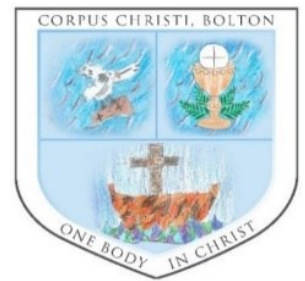


Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

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

16 November 2025

Thirty -Third Week of Ordinary Time



Today's first reading begins "Behold, the day is coming"; the words are from the prophet Malachi. and they convey a message of destruction for evil doers and celebration for the righteous. Malachi is the last book of the prophets and is a message of hope to a people surrounded by a faithless society. What emerges is the triumph of those who are faithful to the Lord. Today's Psalm echoes this idea of the Triumph of God through the reactions of the people, the sea, the rivers, and the hills; all rejoicing "at the presence of the Lord".

The passage from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians reminds us that we cannot take for granted the idea that we are saved just because we are part of the Church. In Saint Paul's time there was an expectation that the return of Jesus was imminent and at that time his followers would be justified and emerge triumphant. This led to idleness among the communities and Paul is urging Christians not to act in this way. We need to be careful that we do not see our service to the church as a passive act; that we do not suppose that by merely coming to Mass we are doing our duty to God. In Paul's time those sorts of people were looked on as the idle; we need each member of the church community to work for the church. We complain that the attendance at Mass is falling away but if our attitude to serving God is not seen then how can His voice be heard, and what example are we giving to those around us.

At the time the Gospel of Luke was written the Jewish world had been split apart by the revolts in Israel against the Romans and their destruction of Jerusalem. Jesus is warning his listeners that there will be many voices claiming to come in his name, we need to keep only to his teaching, not to the words of these false prophets. He reminds us that being a Christian is not an easy choice but that the reward for our faithfulness is that "Your endurance will gain you your lives". When we consider the themes of resurrection and the life of the world to come it is precisely this new life that we believe in. Not a continuation of our present lives but something greater and perhaps very different.

David Frank

Masses & Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle C

Sunday 16 November

9.30am Mass (SJ) - with Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB) With Children's Liturgy

Monday 17 November

12noon Mass (SB)

Tuesday 18 November

10am Mass (SB) with Yr 2
7.30pm Christian Meditation (SB)

Wednesday 19 November

9.30am Adoration (SJ)
10am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 20 November

10am Mass (SB)

Friday 21 November - *The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

12noon Mass (SB)

Saturday 22 November - *St Cecilia*

10.45am Confession & Adoration (SJ)
11.30am Mass (SJ)
12.30am Baptism (SJ)
5pm Mass (SB) - *With Children's Liturgy*

Sunday 23 November

9.30am Mass (SJ) With Children's Liturgy
11am Mass (SB) With Children's Liturgy
12.30pm Baptism (SB)
3pm Baptism (SJ)

Piety Stall: Christmas Cards are now available to purchase from our stalls.

Early Notice for Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve: 4.30pm (SB); 6.30pm (SJ)

Christmas Day: 9.30am (SJ); 11am (SB)

Carols Beforehand

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

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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, Frances Skemp, Edwin Rankin, Pat McDowell, Richard Crichton, Michael Latham, Kathryn Browning, Frank Vickers, Frederick Parkinson, Eileen Fitzgerald, Peter Reilly, Terry Scott, Margaret Kay, Tony Martin, Annie O'Brien, Margaret O'Brien, Kevin Knowles, Pat Howarth, Bernard Earp, Michael Kitching, Jane Manuel, Alice Leggett, Rita Margiotta, Pauline Dobson, Winifred Goodwin, Barbara Owen

Lately Dead: Vernon Holt, Arnold Banks, Valerie Webster, Ethel Connolly, Alfie Morrison

Anniversaries: Mary Dorothy Hodgins, Graham Taylor, Bill Wheeler

Mass Intentions: Mary Dorothy Hodgins, Graham Taylor, In memory of the Barrett & Power families, Barbara Owen, Bill Wheeler

We are asked to pray for these intentions: Students & teachers; the spread of the Gospel; the harvest; the fruits of human work; the reverent use of creation; justice & peace in the world, all victims of war; young people; prisoners & their families

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

Christmas Hampers: St Brendan's Church are holding a raffle of Christmas hampers after 11am Mass on Sunday 14 December. To make some special prizes, we kindly ask if anyone would donate any of the following (unopened) during November: Toiletries, Chocolates, Wine, Spirits or other Christmas type gifts. Please leave any items at the back of St Brendan's Church and they will be collected each weekend. Raffle tickets will be on sale from the end of November. *Thank you.*

Job Opportunity: Parish Administrator - Corpus Christi, Bolton

Appointment Type: Part-time, permanent
Working Hours: 12 hours per week to be worked between Monday-Friday, though some flexibility will be required and can be offered. Working pattern to be discussed and agreed with Parish Priest.

Location: St John the Evangelist Church, The Crescent, Bromley Cross, Bolton BL79JP

Salary: on request, 60 hours holiday (equates to 5 weeks), plus bank holidays and 5 diocesan closure days (subject to pro rata)

Apply using the application form on the Diocese of Salford Website or contact HR@dioceseofsalford.org.uk Closing date: 24th November 2025

SVP News

Christmas Dinner on Jesus: We are continuing to collect jars of Cranberry Sauce (200g size) by the last Sunday in November (30/11/25). Thank you, as always for your continued support.

Christmas Poinsettia Memorials: If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia (in memory of a loved one), request slips, cards & envelopes are available. These can be placed, with donation (minimum £7), in the baskets provided. The deadline for your request is Sunday 7 December. *Thank you*

Gaelic Coffee Morning: Will be held after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 14 December. We will have some wonderful raffle prizes on offer including some special prizes for children.

Readers Rota: Is now available at the back of each church. *Thank you*

Other News from Around the Diocese

Quarant'ore - 40 Hours with the Lord: St Mary's, the Hidden Gem, invites you to join a special period of prayer - 40 Hours of Adoration of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Join us between Friday 21 November - Sunday 23 November as we take part in Solemn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each day, with celebrations of Holy Mass and confessions on each of the three days. The Quarant'ore will end with Solemn Sung Mass at 12 noon, followed by a short Blessed Sacrament Procession and Benediction. For more information, please contact the Parish by calling 0161 834 3547 or by emailing Mgr Canon Anthony Kay anthony.kay@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

A Day of Reflection on the role of Sacred Music in the Liturgy: On 29 November, a practical day course will be held on understanding the use of Sacred Music within the Mass, starting at 11am and finishing with sung Mass at 5.15pm. The morning session will take place at St Augustine's, Grosvenor Square, and the afternoon session and Mass will take place at St. Mary's, the Hidden Gem. The cost is £20 per person, which includes a buffet lunch and light refreshments. To book and for more information please contact Dr. Rosemarie Darby via email: rosemarie.darby@manchester.ac.uk

Advent Talks - Reflecting on Dilexi Te: Tuesdays between 25 November - 16 December as we consider how we welcome the birth of the Messiah into a world of multifaceted poverty. Our Lady and Lancashire Martyrs Church Hall, M38 0DL, (10:30am - 12:30pm). Please email joankfmsj@gmail.com or phone 07934 816796 to register your interest.

Readers for 22/23 November 2025

5pm Vigil (SB)	9.30am (SJ)	11am (SB)
G Drabble	N Bunting	F Evans
Eucharistic Ministers 9.30am (SJ) 23 November M Cropper & A Gracie		