

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

25 October 2020

Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time



We are building to a climax in Matthew's Gospel as we come to the end of the questioning and probing of the religious authorities in their pursuit of something on which to hang accusations of sacrilege against Jesus. As winter approaches and the season of Advent comes ever closer there are only a few short weeks remaining of this, possibly the most difficult year in the recent life of the church, and the season of Hope is on the horizon, waiting for us. First, we must follow Matthew's Gospel to the gates of Jerusalem and then celebrate the great Feast of Christ the King at the end of next month. Today we celebrate the Greatest Commandment. *"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind and you must love your neighbour as yourself"*. In the passage from Exodus Moses passes on God's Word to the people. These are practical instructions dealing with some of the injustices which are still significant in today's world. There are warnings about our treatment of strangers, widows, and orphans. How often do we treat migrants as if they had no right to look for a better life, for shelter and a safe place to raise a family? How many among us have ancestors who were once migrants seeking these same things? Why should the poorest in society, the single mothers, the children in care, the unemployed, the homeless, be treated less well than those with the advantages of employment and good housing? There are many injustices in this our safe, comfortable, prosperous society. Loving our neighbour does not only mean the people living next door, it covers all of humanity and their wants and needs. Saint Paul reminds the people of Thessalonica that they should follow the example they were shown by the actions of Himself and his companions. They are to be an inspiration to those who live in their country and, by living as followers of our Lord, they will bring more people to faith in Christ. The church in Europe is failing, practice is falling in almost every country, the best way to bring more people to Christ is by setting an example by our lives today, then we may win more hearts for Our Lord. Jesus silences the Pharisees when he quotes to them the greatest commandment. They cannot question Him on His Word. If this Commandment has so much power, and it has, then it should be the cornerstone on which we should build our lives. **David Frank**

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 2

Divine Office Week 2

Exodus 22:20-26

Thessalonians 1:5-10

Matthew 22:34-40

Sunday Mass Times: 9.30am at St John's and 11am at St Brendan's. Each church is limited to attendance of 43 people (St Brendan's) and 50 (St John's) this doesn't include "bubbles". If you wish to attend please let the office know by email: office@sbsj.org.uk, or by phoning 301927, so that we can make a note of numbers. *Thank you*

Sunday 25 October

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

Monday 26 October

7pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 27 October

9.30am Mass (SB)

11am Requiem Mass for (Mary) Kathleen Edge (SJ)

Wednesday 28 October - St Simon & St Jude

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 29 October

9.30am Mass (SB)

Friday 30 October

No Mass Today

Saturday 31 October

11am Exposition and Adoration (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

Sunday 1 November - All Saints

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

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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In Our Thoughts & Prayers

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Bernard Holder, Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Hurst, Margaret Padfield, Anne Killeen, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Madeleine Evans, Barbara Pearl, Howard McArdle, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta

Lately Dead: Kathleen Edge, David Marshall, George Wild, Jim McCarthy, Mary Banks, Nancy Tiernan, Suzanne Leigh, James Hill

Anniversaries: Kathryn Hinks, Nicola Lamoury, Sr Mary Doyle, Winifride Mary O'Connor

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Kathryn Hinks, Nicola Lamoury, David Marshall, For someone sick, A special Intention, Anne Killeen, Sr Mary Doyle, Winifride Mary O'Connor

We continue to pray for victims of the Covid-19 virus, and for all those who are still working tirelessly to keep us safe.

Cycle of Prayer Part 5 (of 6): We pray especially for: Students & Teachers; The Spread of the Gospel; The Harvest; The Fruits of Human Work and the Reverent Use of Creation, Justice & Peace in the World; All Victims of War; Young People; Prisoners & Their Families

Hope in the Future

We pray for the people of the parish of St Joseph, Shaw, for Fr John Scanlan, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school

Offertory Envelopes

We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Currently, there are still a few offertory envelopes to be collected. If you would like these to be delivered to you, please do let us know and we can arrange this. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively donations can be made through Salford Diocese website, or alternatively by setting up a bank standing order. Again, many thanks for your continued generosity.

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

Prayer Resource - Lord's Day at Home

The Liturgy Office has prepared a service called "The Lord's Day at Home", based on the Sunday Scriptures, that you can pray on your own or with your family. It is particularly aimed at those not able to follow a Mass on the internet. This week's Lord's Day at Home prayer sheet [can be found by clicking here](#).

November - Holy Souls



Next Sunday (All Saints) sees the start of the month of Holy Souls. Usually we have our Remembrance Trees on both our Altars, but as things are a bit different this year, we will place the names in a basket on each Altar for you instead. If you would like to remember a loved one during this time, you

can either drop off the name/s in an envelope marked **Holy Souls** or email/ring with the name of the person/s you would like to commemorate. *Thank you*

Urban Outreach - Christmas Dinner on

Jesus: This year Churches In Harwood have been asked to collect 200g cartons of gravy granules for the food hampers. As a parish we have been asked to collect 200. If you are able to donate, the final date is 7 December. Thank you for your continued support.

Destitution Project



Thank you for all donations that have been coming in - they really do make a difference. We continue to collect the usual items: tinned tomatoes, tinned chickpeas/red kidney beans, rice, cooking oil, sardines, tea, coffee, long-life milk, tinned fruit & corned beef, cartons of orange juice etc.

November Retreats: You may remember that we published some information about short evening courses (run by Donna Worthington) that were to be held at St John's in November. Due to the current situation, these have had to be cancelled. In the meantime Donna is running Zoom Retreats which are extremely well presented in a very spiritual way. If anyone would like any further information please visit: www.christianretreats.live

Online Talks from Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst

"Newman 101: Why Newman Matters": An online colloquium celebrating the 10th anniversary of beatification and 1st of canonisation. Leading Newman scholars will present short papers on different themes from Newman's legacy at 4pm on Saturday 31 October. For both the above, please visit www.christianheritagecentre.com/events/newman for more information and registration.

'Family is Sacred' Zoom Course

Running alternate Wednesdays, 7.30pm-9pm. It is better to attend all sessions but please note, these are also standalone if you are just able to commit to some. The course is designed to enrich and support marriage and family life and the building up of the Domestic Church. All Welcome! Register your free place by emailing formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

4 November - Man & Woman - Communication & Sexuality

18 November - The Sacrament of Matrimony - A reflection of the Love of Christ

2 December - The Sacrament of Matrimony - A reflection of Christ's faithfulness & fruitfulness

16 December - Fatherhood & Motherhood - The challenge of Authority

13 January 2021 - Fatherhood & Motherhood - Mutual complementarity

27 January - The Importance of Family Life - The human significance

10 February - The Importance of Family Life - The religious significance

24 February - Love and the Importance of Home

10 March - Love and how we understand work

24 March - Family & suffering

7 April - The Mission of the Family

The God who Speaks - Online Talks

Wednesday 28 October: *The God who speaks to us today: Contemporary Challenges through a Biblical Lens*, by Father Joe Evans.

Wednesday 25 November: *The God who speaks in the Gospel of John*, by Fr Michael Winstanley, SDB, Salesian priest and Scripture Scholar, based at the Salesian community in Bolton. Each evening begins at 7pm. To book a place please email formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Diploma in Pastoral Ministry and Leadership

Once again, this year the Diocese, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Liverpool and Wrexham Diocese, are offering a Diploma in Pastoral Ministry and Leadership. The Diploma is a combination of Online Learning and a series of leadership workshops, leading to a Loyola University Chicago Certificate and a series of Liverpool Hope CPD Awards. The course starts in January 2021 and ends in December 2023. The full Diploma costs £2500, which is payable over three instalments. An increasing number of parishes are willing to part-fund students towards the Diploma. More information can be found on the website below. Here you will find testimonies from past students, information booklets on the modules, application forms and an online form to book on one of the Zoom information Webinars

www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/diploma

The Zoom information Webinars are at the following dates and times:

- Tuesday 27 October: 10.30am - 12noon
- Thursday 29 October: 7pm - 8.30pm
- Wednesday 4 November: 7pm - 8.30pm
- Saturday 7 November: 2pm - 3.30pm
- Tuesday 17 November: 7pm - 8.30pm

Please do not hesitate to contact Fr Paul Daly paul.daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or John Griffin john.griffin@dioceseofsalford.org.uk for further information.

A Thought for the Week...



“It is not enough to say ‘I love.’ We must put that into living action.”

St Teresa of Calcutta

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Love one another.

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