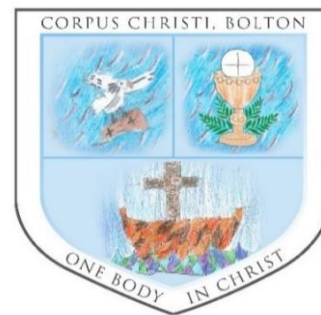


# Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

**16 May 2021**

## Seventh Week of Easter



One of the themes of the Gospels is the relationship between Jesus and His disciples. This is not a master/servant relationship but a true friendship which creates a bond between

them, and they become a real band of brothers. As with all relationships there are times of misunderstanding, of conflict, but there are also times of great unity and wonder. The places they went, the miracles they saw, the healing, the compassion; all of this comes clearly from the pages of the Gospel and we can see the strong loving bond that is forged between them.

Some were lost, as we reflect upon Judas in today's passage from Acts, sometimes there is confusion - Thomas asks "How do we know where you are going? Jesus rebukes them, "men of little faith", "get behind me Satan", Peter cries "This must not happen to you". But Jesus also teaches them to pray and to act in his name. Unity is important and the election of Matthias as one of the twelve shows this unity. John says in his letter "God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God and God lives in him"; the relationship between Jesus and his disciples is based in love and love is the most powerful of bonds.

The Gospel reading is a prayer for the protection of those who follow Christ. It shows to us the depth of the relationship between Jesus and his disciples; but it is also a reminder that this depth of love is for all who follow Jesus. The apostles and disciples then, and the church throughout the ages, down to us gathered today; we are all part of the relationship between God and those who believe in Him, and so this prayer is also for us. Jesus knew those he shared his journey with, he understood their worries, their lack of understanding, their vulnerability and he was anxious for the safety of their souls. He asks His Father for protection, from the devil and from those who may harm them. For wisdom, so that they may see the truth that comes from His teaching, and for the Father's blessing, that they "may be consecrated in the truth". As Pentecost approaches and we are called to go out into the world to testify to the truth of God's message let us take comfort from the promise of Our Blessed Lord "And know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time". **David Frank**

**Activities this Week**  
Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1  
Divine Office Week 3  
Acts 1: 15-17,20-26  
1 John 4: 11-16  
John 17: 11-19

**Sunday 16 May**  
9.30am Mass (SJ) A Special Collection for the  
11am Mass (SB) Catholic Communications Network

**Monday 17 May**  
7pm Mass (SJ)

**Tuesday 18 May**  
9.30am Mass (SB)

**Wednesday 19 May**  
9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)  
9.30am Mass (SJ)  
11am Private Requiem Mass for Veronica Holstead (SJ)

**Thursday 20 May**  
9.30am Mass (SB)

**Friday 21 May**  
No Mass Today

**Saturday 22 May**  
11am Exposition & Adoration followed by  
Benediction (SJ)  
11.30am Mass (SJ)  
5pm Mass (SB)


**Sunday 23 May - Pentecost Sunday**  
9.30am Mass (SJ)  
11am Mass (SB)

**Weekly Eco Thought**  
In the third Eucharistic Prayer we pray 'all you have created rightly gives you praise.' In these spring days how can we enable creation's song of praise to be heard more clearly?

**Stewards:** We are all so grateful to our stewards; their kindness has allowed us to reopen as a parish community and continue to worship. We do have a polite appeal for one more kind volunteer to assist on a Sunday and join one of our groups on a three-weekly cycle, additionally if you're willing to be a floating steward to assist for holiday cover/baptisms etc please let me know. *God Bless, Fr Alf*

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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, Anne Hurst, Margaret Padfield, Anne Killeen, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Barbara Pearl, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta, Mary Bagg, Vernon Holt

**Lately Dead:** Phil Williams, Eric Moore, Andy Towler, Veronica Holstead, Russ Carter, William Burke

**Anniversaries:** Robert Hall, Patrick & Mary Doyle  
*May They Rest in Peace*

**Mass Intentions:** Phil Williams, Gerard Lamoury (Birthday Remembrance), Graham Taylor (Birthday Remembrance), For all living & deceased members of the Hollingsworth family, Gerard Dobson (Birthday Remembrance), Robert Hall, Rose Hall & deceased members of the Heyes family, Patrick & Mary Doyle

We continue to pray for victims of coronavirus, especially the current crisis in India. We thank all those who are still working tirelessly to keep us safe.

**Cycle of Prayer Part 4 (of 6):** We pray especially for: new members of the Church; vocations; the right use of the media; the Church; human work.

**Hope in the Future:** We pray for the people of St John Southworth's parish, Nelson, Brierfield and Fence, for Fr Gerard Kelly, their parish priest, and for the Methodist community who share Christchurch with this parish. We pray for their parish primary schools. We pray that they may be true to God's name and that God's love will dwell in them.

**Offertory:** We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively they can be made through Salford Diocese website, or by setting up a bank standing order. Thank you

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

**Prayer Resource** - For those at home the Liturgy Office has prepared "*The Lord's Day at Home*", to pray on your own or with your family. [LDAH - Easter 7B](#)

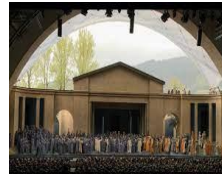
**Walsingham's May Rosary:** The Rosary Hour for the Diocese of Salford is on Sunday 30 May at 1pm-2pm. All are welcome to join in prayer.

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/event/shrine-to-launch-rosary-stronghold-mission/>

**Pentecost Novena in Honour of The Holy Spirit:**

Fr Alf thought you may wish to pray this Novena as it is the oldest. It was first made at the direction of Our Lord Himself when He sent His apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost. It is still the only Novena officially prescribed by the Church. <http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Pentecost-Novena.pdf>

## Oberammergau Passion Play



The Parish visit to Oberammergau has been rescheduled and will now take place 15-22 June 2022. The Passion play is performed by the villagers themselves in the

great open-air theatre with the Bavarian Alps in the background. The play portrays the Passion of Christ from entry into Jerusalem to the Resurrection. Three generations of villagers, seen performing, are but links in an unbroken chain stretching back to 1634. Our visit to Oberammergau is combined with time among the lakes and majestic mountains of Austria. A few places remain, so if you are interested in the trip, additional information and booking forms are available from Mary Cropper (01204 596439) and Ann Gracie (01204 302912)

**Pentecost Novena on Care for Creation:** This Novena of readings and prayer are drawn from the Bible and recent Papal teaching on the care of creation and the environment. You are invited to pray these nine days reflecting on the account of creation given in the book of Genesis. This Novena can be used on its own or to complement and focus the prayers and reflections of the 'Thy Kingdom Come' global prayer movement to the Care of Creation theme. [Access the Novena Here](#)

**Christian Heritage Centre Event Faith & Reason**

**A Catholic Integration:** A short, residential summer course exploring the relationship of faith with philosophy, science and culture. Particularly helpful for catechists and teachers fielding commonly-asked questions around Catholicism, besides anyone wanting to deepen their understanding of the Faith. Runs 5-8 August. For more information and registration: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/faith-and-reason/> or [bookings@christianheritagecentre.com](mailto:bookings@christianheritagecentre.com)

**The God who Speaks through Mark:** Four online evenings on the Gospel according to Mark.

**Wednesday 26 May - Mark Time** (with Fr Christopher Lough)

**Wednesday 2 June - The Humanity of Jesus in Mark** (with Fr Eamonn Mulcahy CSSp)

**Wednesday 9 June- The Disciples in Mark** (with Fr Michael Deas).

**Wednesday 16 June - The Little People in Mark** (with Fr Michael Winstanley SDB)

Each presentation will be from 7-8.30pm and are free of charge. To reserve a place on one or all the evenings and for the Zoom link in advance, please email [formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**200 Club Winners for May:**

£50 T Smith (30)

£25 E Openshaw (137)

