

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

15 June 2025

The Most Holy Trinity



It is impossible to fully describe the Trinity, to me, it is a mixture of all the power, mystery and wonder of a loving God who knows me as myself and somehow cherishes that knowledge knowing that I am flawed but still a perfect part of His creation. If only we could grasp the reality of that love; we never seem to understand that with all our strengths and weaknesses, despite all our successes and failures, we are truly loved as a perfect human being.

Whenever I read today's passage from the Book of Proverbs my thoughts lead me to the Holy Spirit. The words are ascribed to Solomon, but the message comes from a very ancient culture which saw the work of God in every thought of man. The second line "At first, before the beginning of the earth when there were no depths I was brought forth" reminds me of a line from the first verse of Genesis, "God's Spirit hovered over the waters". When we read this passage, we can see that God's hand is always guiding and caring for he is "delighting in the children of man".

Paul's letter to the Romans reminds us that it is through our faith that we find peace with God. This is not the peace that the world gives; this peace comes through "suffering". Paul sees suffering as a steppingstone to a life of faith. Suffering gives us the strength to endure whatever life throws at us; it builds character and creates in us a feeling of hope for the future. Each of these steps brings us closer to the love of God and so the way to God is "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us".

In John's Gospel Jesus speaks of the Spirit of Truth; and how "he will lead you to the complete truth. Since the day of Pentecost, the church has been moving towards that truth that Jesus speaks of. The revelation of the truth is a continuing process, and the church continues to gain fresh insights into the depth of God's mercy. A pivotal moment in the church's story was the second Vatican Council. We are the children of the council, and we are called to continue its work. At this time of falling numbers in our clergy and laity we can fail to see the way forward but if we keep our faith in the Holy Spirit then, in time, all will be revealed. *David Frank*

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 15 June - Special Collection for Day for Life

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

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

Monday 16 June

12noon Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 17 June

9.10am Whole School Mass (SC School)

10am Mass (SB)

7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Wednesday 18 June

9am Adoration (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 19 June

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 20 June

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 21 June

10.45am Adoration & Confession (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

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

Sunday 22 June - The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

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

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

1pm Baptism (SJ)

3pm Holy Hour with Benediction (SJ)

Newsletter: Next week, the newsletter will be available on Wednesday 18 June. Please could all items of news and Mass Intentions be handed in by 12noon on Tuesday 17 June. *Thank you.*

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, , Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Arnold Banks, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel, Alice Leggett, Rita Margiotta, Prayers for someone on end of life care

Lately Dead: Dr Allan Needham, Margaret Roberts, Paul Gerrard, Brian Moore, Rev William Sloan, Edward Roscoe, John Crowley, Brian Pollitt

Anniversaries: Patrick O'Donnell, Georgette Kosecki

Mass Intentions: Patrick O'Donnell, Georgette Kosecki, Fr McAuley - for a speedy recovery, Dr Allan Needham

We are asked to pray for these intentions: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; seafarers; human life.

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

We pray for all our students who are taking 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 Maeve Amy Nancy Wallis and Freddie James Tomlinson who were baptised last weekend. Let us pray that both they and their families continue to grow in faith.

Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gregory, Farnworth: Fr David is leading a Pilgrimage to Poland on 11-15 September and has asked if any parishioners would like to join them as there are currently spaces available. If you are interested, please email: julie.walsh@dioceseofsalford.org.uk with your phone number and contact details. Julie would like to send the group booking form and deposits off by 25 June at the latest. The prices are £595 (sharing) and £695 (single).

Readers for 21/22 June 2025		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
G Drabble	S May	K Denton
Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 22 June V & A Rawlinson		

Day For Life: Is the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and every condition. This year, the theme is *Hope does not Disappoint: Finding Meaning in Suffering*. It is inspired by Romans 5:5-6. St Paul invites us to see that Christian hope is not just naïve optimism but, rather, an unshakeable trust in the power & presence of God who is with us always.

A Letter from Archbishop John Sherrington

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, which seeks to legalise assisted suicide, is fast approaching its decisive vote in the House of Commons on 20th of June. The Catholic bishops of England and Wales oppose this flawed bill both in principle and in practice. Among the many concerns, we are particularly alarmed by the following:

- This legislation would require many hospices and care homes to facilitate assisted suicide. This will put in jeopardy their ability to provide care. Parliament has rejected an amendment that would have allowed institutions to opt out of participating in the provision of assisted suicide.

- The provisions for conscientious objection for health and social care workers are both unclear and inadequate. This problem will not be addressed by proposed amendments.

- Safeguards against coercion for the most vulnerable are wholly inadequate, particularly in cases involving coercive control or social pressure. During Committee Stage, the bill's main proponent was unable to confirm whether individuals seeking assisted suicide due to financial concerns or feelings of being a burden would be prevented from accessing it. Since then, no progress has been made, and many MPs consider the existing safeguards insufficient, with the potential to result in a "terrible tragedy."

We note the opposition for the bill from key professional bodies including the Royal College of Psychiatrists whose members will be expected to be involved in the process of assessing those who elect for assisted suicide. We have already seen the bill weakened during Committee Stage. The whole process by which this bill has been brought forward and debated is insufficient for such a radical change. We urge Catholics, and all people of goodwill, to contact their MP and ask them to vote against this bill. We also ask you to pray that our representatives choose to protect the most vulnerable citizens of this country when they vote later this month. Archbishop John Sherrington. *Lead Bishop for Life Issues and Archbishop of Liverpool*

Fr Alfred has had a promising reply from his latest email to our MP and she is now going into consultation on the subject.

