

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

27 July 2025

Seventeenth Week of Ordinary Time



There are many wonderful prayers which we can use to convey our feelings, hopes and sorrows to our Father in heaven but the greatest and the simplest is the "Our Father" which we come to today in the Gospel passage from Saint Luke. The most wonderful aspect of this prayer is the way that Jesus prays not to an "Almighty God" but simple to "Father". The intimacy of the relationship between father and son establishes our relationship with God and gives us an opportunity to cry out to him in our need "Abba, Father"

Many words have been written about this prayer. It has been prayed countless times, even in our own lifetime it would be impossible to say how many times we have stood, sat, knelt or even laid down and said these familiar words. They are as close to us as the breath in our bodies and as important to us as the blood in our veins.

We begin by giving God the dignity to which his name is held in our hearts. We ask Him for the grace to become his children and the courage to bring His kingdom to life in our world. We know that we are not capable of doing anything without his help and so we pray for the gift of His power, His bread, which fills our days with His presence. And we ask for forgiveness. Forgiveness is a simple act; it is what Abraham asks for the good people in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. It is a gift within our giving but Oh! so hard to give to others. If we can be forgiven, how can we deny forgiveness to those who hurt us? We are frail human beings, we do not have the capacity to stay true to our God and so we ask finally for His help to resist the temptations of this world.

Jesus knows our human nature; how we tend to give up too readily if we do not find what we are looking for. So, He urges us, be persistent, do not let go so easily, besiege heaven with your prayers and listen, listen carefully for often the answer comes in the form of a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is He who pours into our lives the gifts of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Fear of the Lord. **David Frank**

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 27 July

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

World Day of Prayer for Grandparents & Elderly People

Monday 28 July

No Mass Today

Tuesday 29 July - St Martha, Mary & Lazarus

10am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 30 July

10am Mass (SJ)

11.30am Requiem Mass for Tony Batterton (SB)

Thursday 31 July

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 1 August - St Alphonsus Mary De'Liguori

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 2 August

9.30am-10am Confession (SB)

10.45am Adoration & Confession (SJ)

11.30am Mass (SJ)

5pm Mass (SB)

Sunday 3 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

Sacrament of Confession: Is always available on Saturdays or by request. Next Saturday, Confession will also be available at St Brendan's Church.

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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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, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Arnold Banks, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel, Alice Leggett, Rita Margiotta, For someone on end of life care, Phyllis Rocke, Julie Hayes

Lately Dead: David Hall, Carol Hudson, Tony Batterton, Gladys Graham, Régis Poundall, Alan Topham, Ginny Whiteside, Harry Hemsmerk

Anniversaries: Ellen Day, Peg Crowley

Mass Intentions: Ellen Day, Peg Crowley, Ginny Whiteside, Harry Hemsmerk, Mr&Mrs Ambrose Royle and the Royle family, Special Intention, Peace in the World, Thanksgiving for prayers answered, Régis Poundall, Alan Topham

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.

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 Esther Chukwuzoberem Ezeogu and Gabriel Ian Critchley who were baptised recently. We pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

Special Appeal from the Columban Missionaries: The Columban Missionaries were founded in 1918 as the Irish (or "Maynooth") Mission to China. As the political situation in China worsened, culminating in the expulsion of all foreign missionaries from that country in 1952, they began doing parish work in other countries in Asia and around the rim of the Pacific, such as the Philippines, Korea, Burma (Myanmar), Pakistan, Fiji, Chile and Peru. John Boles was born and brought up in Stockport and worked as a Town Planning Officer before joining the Columbans. He has spent nearly all his missionary life in Latin America, most notably some 27 years in Lima, Peru, when he returned in July of last year. We welcome Fr Boles to our Masses this weekend as we take up a special collection for all the missionary work that Columban's carry out.

Thank you: For all you have donated to our recent collections:

World Communications Day: £442.90

Day for Life: £407.70

Peter's Pence: £475.63

Stella Maris - Sea Sunday: £508.75

SVP: Thank you to everyone who came along to our coffee morning on Wednesday. The amount raised was £133 which will be used by the SVP.

As many of you know, our SVP spend time visiting the housebound and elderly in our parish. If you know of anyone who would like a friendly chat or would like to come along to our twice-yearly Benediction and afternoon tea, please let any member of the SVP know.

Can you Help? If anyone has any broken /unwanted necklaces or bracelets (with beads) or broken Rosary Beads, please leave in the baskets at the back of each church as they can be used to make new Rosaries, which will be sold to raise money for various religious items and statues of the Rosa Mystica (a devotion now approved by the Vatican). Thank you

Castlerigg Manor: Is a retreat centre in the Lake District. This summer they are open to families, individuals and other small groups for budget get-aways. Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk
Book at <https://castleriggmanor.com/open/>

Edgworth & District Horticultural Society Annual Show: Saturday 16 August 2025. If you're green-fingered, or not, there is plenty to see at this annual event with lots of stalls and of course exhibits from local growers. For more information, please see the posters at the back of each church with details of how to enter the classes.

Other News from Around the Diocese

Jubilee for Social Justice Event (with free transport offer): The Caritas Social Action Network will be hosting a Jubilee of Social Justice for all those interested in Catholic social action. The event takes place on Saturday 20 September from 12noon at Liverpool Met Cathedral and will include Mass with Most Rev. Malcolm McMahon OP Emeritus Archbishop of Liverpool, followed by light lunch, a social action exhibition, and reflections from leaders in Catholic Social Action. Our diocesan charity Caritas Salford is providing a free coach for those from our diocese who are interested in attending. Find out more or book a place by visiting their website:

www.caritassalford.org.uk/SocialJusticeJubilee

Readers for 2/3 August 2025		
5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
C Molyneux	P Barnes	K Wilkinson
Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 3 August		
A Gracie & P Partington		