

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

25 May 2025

The Sixth Sunday of Easter



Today's Gospel can be split into several separate statements which speak to us plainly of the message of Christ. Firstly, he equates love with faith; **"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word"**. Then Jesus makes us a promise that the Father's love is ours and our faith will create a home which we will share with the Father and the Son for **"we will come to him and make our home with him"**. However, if we do not keep His word then we turn our backs on the creator God. Jesus then speaks of a helper, the Holy Spirit. He will be a teacher, a guide and an advocate; this Spirit is present in our lives. The Holy Spirit teaches us through scripture, he guides us by our conscience, and he is always ready to stand up for us against the temptations of the world.

God's peace is not man's peace; it is pure gift, it is a lasting peace, the kind of peace we experience in silence, in the wonder of nature, in the calm of a still day and in that gentle acceptance of fate that we witness in those who accept suffering. It is very far from the peace that the world offers; the world's peace is transitory, God's peace is everlasting.

The Apostles must have been frightened by the comments of Jesus when he spoke to them about what would happen in Jerusalem. They loved him, they gave up everything to follow him, they could not believe that he would be betrayed and killed. Jesus tells them **"Let not your hearts be troubled neither let them be afraid"** these things must happen; that he must go back to the Father so that they can go forward and build the Kingdom. They can see no future without his earthly presence, but they will see, as we see, his glory revealed through the works of those he has chosen.

There is no one who is excluded from the love of God and that love is pure and true. All of God's creation is precious to Him and our role here on earth is to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves no matter what religion or culture they belong to. Jesus promises us the gift of peace, but peace can only be achieved when there is no more conflict, and a fair and equal society exists throughout our world - a true New Jerusalem.

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 25 May

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.30pm Baptism (SB)

Monday 26 May - St Philip Neri **Bank Holiday**

10am Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 27 May - St Augustine

10am Mass (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Wednesday 28 May

12.30pm Requiem Mass for Terry Smith (SB)

7pm Vigil Mass for Ascension (SJ)

Thursday 29 May - The Ascension of the Lord

10am Mass (SB)

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday 30 May

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 31 May - The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10.45am Adoration & Confession (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

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

A Special Collection for

Sunday 1 June *Catholic Communications*

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

Parish Contact Details

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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
Latently Dead: Terry Smith, Elizabeth Malone, Brian Pollitt, Paul Gerrard

Anniversaries: John Carter, William (Billy) Grimes
Mass Intentions: Elizabeth Malone, John Carter, William Grimes, A special intention, Terry Smith

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 Isla Rose Archer who was baptised last Sunday. Let us pray that both she and her family continue to grow in faith.

Ascension Thursday: Is a Holy Day of Obligation: Each Sunday we profess through the Creed, "He ascended into Heaven." Christ's Ascension was the culmination of God's Divine plan for Christ Jesus - his return to his Father with his "Mission Accomplished." Ascension is the grand finale of all Jesus' words and works done for us and for our salvation. It is a culmination, but not the conclusion. As Jesus is now with God in glory, so Jesus is with us now in Spirit: "Lo, I am with you always." The feast of the Ascension celebrates one aspect of the Resurrection, namely Jesus' exaltation. Please see reverse for Mass times.

Harbour Room Book Club: Would all members please note the meeting on 28 May is cancelled due to the funeral of Terry Smith RIP. We shall combine both May and June books and discuss them together at the June meeting. We would like to pass on our deepest sympathy to Terry's family.

SVP News

Date for your diaries: The Next SVP Coffee morning will be held after 9.30am Mass on Wednesday 25 June. All most welcome!

Children's Liturgy: Will be taking a break over the next two weeks and will return on 8 June (Pentecost Sunday).

Red Box Collection: If you have a red box at home, we will be collecting them next weekend. Similarly, as some people now donate online to Mill Hill Missionaries, and no longer need boxes, please send them in to church so that we can amend our records. *Thank you*

Other News from Around the Diocese

Pilgrimage Walk at St Alban's, Blackburn:

A fantastic pilgrimage event has been announced by one of our Jubilee churches, St Alban's in Blackburn. Taking place on Saturday 31st May, this hour-long pilgrimage walk begins at 2pm and will take in the remarkable history of the parish and end with a short Benediction at the Altar. Our time of prayer will be followed by refreshments and the opportunity to explore more of this impressive church. Please call or email to register your name if you wish to attend -01254 241211 or email jude.harrison@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

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: Is now available at the back of each church. Thankyou.

Readers for 31 May/1 June 2025		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
S Mikolajewski	A Gracie	P Brennan
Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 1 June		
M Cropper & A Gracie		