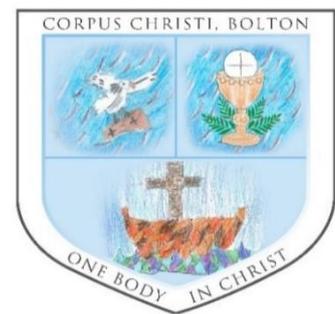


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

14 January 2024

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



When a child is brought to church for Baptism the first question the celebrant asks is “What name do you give this child”. This is, perhaps, the most important question that can be asked for, after the name is given, it is written in God’s heart and a very special relationship begins. God is love, He loves all He has created, and He calls each one by name. When John sees Jesus after His baptism, he tells those with him “Look, there is the Lamb of God”. Naming Jesus in this way opens up a new set of relationships as John’s disciples are filled, by the Spirit, with a need to know more about this man.

Samuel was a child, living in the temple, with Eli the priest. God called to him, but Samuel did not know the Lord’s voice, he thought Eli was calling so he went to him and woke him. This happened three times and then Eli realised it was the Lord calling Samuel and told him that next time he heard his name he was to say, “Speak Lord, your servant is listening”. When God called again Samuel did as he was told. We too seldom realise that God is calling us. We live our lives as best we can but, sometimes, we are moved by something within to do something different. We hear a call; it may come from a friend or we see a request for help and we feel drawn to do something about it. We may never realise that the call comes from God but somehow our lives are changed, and we take up a task that we never thought we were capable of and so it begins.

When Andrew and the other disciple heard John speak of Jesus their world changed forever. They went to Jesus, and he greeted them, they asked, “Where do you live” and then Jesus called to them, “Come and See”. When Jesus calls us our first reaction is to turn away. But he is persistent, and He keeps calling until we realise it is His voice we hear, and we answer, “Speak Lord, your servant is listening”. It is never a random call, the Lord knows us, He knows our name and He has a task for each of us and we can never be at peace until we answer His call and turn to do His will. *David Frank*

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2
Divine Office Week 2; Roman Missal: p 185.
Readings: p188. Preface: At Priests Choice

Sunday 14 January

9.30am Mass (SJ) - *With Children's Liturgy*
11am Mass (SB) - *With Children's Liturgy*
12.15pm Baptism (SB)

Monday 15 January

1.30pm The Big Listen - St John's Patmos Room
6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 16 January - St Joseph Vaz Apostle of Sri Lanka

10am Mass (SB) - *With Yr 2 School Children*
7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

Wednesday 17 January - St Anthony

9.30am Mass (SJ) - *with Yr2 & 4 School Children*

Thursday 18 January

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 19 January

10am Mass (SB)

Saturday 20 January

10.45am Reconciliation, Adoration & Exposition (SJ)
11.30am Mass (SJ)
5pm Vigil Mass (SB)

Sunday 21 January

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

Parish Contact Details

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HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE

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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, Fr Leo Heakin, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Helen Fraser, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Michael O'Connor, Joyce Strickleton, Christine Gardner, Margaret Doreen Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Joan Turner, Dr Allan Needham, Margaret Roberts, George Brooks

Lately Dead: David Morgan, Kathleen Turner, Frank Delvard

Anniversaries: William Hurst, Winifred Kenyon

Mass Intentions: Michael Axford (Birthday Remembrance), David Morgan, William Hurst, Jessie Carter (Birthday Remembrance), Winifred Kenyon, George Brooks

During ordinary time (winter), we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on Earth, Openness to the word of God, Christian Unity, The sick and those who care for them, victims of trafficking and those who work to combat it, the Unemployed

We pray for healing, a peaceful solution and restoration to the conflict in Gaza and Israel.

We continue to pray for peace and an end to the conflict in Ukraine.

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

Diocesan Synod - Big Listen Closing This Week: Over the past few months, parishes, schools, groups, and individuals have been coming together to discern the future of our diocese through the Big Listen stage of our diocesan synod. This key phase is critical in identifying priority themes to help us become the Church God is calling us to be. To ensure all voices are heard, we're seeking to engage with as many people as possible. To get involved, please submit your response online this week by visiting <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/> **Our third and final meeting is on Monday 15 January at 1.30pm at St John's Church.**

Ice & Snow Plans (St Brendan's & St John's) Please Help - Weekend Masses: For many years, the parish has relied on a few older parishioners to clear safe pathways to our churches when snow had fallen, or paths were icy. This is no longer a safe or sustainable arrangement. We now need younger, fit & healthy volunteers who would be willing to clear ice and snow at short notice, possibly by being on a WhatsApp group. Please let Fr Alf or the parish office know if you are willing to help. Thank you in anticipation of your support which will reduce the risk of injury to all.

Altar Steps & Handrails St Brendan's: The flooring and steps on the sanctuary are not easy to differentiate. Safety warning tape would spoil the aesthetics of the wooden parquet floor and cause other hazards. To enable safe and easy access, handrails have been installed on both sides of the Altar. Parishioners who find it difficult to see the change in floor levels or who have mobility difficulties, should use the handrails.

Christian Meditation Dates: Please find below the January dates for the next Christian Meditation dates until Easter. The time is 7.30pm-8.20pm.

16th January St John's

23rd January. St Brendan's

30th January. St John's

Parish Trip to Lourdes 2024: Much interest has been expressed by parishioners to arrange a Parish visit to Lourdes. Proposed dates are Monday 21st of October until Friday 25th of October 2024. Cost per person £650.00 sharing and £780.00 for a single room. £25 per person discount if booked before 31st of January. Accommodation will be in a 4* hotel full board. I have checked the reviews of four suggested hotels, one outshines the other three. For more information and expressions of interest in joining the group, please contact the Parish office or contact me on 07528 027295. **Thank you to everyone who has informed me of their intention to join the Parish Lourdes event. Please could you complete contact details on the form found at the entrance of both churches. Ann**

Pilgrimage to Walsingham: The Diocese of Salford is now accepting bookings for our 2024 pilgrimage to Walsingham. If you would like to join next year's pilgrimage, bring along a group, or help as a volunteer, please fill out a booking form, available at

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/walsingham-2024>. You can get in touch by calling 0161 817 2214 or emailing

walsingham@pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Readers Rota: A new rota will be issued in the next couple of weeks. If anyone would like to read at Masses, or if you no longer wish to read, please let the office know

Saint Joseph Vaz - Apostle of Sri Lanka
Tuesday 16 January marks the Feast Day of St Joseph Vaz. Let us pray for Fr Freddie and the Sri Lankan community as they celebrate this day.

Readers For 20/21 January 2024		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
A Grundy	G Drabble	F Doloroso
Eucharistic Minister's 9.30am (SJ) 21 Jan		
M Speed & J O'Connor		