

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

18 May 2025

The Fifth Sunday of Easter





Stepping out into the unknown, clothed only with faith in Christ, Paul and Barnabas ventured into their first missionary journey. They took nothing with them but their faith, they had no safe havens to take comfort in, they, quite literally, put their trust in the Lord.

Have you ever thought about how you would have the courage to follow in the footsteps of Paul and Barnabas? Is your faith strong enough to give up everything to follow Christ wherever that may take you? I do not think that I could do such a thing. I am by nature cautious; I try to get as much information as I can before embarking on something new but sometimes, I do make a leap of faith; I cannot understand why I do so, but I know that something deep within gives me the courage. Of course, my leap of faith does not leave me open to angry mobs that want to silence and kill me. Thankfully my journey is not like that; but we all need to consider what do we do when our faith is challenged; do we speak out or do we remain silent.

Jesus speaks of "A new commandment". This is His message of Love, His manifesto for the future where His love for us must be shared. He tells us that "By this all people will know that you are my disciples". He challenges us to show to the world our Faith in Him through our love for all of His creation. This task may not appear to be as daunting as the challenges facing Paul and Barnabas but on a basic individual level it is a task that we are each called to fulfil. How do we appear to those with whom we come into contact? Do they see in us true disciples of Jesus? If we have that love that Jesus speaks about then it will shine out and show, to the people we meet, the love of Christ living within us. David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 18 May

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy 11am Mass (SB) - No Children's Liturgy today 12.30pm Baptism (SB)

Monday 19 May

6pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 20 May

10am Mass (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SJ)

Wednesday 21 May

9.30am School Forward in Faith Mass (SJ)

Thursday 22 May

10am Mass (SB)

6.30pm Thanksgiving and farewell Mass for Fr Chris Gorton (St Thomas of Canterbury church)

Friday 23 May

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 24 May

10.45am Adoration & Confession (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy

Sunday 25 May

9.30am Mass (SJ) - With Children's Liturgy 11am Mass (SB) - With Children's Liturgy 12.30pm Baptism (SB)

Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

Faithful God, You guide us on the path of life and your goodness is our constant companion.

Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, in his service of the Church.

Fill him with the power of your Spirit, the peace of your presence and the compassion of Christ. May he walk with you, in wisdom and humility, and lead us, together with all God's people, to embody your love for the world. *Amen*.

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

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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, 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, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel, Alice Leggett

Lately Dead: Terry Smith, Jim Briggs

Anniversaries: Helga Healey, Rosemary Atkins, Joseph Gilmartin

Mass Intentions: Gerard Lamoury (Birthday Remembrance), A special intention, Helga Healey, Gerard Dobson (90th Birthday Remembrance), Rosemary Atkins, Joseph Gilmartin, Eileen & Alan Leach (60th Wedding 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.

We pray for all our pupils and students who are taking tests and exams at this time. We pray they are given the Lord's guidance and support. Help them to stay calm and focused with their preparation and exams so they can perform to the best of their abilities.

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

Congratulations: To Charlie Andrew William Anderson who was baptised last Sunday. Let us pray that both he and his family continue to grow in faith.

Harbour Room Book Club: Would all members please note that the next meeting on 28 May is cancelled due to the funeral of Terry Smith RIP. Many members will wish to attend. We shall combine both May and June books and discuss them together at the June meeting. Please pass the word to anyone who may not see this notice. We would like to pass on our deepest sympathy to Terry's family.

Children's Liturgy: As half Term is coming up, The Children's Liturgy will be taking a break on weekends of 1st June, and 8th June.

SVP News

Hanging Baskets Collection 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, has completed his walk on part of the famous pilgrimage route of Camino Santiago de Compostella. Thank you for all your donations so far.

Other News from Around the Diocese

Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse: Every year the Church in England and Wales keeps the Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter as the Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Abuse. This year it falls on Tuesday 20 May. There is an open invitation to people to gather with Bishop John for Mass on Tuesday at 6pm at St Patrick's church, Livesey St, Manchester to pray for all who are survivors or victims of abuse. Members of parish safeguarding teams are particularly invited.

Mass for Married Couples: Are you celebrating a special anniversary this Jubilee year? Join us on Tuesday 3 June at 7pm at St Bernadette's in Whitefield for a special celebratory Mass. Friends and family are welcome and everyone is invited to join for refreshments after Mass. We ask you to please register your attendance as soon as possible to help our team anticipate numbers and prepare a special souvenir card for each couple. To register, please visit https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/mass-married-couples-2025/ or call 0161 817 2214.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Ladyewell: The Diocese of Salford's Pilgrimage Office is delighted to announce a prayerful pilgrimage to Our Lady's shrine at Ladyewell, taking place on Saturday 28 June. For more information please visit:

https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/ladyewell-pilgrimage-2025

Readers Rota: The next rota will be available next week. If you would like to consider becoming a reader at any Mass, please contact the Parish Office. Similarly, please contact us if you no longer wish to read.

| Readers for 24/25 May 2025 | | |
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| 5pm Vigil (SB) | 9.30am (SJ) | 11am (SB) |
| L Lamoury | L Fakanule | K Wilkinson |
| Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 25 May | | |
| M Speed & P Partington | | |