

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

4 May 2025 Third Sunday of Easter

Whenever I read today's Gospel I am touched by the simplicity of the story. The written word is fragile; many books from the ancient world have been lost, we have just a fraction of all that has been written. The Gospel of John is rich in stories of healing, miracles and teaching; it contains a lifetime of understanding and reflection as John reviews his journey with Jesus through those three glorious years of His ministry. Yet this story, this epilogue, contains such a wealth of humanity, faith and love that if this were the only part of John's gospel to survive it would still give us a picture of who Jesus was, how He lived and of His love for all mankind. It begins on familiar ground, there is a lake, people fishing and a man walking on a beach. You can almost hear the lapping of water on the shore, the cry of birds swooping over the boat and see the tired faces of fishermen who have been out on the lake all night and caught nothing. Can you imagine the thoughts of these tired men when a stranger, bids them to try once more, to throw that heavy net over the side at the end of such a fruitless night? Yet something tells them to go again and what a catch, one hundred and fifty-three fish fill the net almost to bursting.

Sometimes we become tired of trying to follow Our Lord. Our prayer life seems to be fruitless; we have difficulties in getting people to help with things, everything we do becomes a trial; then we hear a word or read a piece of scripture, or someone does something unexpected that raises our spirits and that familiar voice from inside says "I know" and we start again. That is what our fishermen hear, that call to carry on, that assurance that all will be well and with Our Lord's help they, and we, are ready to begin again.

Breakfast on the beach, grilled fish, a wineskin filled with refreshing liquid and sitting once again with their friend Jesus must have felt like heaven to those fishermen, but Jesus does not stop there. There is a brokenness to be mended. Three times he calls to Peter, 'Do you love me' and three times Peter asks for that forgiveness which Jesus longs to give. No matter what has been broken in our relationship with God there is always a hand, reaching out to us in forgiveness. Take courage, reach out and grasp that forgiveness so freely given. **David Frank**



Sunday 4 May9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy1pm Baptism (SJ)Monday 5 MayBank holiday10am Mass (SJ)Tuesday 6 May - 10am Mass (SB)7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)Wednesday 7 May 9am Adoration (SJ)9.30am Mass (SJ)Thursday 8 May 10am Mass (SB)Friday 9 May 12noon Mass (SB)Saturday 10 May 10am First Communion Mass for St John's (SJ) 5pm Mass (SB)A Special Collection for the Sunday 11 May		
10am Mass (SJ)Tuesday 6 May - 10am Mass (SB)7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)Wednesday 7 May 9am Adoration (SJ) 9.30am Mass (SJ)Thursday 8 May 10am Mass (SB)Friday 9 May 12noon Mass (SB)Saturday 10 May 10am First Communion Mass for St John's (SJ) 5pm Mass (SB)		
10am Mass (SB)7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)Wednesday 7 May9am Adoration (SJ)9.30am Mass (SJ)Thursday 8 May10am Mass (SB)Friday 9 May12noon Mass (SB)Saturday 10 May10am First Communion Mass for St John's (SJ)5pm Mass (SB)A Special Collection for the		
9am Adoration (SJ)9.30am Mass (SJ)Thursday 8 May10am Mass (SB)Friday 9 May12noon Mass (SB)Saturday 10 May10am First Communion Mass for St John's (SJ)5pm Mass (SB)A Special Collection for the		
10am Mass (SB)Friday 9 May12noon Mass (SB)Saturday 10 May10am First Communion Mass for St John's (SJ)5pm Mass (SB)A Special Collection for the		
12noon Mass (SB)Saturday 10 May10am First Communion Mass for St John's (SJ)5pm Mass (SB)A Special Collection for the		
10am First Communion Mass for St John's (SJ)5pm Mass (SB)A Special Collection for the		
Sunday 11 MayEcclesiastical Education Fund9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy12.30pm Baptism (SB)		

Hymn Books (St Brendan's): Occasionally the hymn books are borrowed from time to time (and rightly so), but the number of hymn books seems to have reduced over the years. If you do find one at home, please would you kindly return. *God Bless*

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

This Newsletter is sponsored by HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE Peel House 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton. BL1 7AL 01204 309609





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, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Kathryn Browning, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Joyce Strickleton, Margaret Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Dr Allan Needham, Margaret Roberts, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Arnold Banks, Terry Smith, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel

Lately Dead: His Holiness Pope Francis, Baby Alfie, Jean Gee, Stanley Edge

Anniversaries: Jean Crompton

Mass Intentions: Jean Gee, Jean Crompton (1st Anniversary)

We are asked to pray for these intentions: New members of the Church, vocations, the right use of the media, the Church and human work.

We pray for healing, a peaceful solution and restoration in the Middle East and Ukraine.

The Jubilee Prayer: Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Offertory: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially; if you are UK taxpayer, please consider gift aiding your kind donation, the parish will benefit at no extra cost to yourselves.

Dona: We can now accept cashless payments, using our contactless system.

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

Ecclesiastical Education Fund: We are grateful to all those who support vocations within the diocese. We ask that you continue to pray for our seminarians and all those who are on the journey of discernment. We also give thanks to all those who have chosen to serve the diocese. You can find out more about the diocesan vocation's office here. If you would like to support the work of the Ecclesiastical Education Fund, which funds the training and support of those in formation for the diaconate or priesthood for the Diocese of Salford, any contribution to our special collection at Masses next weekend would be appreciated.

Corpus Christi 200 Club Winners (April) 1st Prize S Whitton (£50)

 2^{nd} Prize P McManus (£25) please contact parish office 3^{rd} Prize L White (15)

SVP News

Hanging Baskets: The baskets will be available for collection on the following dates:

Saturday 17 May at St John's Church (from 12noon onwards)

Sunday 18 May at St Brendan's Church (after 11am Mass)

Cash is preferred for payments, but cheques are also acceptable - please make payable to:

Corpus Christi SVP, Bolton. Thank You

Michael Wright, a member of our parish SVP, is walking a 200km stretch of the famous pilgrimage route of Camino Santiago de Compostella at the beginning of May. He is hoping to raise some money for the work that our SVP does in this parish, which includes helping families in difficulty, sponsoring activity trips for young children, supporting the Destitute Centre in Bolton as well as those in our local prisons and their families. If you feel able to donate, please add your name to the sponsor sheet at the back of church. Prayers will be said at the many chapels and churches on the route for our parish and its charitable works. *Thank you*.

Fair Trade Stall: There will be a sale of fairly traded goods before and after the 9.30am Mass at St John's on Sunday 4 May. Our continued sale of goods helps producers to access basic needs such as clean water and health care.

Special Collections: Thank you for your kind donations for the following: -CAFOD Fast Day: £1036.86 Shrine of our Lady, Walsingham: £412.63 CAFOD Myanmar Emergency Appeal £897.95 SVP £266.10

Shrines of the Holy Land £326.85

"Come and See" Day for the Permanent Diaconate: On Saturday 17 May, our diocesan vocations team will be holding a "Come and See" event for anyone interested in learning more about permanent diaconate. Whether the you're discerning a possible vocation to this wonderful ministry or would just like to learn more about the work of a permanent deacon and how that supports our parishes, our vocations team is on hand to help you discover more. Join us for our drop-in session at St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst, any time after 10am Mass and before 3pm. Email diaconate@dioceseofsalford.org.uk to find out more.

Readers for 10/11 May 2025			
5pm Vigil (SB) 9.30am (SJ) 11am (SB)			
G Kearns	S Copley	A Moore	
Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 11May			
J Carroll & S May			