

The Parish of the Good Samaritan

Christ the King

St Mary of the Assumption

St John the Baptist

Burnley



NEWSLETTER

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

6TH DECEMBER 2020



FR DAVID'S REFLECTION ON THE LITURGY



Our companion for the second week of Advent is John the Baptist. He tells people to have a change of heart to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom of God. He tells us to follow his advice, given to every generation to follow; the advice is simple ; follow the ways of right not the ways that are wrong. He is the fulfilment of Isaiah who tells us to make the paths of the Lord straight.

In Advent we have a chance to reflect and to think about the direction our lives are going in. John is not an easy or comfortable companion for us. He lives in the wilderness simply, living off locusts and wild honey. He will look us in the eye and ask us gently but firmly to invite the Lord more fully into our lives; to be more honest and more truthful with ourselves and other people; and to be more trusting of the Lord as we see the need to change.

By living more simply, it means we take less than we give: it means treating people with integrity and fairness rather than being insincere and judgemental. We are to try to make life more easy and more bearable for one another rather than being awkward and difficult to deal with. We are to be genuine, upfront rather than devious and two faced ~ making people unsure of where they stand with us. It means being prepared to forgive rather than bear grudges. Living simply should give us more freedom and make life easier not harder.

*"Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see the
salvation of God.
Alleluia!"*

MASS AT CHRISTMAS TIME

We are following the Bishop's guidance asking people to attend Mass over the Octave of Christmas. We have worked out a programme. Please see page 4 for the details to date.



PUBLIC MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES

Following the end of the lockdown on 2nd December public Masses have now resumed as follows:

St Mary's

Mon to Sat 9.30am Mass
Sunday 9.30am Mass
(Live streamed)

St John's

Tues 12 Noon Mass
Wed 7pm Mass
Thurs 10.30am Mass
Sunday 10.45am Mass

Christ the King

Mon 7pm Mass
Friday 12 Noon Mass
Sunday 5pm Mass



Exposition: There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starting 30 minutes before all of the weekday Masses. (Mon to Sat)

Exposition and Reconciliation: Every Saturday there will be Exposition and Reconciliation at St Mary's from 10.30 to 11.30am. The Reconciliation will take place in the Sacred Heart chapel. Please be guided by the Stewards.

MASS INTENTIONS

Lately Dead: Graham Jones, Barbara Cross, Lesley Davidson, Maureen Hanson, James Cunningham,

Anniversaries: Michael Ennis, Elsie Pegg, Kathleen Wigglesworth, Alan Howard, Clifford Gregson, Vincent McKie, Fr Michael Fraher.

Other Intentions: Thanksgiving Mass for pa-

rishioners' intentions from Rose, Pat and Kathleen, Fr David Featherstone, For a sick relative, Ellen Dickman.

Birthday memories: Andrea Thomas, George Vincent

In Memoriam: Phil Cross, Margaret and John Flynn, Deceased members of McKie and Turner family, deceased members of the Fleming family.

Towneley Chapel Lamps

Joseph Balshaw
Andrew Harrison



Isiah 40:11

*"Like a shepherd he feeds his flock,
gathering them in his arms,
and holding them close to his
heart"*

Stay with us Lord on our journey

PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION DECEMBER 2020



*For a Life of Prayer
We pray that our personal
relationship with Jesus
Christ be nourished by the
Word of God and a life of
prayer.*



BLESSED TRINITY THEME OF THE WEEK

Miss Wilkinson organises spiritual and thoughtful input on changing themes each week on the parish website. They are based around scripture. Pupils from the College and the priests of this parish contribute.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

As Masses have recommenced you may leave your donation envelopes in the boxes at the back of the churches. You can also make your donations online through the parish website. Open the Home page and on the right there is an icon (aside). Click on it and follow the instructions. Please Gift Aid if appropriate. It's fully recognised that some people will now be in a worsened financial position and less able to give at the moment so please do not feel obligated. Thank you.



CAFOD NEWS UPDATE



Two of our parish junior schools became wholeheartedly involved in our Harvest Fast Day—with wonderful rewards. One school baked its way to a wonderful £165, the other raised a super £100 (this shared equally with the school fund). They deserve a huge round of applause! Well done children, parents and staff—great illustration of Christian action! The CAFOD group are very grateful for your continued generosity over Harvest Fast Day and be-

yond. You can continue to donate via <https://cafod.org.uk/Give>

Some people in the parish raise money for CAFOD by keeping a small CAFOD cardboard collection box in their homes, in which they place any small change. If you would like one of these boxes for Advent or at any other time then please get in touch with Anne Marie Coppock on 721701 or amcoppock@hotmail.com

With Christmas around the corner you can find the perfect, unique, ethical gift for someone special in your life, by giving one of CAFOD's World Gifts. To see the new look selection of life-changing gifts use the following link: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/World-Gifts>

Don't forget to check out the CAFOD webpage on the parish website for more detailed news, including the latest campaigning news and a new action to support CAFOD's brave overseas partners. Send a **'Message to the Brave'** within a Christmas card to show your solidarity for their efforts to protect the vulnerable and the planet. You can also keep in touch with Cafod's activities and prayers with online talks at <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/Online-talks>

The Diocesan Almanac is available at the back of all of our churches—£3.50 each

Masses in the Parish

Live Stream: We will continue to live-stream the Mass at 9.30am from St Mary's every Sunday. It will be recorded and available to view later on Sunday. Thanks to everyone involved in streaming.

Private Celebrations of Mass: To enable you to be in continuous Spiritual Communion, Fr Emmanuel will celebrate a **private** Mass at 9am at St John's on Mondays.



Covid 19: For your Spiritual Support

Daily Streamed Masses: Please follow daily Mass from the National Shrine in Walsingham; www.walsingham.org.uk or the live streaming from The Good Shepherd parish in Colne; www.goodshepherdpendle.org.uk.

Removal of Obligation to attend Mass: Because of the position the Church still finds herself in, the obligation for the faithful to attend Holy Mass on Sunday and on a Holy day of Obligation remains lifted until further notice.

Message from Pope Francis about Reconciliation: *"Do what the catechism says. It's very clear. If you don't find a priest to go to confession, speak to God. He's your Father. Tell Him the truth: 'Lord, I did this and this and this. Pardon me.' Ask His forgiveness with all your heart with an act of contrition, and promise Him, 'afterwards I will go to confession.' 'You will return to God's grace immediately. You yourself can draw near, as the Catechism teaches us to God's forgiveness, without having a priest at hand.'"*

The Lord's Day at Home: These sheets available on the Web site and are great for providing sacred time at home if you are unable to come to church.

KEEP IN TOUCH—USE OUR WEBSITE FOR THE NEWS

Because of the continuing restrictions of Covid, please keep in touch with your friends—especially those who may be lonely. A good source of chat is the website—so much information and inspiration! The new Quotes and Quips offerings are worth passing on! Our clergy offer an excellent 'Thought for the Day every day, and there is news there, as it arises. It's a good read, even if you don't pass it on! Enjoy the Quotes and Quips—like:

"I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder!!"

Go to: <http://www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk/>

Fr David continues to improve, please keep him your prayers for his full recovery

MAILING THE NEWSLETTER

Until we get back to normal activities, if you need a paper copy of this Newsletter please contact Fr David tel 422007 with your name and address. He is happy to forward it to you.

Items in the Newsletter: If you would like to include an item, or make a Mass Offering, please email (itemsforfrank@gmail.com) your request before midday on Thursday.

FOODBANK—KEEP IT UP!

Sadly, the need continues for us to support the Foodbank. Here's how: **Every local Spar shop** should have a collection point for non-perishable food. **There are two ways to make monetary donations:** **Online Donations:** Blessed Trinity are supporting the Foodbank. Here is the website <https://tinyurl.com/BlessedTrinityJustGiving>. They have raised £4,946 so far! Well done them!

Cash Donations (at St John's only). You may leave a cash donation (in a clearly marked envelope) at the presbytery or contact David H on 07434 763822 and we will see if we can collect it. We will pass them on to the Foodbank via the Blessed Trinity website (above).



Thanks and God bless to everyone who helps with this vital work

FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK

Mon 7th Dec	St Ambrose	Fri 11th Dec	St Damascus
Tues 8th Dec	<i>Immaculate Conception</i>	Sat 12th Dec	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Weds 9th Dec	Advent Weekday	Sun 13th Dec	Third Sunday of Advent
Thurs 10th Dec	Our Lady of Loreto		

Programme of Masses during the Christmas Octave

You will recall in his recent Pastoral letter that because of the limitations imposed on us by the Pandemic, Bishop John asked this Christmas that we to try to come to Mass during the Christmas Octave which runs from Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve to the Feast of Mary Mother of God on Friday 1st January. This sacred period includes a number of feasts that celebrate a particular aspect of Christmas. If everyone does this then there should be sufficient space in our churches to allow us to safely celebrate this sacred season. For this period only it will therefore be essential to reserve in advance your place(s) at all the Masses during the Octave. Details of how and when you can make bookings will be available in next week's Newsletter. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this period. To assist you in planning your choice of Mass, we list below our plan for Masses for the Christmas Octave this year:

Christmas Eve ~ Thursday 24th Dec

First Mass of Christmas

5.45pm Christ the King

6.30pm St Mary's

7.15pm St John's

Christmas Day ~ Friday 25th Dec

8.30am: St Mary's

9.15am Christ the King

10,15am St Mary's (*Live streamed*)

10.45am St John's

St Stephen's Day ~ Sat 26th Dec

9.30am: Mass St Mary's

Holy Family ~ Sunday 27th Dec

9.30am Mass St Mary's (*Live streamed*)

10.45am St John's

5pm Christ the King

Holy Innocents ~ Mon 28th Dec

9.30am Mass St Mary's

7pm Mass Christ the King

St Thomas A Becket ~ Tues 29th Dec

9.30am Mass St Mary's

12 Noon Mass St John's

Octave of Christmas ~ Wed 30th Dec

9.30am Mass St Mary's

7pm Mass St John's

Octave of Christmas ~ New Year's Eve Thurs 31st Dec

9.30am Mass St Mary's

10.30am Mass St Johns

Mary Mother of God ~ New Year's Day ~ Friday 1st Jan

10am Mass St Mary's

11am Mass St John's

12 Noon Mass Christ the King

Covid 19: The Vaccine is Coming!

It's great news that the roll-out of the vaccine is starting this month. It's a great development to benefit us all, please God. In the meantime keep safe with the following Golden Rules.

Hands* The virus travels through touching things that an infected person has touched or coughed / sneezed over. If you then touch your nose, mouth or eyes, you may transfer the virus into your own body. So wash your hands, for 20 seconds, every time you have had any contact outside your home.

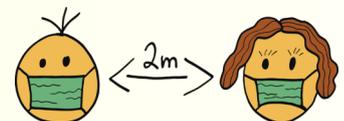
Face* You are legally obliged to cover your face in all shops, hospitals, church and other places. It prevents you spreading the virus to others. Some people may be exempt from wearing masks eg for medical reasons.

Space* When a person coughs or sneezes it is thought that the miniscule droplets travel up to two meters. So you keep safe by keeping apart from others. Unfortunately, there are many people who seem to disregard this, so they offer a risk to others, especially indoors.

Keep safe until you become eligible for the vaccine—the finish line is in sight—be sure to get there!

There's a great website with super information for you to follow:

<https://covid19graphics.info/>



*Seek more detailed guidance if you are worried

Clergy Team

Parish Priest: Fr David Featherstone

Assistants: Fr Damien Louden

Fr Emmanuel Ugwuoke C.M.

St Mary of the Assumption

St Mary of the Assumption

St John the Baptist

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