

The Parish of the Good Samaritan



NEWSLETTER

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
29TH MAY 2022 **YEAR C**

Churches of
Christ the King
St Mary of the
Assumption
St John the Baptist
Burnley

FR DAVID'S REFLECTION ON THE SUNDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading tells of the death of the first martyr St Stephen. We should notice the resemblance that the death of Stephen in Luke's account, has to Our Lord's own death. Jesus was tried before the Sanhedrin and made a decisive statement about the Son of Man at the right hand of God. He was led out of the city to be killed, he forgave his killers and commended his soul to the Father. Stephen, too, was accused of blasphemy, and like Jesus, was brought before the Sanhedrin council and taken out of the city to be stoned to death. He forgave his killers "Lord do not hold this sin against them" and as he died he committed his spirit not to the Father but to Jesus who he sees at God's right hand: "Lord Jesus receive my spirit". Luke is determined to let us see that the death of the martyr mirrors that of Christ.

Stephen witnessed to the highest possible degree by dying for Christ. Not everyone of the followers of Christ is asked to witness by their death. However, we are all

"Lord do not hold this sin against them"



asked like Stephen, to witness to the Lord by our lives. Like him to live a life of humble service especially to the needy and vulnerable. We are also called to witness to our faith and speak up for the Lord and his Church even if it means facing ridicule and a degree of persecution.

Like Jesus, Stephen forgave those who were responsible for his death. We are asked to imitate Stephen in his forgiveness. He didn't just preach the forgiveness and mercy of God he practised it too. We are also asked, like Stephen, to be trusting of the Lord even when we are in danger and know that if we do so we have nothing to fear. May Stephen lead us and guide us in these days leading up to the feast of Pentecost when we ask for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us.

900TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST PETER'S CHURCH—NEXT WEEKEND



This is a very significant landmark for all Christians in Burnley. The major event to mark this occasion will be on **Sunday June 5th at 2.00pm**, gathering outside Macdonalds for a Procession to the Market Square, on to Curzon St and back along St James St - then make our way to St Peters for a 3pm Service - followed by an afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

St Peters are enthusiastic to have as many as possible join in. However would like an idea of numbers for catering - so please leave a message with Karen 431723. If the procession may be a little too much - you are welcome to join in the service from 3pm in St Peter's.

NEW MAYOR OF BURNLEY

Cosima Towneley, one of our parishioners, was installed as Mayor of Burnley on Wednesday 18th May. As part of a tradition known as "Mayor's Sunday", the new Mayor will be officially welcomed into St Mary's church at 10am Mass on Sunday 12th June. This is a great honour for us to host such an occasion and we joyfully look forward to it.

MASS INTENTIONS

Lately Dead: Jeremy Bradshaw, Linda White, Dorothy Sheerhan, Imelda Hinz, Kenneth Crossley, Patrick Duffy, Kevin Clarke, Margaret Clarke, Mena Brigham, Clare Fitzpatrick, Margaret Gaughan, Mary Furlong, Jim Furlong, Liz Taylor, Danny Fitzpatrick

In Memoriam: Gerda Greenhalgh, Monica Frazer.

Anniversaries: Patrick Durkin, Thomas Green, Thomas Dacey, Michael Fletcher, Rose Shaw, Sam Slattery, Sally Lalor, Stanley Roskell, Michael Frazer, Nora Philbin, Rita Duerden.

Other Intentions:

Rose Slattery. 100th Birthday, John Morgan.

Birthday mem: Elsie Pegg

AFTERNOON TEA: TELL US IF YOU WOULD LIKE ONE!!

Before the pandemic the Afternoon Teas were hugely popular, so we would like to re-introduce them if there will be enough interest. They would be on a Wednesday at 1.00pm in St Mary's Parish Rooms, and would cost about £7 per person—a fraction of the cost of a commercial event, and "every bit as good or better."



Please call Elaine on 01282 413127 to tell her how much you would love it!

SVP UPDATE



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society of the Good Samaritan parish would once again like to thank everyone who supports us by their prayers and donations.

With caution, due to Covid -19, we have felt that it is still too early to invite vulnerable housebound parishioners to a mass in the church or the parish hall. Instead at Easter we have once again taken 38 cake boxes to them.

We are cautiously resuming visits to some housebound parishioners and would welcome referrals of anyone who would like a visit.--Please contact the presbytery.

We have donated £200 to our National Office Emergency Fund to be used to help the people of Ukraine . The S.V.P. has some contacts in that country.

We congratulate one of our retired members , Rose Slattery, who will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on June 8th.

Once again, thank you and God Bless! Thank you on behalf of Missio and Mill Hill Missionaries to the community at St John's for raising the magnificent amount of £2,364.04 in 2021. Your concern and actions shows how every prayer, however short, and every contribution, however small, can transform the world for the better.

Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; ... and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia

ST MARY'S CHURCH CLEANING TEAM



Thank for the great response to last week's appeal to set up a new weekly cleaning team at St Mary's. It would be great to increase the number of volunteers, so that the work is shared by more people. If you want to join the team please contact Seamus McLaughlin.

Daily Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

As the days and weeks pass it is clear that the need for peace in the world is great, and at the same time there is little sign that it will happen through worldly means. A parishioner

has suggested that we each ask God's help for the situation in Ukraine by saying the Our Father at 9.00pm every evening. Until the war ends.

Please join in!

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Following the end of "lockdown", Eucharistic Ministers are now once more able to visit people in their own home in order to give Holy Communion to anyone who is unable to come to church. All our ministers have been DBS checked and will have taken precautions to ensure they do not carry the COVID virus. If you know of anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion, please ask the person's permission and then give their name, address and phone number to either of our priests. We will then make contact by phone to arrange when we can visit.



FUNDING FOR THE GROUNDS AND GARDENS AT ST MARY'S



Super news about help with the grounds and gardens around St Mary's church. We have gained funding from the National Lottery Community fund. It will impact on the area around the main entrance to the church and will see the crumbling surface pulled up and removed, the area filled with soil and turfed over. This will provide an extension of the green space around the church in an otherwise somewhat bleak concrete (or stone) jungle. It will provide better surroundings for the church, grotto, and Bible Garden. It will be a wildlife haven, as well as creating a place to rest, contemplate and enjoy nature. The work on this is due to start week commencing Monday 30th May but it shouldn't disturb access to the church.

The project will also help with general the maintenance of the gardens. Our dedicated team of gardeners have been looking for additional helpers for a while, but at times have struggled due to illness and weather conditions to keep up with the work on the lawns and gardens. So, we have teamed up with *Freshfields*, the local charity providing space, opportunity, training, and support for adults with learning disabilities.

Every three weeks one of their teams will come to mow lawns etc around the church. This way we have help with the gardening work whilst giving these wonderful and dedicated people an opportunity to show off their talents. Please welcome them and stop for chat when you can - their enthusiasm is infectious.

Thanks to the team which has worked to achieve this great support for the parish.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR MAY

Faith-filled Young People

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.



Stay with us
Lord
on our
journey



ST MARY'S COFFEE MORNINGS—VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

The coffee mornings after the 10.00am Mass were hugely popular, and a great source of companionship, fellowship and laughter. We would like to get them going again, **BUT** we need volunteers. So, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, please step forward. We can all make a cup of tea or coffee, so don't say 'Oh, I couldn't do that...'. You can(!). With enough volunteers you would only be needed once every three or four weeks. If you can at all help, please call Maureen on 07807 184 743. You'll find fun and friendship by being in a team!

CHURCH STEWARDS

Huge thanks to our stewards for their continuing support for our attendance at the parish masses and services



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PARISH BY STANDING ORDER

You can make your contributions to the parish online by Standing Order; Please contact your bank and inform them that payment should now be made as follows:

Name: The Salford Diocesan Trust :The Good Samaritan Parish.

Sort Code: 205558

Account number: 50404640

Thank you.



COVID GUIDANCE IN OUR CHURCHES

In accordance with Advice from the Bishops of England and Wales we have very recently introduced some relaxations to Covid regulations in the parish:

- ~ We continue to request that adults wear face coverings and sanitize their hands before entering church.
- ~ Holy Communion can again be received in the hand or in the mouth.
- ~ Our stewards will continue to welcome us and cleanse the church.
- ~ The Distribution of Holy Communion will revert to how it was pre-Pandemic (i.e. Processing from the front and unsupervised by the stewards)
- ~ Please say 'Amen' when receiving Holy Communion.

PUBLIC MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES 30TH TO 29TH MAY TO 4TH JUNE 2022

Monday	<i>Easter Weekday</i> 9.15am St Mary's (NB change of time) 10.30am Funeral Mass for George Gregson RIP at St John's 7.00pm Christ the King
Tuesday	<i>Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> 9.30am St Mary's 12.00 noon: St John's
Wednesday	<i>St Justin</i> 9.30am Christ the King 7.00pm St John's
Thursday	<i>Ss Marcellinus and Peter</i> 9.30am St Mary's 10.00am St John's
Friday	<i>St Charles Lwanga and Companions</i> 9.30am Christ the King 12.00 Noon St Mary's
Saturday	<i>Easter Weekday</i> 9.30am St Mary's Vigil Masses: 6.00pm St John's 6.30pm St Mary's
Sunday:	<i>Pentecost Sunday</i> Christ the King: 9.15 and 5.00pm Christ the King St Mary's 10.00am* St John's: 10.45am

Exposition
There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starting 30 minutes before each week-day Mass, Monday to Friday (except before Funerals).

RECONCILIATION AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be three opportunities for Reconciliation at the same time as there being Exposition:

Fridays ~ 11.30 to 11.55am at St Mary's
Saturdays ~ 10.30 to 11.30am at St Mary's
Saturdays ~ 5.15pm to 5.55pm at St John's

PRAYER BEFORE MASS



Father, I come to you today with lots on my mind and a busy life stealing my focus. I ask that you help me still my mind so that I can contemplate the wonder of your love during Mass. Help me open my eyes to what you want me to see and hear. Help me be Jesus' hands and feet in a world that needs you now more than ever, Amen.

FOODBANK—GIVING IN CASH OR IN KIND!



Sadly the need for the Foodbank is likely to grow, so the appeal has to continue. There are lots of places where you can drop off actual groceries—non-perishables please unless it's oranges. All the 'big' supermarkets and Spar shops have drop-off points, as do Barclays, Lloyds, and Nationwide banks in the town centre. Why not choose a few extra pieces with your weekly shopping, if you can afford, and help families in great need.

You can also contribute online (via Blessed Trinity at <https://tinyurl.com/BlessedTrinityJustGiving>) by making one-off or monthly payments. Congratulations to Blessed Trinity—their **Just Giving webpage has passed the £11.600 marker!! Well done young'uns!!** You can donate cash at St John's Presbytery, drop it off in a clearly marked envelope. This led to **£65.00** being donated during April.

Thank you all for your great and continuing generosity.

Clergy Team

Parish Priest: Fr David Featherstone St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007
Assistant: Fr Damien Loudon St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007

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Newsletter email: itemsforfrank@gmail.com

Parish website: www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

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