwood Lent Course

Monday Evenings 7.30pm

2 March - Christ's Church, Harwood

Christian Meditation

Please come along and join us. The sessions are a perfect way to help us prepare for Lent.

Thursday 5 March (2pm in the Harbour Room)

Tuesday 10 March (7.30pm, following Mass)

Thursday 19 March (7.30pm in the Harbour Room)

Ceilidh for CAFOD: 7.30pm on Friday 20 March at St Osmund's Church Hall, Long Lane, Brightmet. Tickets are available (after weekend Masses) at a cost of £10. This includes a pastie supper. Please come and support this popular and enjoyable event.

Financial Summary for January 2020

Financial Summary for January 2020	
Income (for General Use)	
Gift-Aided Envelopes	1,666
Non Gift-Aided Offertory	2,496
Standing Orders	2,231
Piety Stalls, Votives & Almanacs	431
Baptisms/Funerals/Weddings	970
Fundraising (inc. 200 Club subs)	397
Harbour/Patmos Room Rental	330
Total Income	8521
Restricted Income (Specific Use)	1,146
Expenditure	
Church Expenses	2,127
Presbytery Expenses	1,674
Clergy Allowances	1,500
Wages	2,110
Diocesan Levy	2,060
Fundraising (200 Club)	150
Total Monthly Expenditure	9,611
Balance of Income/Expenditure	-1,090

Parish Survey: Thank you to all those who completed the survey and/or attended the parish meetings to help determine the future priorities for our Parish. The consensus was that we focus on three key areas:

1. *Developing the involvement of the youth of our parish* particularly building the links between our church & school communities and encouraging the inclusion of children and young adults in our Sunday Masses.

2. *The ministry of welcoming* including training parishioners as 'welcomers' and encouraging all parishioners to create a welcoming atmosphere at all our services and events.

3. *Welcome and preparation time before Mass*

If you would like to be involved or share your ideas on any of the above please speak to any member of the Parish Enabling Team or Fr Alf.

Upcoming Events
Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst
Clitheroe, BB7 9PZ.

Our English History and Its Saints: A day dedicated to learning about and celebrating our Christian story in England suitable for all ages, presented by author and broadcaster Joanna Bogle, DSG. Parallel activities for adults and children. For the adults: talks, workshops, and a history walk. For the children: treasure hunts, stories, fact-finding, and creative activities. Visit to the Stonyhurst College Old Chapel Museum. Start the morning with coffee and buns and relax later on with afternoon tea. This event takes place on Saturday 7 March, beginning at 10am and finishing at 6pm. For bookings and full details, please visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/english-history-saints/>

The God Who Speaks: As part of the Year of the Word, a series of four talks will be offered at the CHC during Lent, called "The God Who Speaks". These will take place each Wednesday in March at 7.30pm. Each session will follow a different theme, and will study excerpts of Benedict XVI's *Verbum Domini* together with relevant passages from the Bible. A fantastic opportunity to engage more deeply with the Word of God this Lent. For More information go to: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/the-god-who-speaks-lenten-talks/>

The English Reformation and the European Renaissance: An afternoon conference led by conference with Professors Peter Davidson (Oxford) and Gerard Kilroy (U.C.L.), exploring the relationship between Reformation England and Renaissance Europe. This event will take place on Saturday 28th March 2020 between 3:30pm and 6:30pm. Rooms are available at discounted rates and this event also has discounts available for students booking as individuals or as groups. For more information, please visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/reformation-renaissance-conference/>

Retreat for Altar Servers: The diocese is organizing a retreat day where young people will be able to come together to reflect on their faith and ministry. The retreat days will take place at Theodore House, Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst (9.30am-3pm).
- Saturday 18 April 2020 (Ages 8 - 11 years)
- Saturday 16 May 2020 (Ages 12 - 17 years)
Please see the posters on our notice boards about how to book.

Knights of St Columba: The Knights of St Columba is an organisation of Catholic men. They are actively looking for new members to help them in their work. This provides an opportunity for men to enrich their own spirituality, to proclaim the spiritual, moral and social message of the Catholic Church and allows them to become more active in their faith and service to the Church. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact: 0141 883 5700 or visit their website ksc.org.uk

EnviroLent: Throughout Lent we will once again be reflecting on care for our common home. The diocese has produced a series of posters which place a weekly focus on ways we can take practical action. Each week will focus on a different R: reduce, reuse, recycle, rewild and reclaim. Please use the Lenten period to think about each aspect of EnviroLent, and how we can take part in the care of our own community.

Formation Series: Source and Summit talk - Fr Richard Ounsworth OP: Wednesday 4 March, 7.30pm - 9pm - St Gabriel's RC High School, Bridge Road, Bury, BL9 0TZ. Fr Richard Ounsworth is a Dominican who teaches scripture and New Testament Greek at Blackfriars, Oxford. He will be reflecting on: What is the point of being a Christian? Where are we headed on our Christian journey, and what can sustain us along the way? For more information please visit: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/hope/events/>

Vacancy - Cathedral
Communications Officer

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

Salary: £25,000 - £30,000 pro rata depending on experience

Working pattern: 21 hours per week

Contract type: 12-month fixed term contract with some evening and weekend work required.

We are looking for an experienced Communications Officer who can prioritise and adapt quickly. The right candidate will be both self-motivating and able to work with and engage a diverse range of colleagues and volunteers. It is important that candidates can show creativity and initiative, and are able to demonstrate the ability to juggle multiple priorities. The purpose of this role is to tell the Cathedral story, past, present and future You will assist with a variety of external and internal communications to support the work of the Cathedral.

Closing date for applications is 12noon, Friday 9 March 2020

To find out more about this role and to apply, please visit:

www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies

Hope in the Future, Living the Sunday Eucharist

(1st Sunday of Lent)

LITURGY OF THE WORD: The First Reading

Last week we talked about the structure of the Sunday readings, and talked about the First reading being an “introduction” to the Gospel. We now read more of the Old Testament through the three-year cycle than ever before, though sometimes the readings chosen can be challenging. The Old Testament is a story spanning many centuries, written in many different styles, but always articulating the Covenant - the special relationship God forged with the Chosen People (“Testament” is another word for “Covenant”). This Covenant is completed by Jesus in all he said and did, most especially the “Paschal Mystery” - his death and resurrection. So in our faith, Jesus “completes” the first reading from the Old Testament. We should take care never to rush into the Liturgy of the Word - sometimes First Readings are quite short, and it is possible for a congregation still to be settling down when the reader gets to “The Word of the Lord”! Whoever is proclaiming the first reading should make a point of studying the Gospel too - since this will help them emphasise those parts of their reading which “point to” the Gospel. The Old Testament can be forbidding sometimes: the Church has selected passages which have a resonance for us because of Jesus - try and be open to the fascinating story of God’s people journeying through the centuries. This journey is continued in Eastertide, when the first readings tell the story of the early Church (after the resurrection) from the book of Acts. There is a fuller explanation of the way these readings work in the Introduction to the Lectionary* which is worth having a look at! Sometimes there is a deeper structure: for example in Lent Year A the first readings follow a sequence week by week - they take us through some of the most important moments of the Old Testament, meeting Adam, Abraham, Moses and David - but always with a “sacramental” emphasis - water, oil, breath and life - which is pointing to the celebration and renewal of Baptism at Easter. * (*chapters IV and V - Volume 1, pages xxx -xliii*)

The Memorare

The Memorare, below, invites us to ask the Blessed Mother for her assistance and her grace, especially when we feel most troubled in our daily lives.

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that it is a thing unheard of that anyone ever had recourse to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession and was left forsaken. Filled therefore with confidence in your goodness, I fly to you O Mother, Virgin of virgins. To you I come, before you I stand, a sorrowful sinner. Despise not my poor words O Mother of the Word of God, but graciously hear and grant my prayer. Amen.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers 7/8 March

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	J O'Connor	TBA
9.30am (SJ)	H O'Donnell	P McArdle, A Grundy, M Speed, J Carroll, T Armstrong, A Gracie
11am (SB)	L Lamoury	T Smith, M Meagher, T Proctor

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers 14/15 March

Mass	Reader	Eucharistic Ministers
5pm (SB)	A Grundy	TBA
9.30am (SJ)	M Parkinson	F Fmith, M Speed, A Gracie, S May, J Carroll, M Cropper
11am (SB)	C Owen	M Meagher, T Smith, T Proctor

This Newsletter is sponsored by

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