Parish of the Good Samaritan

Churches of Christ the King | St Mary of the Assumption | St John the Baptist BURNLEY

Newsletter

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th September 2026 Year A

In today's Gospel Jesus tells a story about the eleventh-hour workers getting paid the same as those who have worked hard all day. To our human ears this sounds unjust and like bad business, like an unfair employment practice that would most likely result in industrial action being taken.

However, try listening to it by thinking through eyes of those rejected and overlooked, the forgotten, the sick, the disabled and the disadvantaged. Imagine the joy on the faces of those workers when they were taken on just as the hope of them working that day had almost disappeared. God forgets no one, gives up on no one. Nor must we as his disciples, give up on anyone. God does not do rejections nor does he write anyone off. God is the epitome of compassion and generosity.

This parable is not about justice, it's about generosity. "Why be envious because I choose to be generous". These words of the vineyard owner can be on the lips of God too. The essence of this weekend's reading is the generosity of God, who is ridiculously and outrageously generous with his mercy and in his compassion with sinners and those cast out by society.

The role of the Christian to do the same; to give everyone a chance of salvation. So, we are to reach out to the vulnerable, the sick, the children, the elderly, as well as those who have messed up.

We are called to imitate this in our lives and in the way we treat one another. We are not to overlook anyone; we are not to reject anyone; we are not to forget anyone. Jesus challenges us to be as generous as our God in the abundance of love and mercy that we show each other.

Housebound Mass - 26th September

A reminder to all who enjoy coming to the housebound Mass and any new people who would like to attend that the next one is on **Saturday September 26th at 12:15pm in St John's parish hall**. Followed by our usual lunch. Transport can be provided if needed. Contact Maria on 07929256406 or Klaus on 07977913092.

BEREAVEMENT MASS

There will be a Mass, celebrated at St Mary's church, at **7.00pm on Thursday 12th November** at which the names of all who have died and have had their funeral in or through the Parish of The Good Samaritan in the last 12 months will be prayed for individually . A candle will be lit for each of the faithful departed by a member of the family (or a friend) who will be invited personally to come to the Mass. Light refreshments for all present will follow in the parish rooms.
Anyone who is interested in planning this event is invited to a **meeting at St Mary's Presbytery at 7.00pm on Thursday 1st October.**

Mass Intentions

Lately Dead: Sarah O'Reardan, Pilarin Campanera I Martorell, James Corrigan, Eileen Clemson.

Anniversaries: Peggy Magee, Peter Bond, Gladys Winifred Gilbert ("Peggy"), Ann O'Shea.

Other Intentions: Special Intention

Birthday Memoriam: Hannah Harward (100 yrs)

PARISH STROLL – NEXT SUNDAY

The next Parish Stroll, to which all are welcome, will take place on Sunday September 27th gathering on the Thornton Arms (BB10 3JS) lower carpark at 1:30pm. We'll amble along the side of Rowley Lake, on to Heasandford Lodge, across the New Bridge and then back to the Thornton Arms where they do serve cups of tea! It's about 2.5 miles round trip with a slight down, then a slight up and no doubt the sun will shine!!

CAFOD NEWS – 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 20TH SEPTEMBER 2026

James ran for CAFOD – James successfully completed the Great North Run (GNR) last Sunday in a time of just under 2 hours. A big thank you goes to James for running the GNR half marathon for CAFOD and to everyone who sponsored his efforts. James and the CAFOD group will let you know a final sponsorship total in the coming weeks.

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day - CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day is Friday 2 October. Our CAFOD group will give a short talk at all the Masses over next weekend, 26/27 September. Please donate to our parish collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe, who is featured in the Fast Day appeal, to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030.

THANK YOU

The Edmondson family wishes to thank parishioners for their wonderful attendance at Celia's Funeral Mass. They also warmly appreciate all the prayers, Mass offerings, and kind wishes and support in their time of sadness. In addition, for your kind and generous donations of £315 for Pendleside Hospice. **Thank you all.**

Prayer for Generosity

Father, we thank you for your boundless generosity towards us. Help us to appreciate this by being generous with our time, talents and possessions. Open our eyes to see those in need, our hearts to love them, and our hands to reach out to them.

Pope Leo's Intention for September

For the care of water.

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

WELL DONE! – YOUR POWER CHANGED THINGS ON ASSISTED SUICIDE

The Newsletter, supported by Fr Theo's excellent homily, asked you to write to your MP to vote against this legislation. **You did and it worked!** When the legislation started last year, Oliver Ryan voted in favour of its progress. He voted **against** on this last occasion and the bill has been defeated. Our letters contributed to him reviewing all the details of the legislation which ultimately led to his change of heart.
Well Done Everybody!

VOLUNTEERING CAN BE REWARDING AND SAVE THIS VITAL SERVICE

As Catholics we need to have access to Holy Mass, and so to feel part of a caring community. Our ability to do this through the streaming of Sunday Mass is at risk, as our current volunteers move on. ***The person to save the service could be you.***

So, we're calling all age-groups: Students, Working-Age People, or Retirees.

Everyone can learn to do this vital task even if you're not very 'computer savvy'. We can train you quickly and we'll constantly help you to get and develop the skills which you would need. You would learn to set up and operate the kit to broadcast the Mass at 10.00am on Sundays. It may sound 'too hard' but those who do it now learnt in a few sessions and were competent. The team and written guidance then supported them along the way. **So, yes, you could do it**.

As one of our team will be leaving to train for the priesthood and another is getting married and moving away we're getting to the stage where we may not be able to continue the weekly broadcasts, so please think hard, and **yes, it could be you.**

Please speak with Fr David or call Mike on 07563 998 334 to chat with no commitment. Try it once or twice with no commitment. Even with no IT skills, yes, it could be you.

Please don't let our friends who need you down, because ***yes, it could be you.***

MEMORY SPACE AND MEMORIAL WALK IN SUPPORT OF MIND

On 8th October Christopher Whittle, a parishioner, is walking from Llandigai to Llas Ogwen on the Lôn Las Ogwen trail. He's walking in memory of his late brother Anthony Whittle who died on 25th November 1994 aged 30yrs. Please support him with sponsorship in aid of mental health charity, Mind. Sponsorship forms are now available at the back of each of each of our three Churches.

Thank You

Human dignity does not depend on immigration status; it is given by God and cannot be taken away. *Pope Leo 17th Sept 2026*

PARISH BONUS BALL GAME

Thanks to all who support the Bonus Ball game in each of the three churches, which will continue each week. Since changes to the National Lottery, **we will use the first of the two draws** as our source for our Bonus Ball. The winning Bonus ball number for Wednesday was number 30**.** Congratulations to last week's winners who are as follows:

St John's: ~ M.R. **St Mary's: ~ Dan** **Christ the King: ~ Kathleen**

Please collect your prizes from the appropriate presbytery

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

If you, or someone you know cannot get to Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion in their home, please ask their permission, then talk with Fr. David to arrange things.

MASSES AND SERVICES : MONDAY 21st SEPT TO SUNDAY 27TH SEPT 2026

Monday *St Matthew*
9.30am St Mary's

Tuesday *Weekday*
9.30am St John's **NB One Mass only today**

Wednesday *St Pius of Pietrelcina*
9.30am Christ the King, **NB One Mass only today**

Thursday *Our Lady of Walsingham*
9.30am Mass at St Mary's, **NB One Mass only today**

Friday *Weekday*
10.00am Funeral Mass at St Mary's for James Corrigan RIP
NB: No Exposition or Reconciliation today

Saturday *Ss Cosmas and Damian*
9.30am St Mary's**,** 10.30 to 11.30 Exposition with Reconciliation at StMary's,
12.15pm Housebound Mass at St John's
Reconciliation with Exposition John's from 5.15pm to 5.55pm

Vigil Masses
6.00pm: St John's
6.30pm at St Mary's,

Sunday ***26th Sunday Ordinary Time***
9.15am Christ the King**,** 5pm Mass Christ the King
10am St Mary's *(This Mass will be livestreamed on the Parish website and a recoding available later from Sunday afternoon.)*
10.45am St John's

EXPOSITION: There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starting 30 minutes before the Masses from Monday to Friday. (Except before funerals)

Stay with us Lord on our Journey

Weekly Collection

The offertory collection, not including standing orders, from the three churches in the parish for weekend of 12/13th Sept was £1503.45 for which many thanks.

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

Clergy Team

Parish Priest:	Fr David Featherstone	St Mary of the Assumption	01282 422007
Assistant Priest	Fr Theo Sharrock	St Mary of the Assumption	01282 422007

Parish email: djfeatherstone@outlook.com **Newsletter email:** itemsforfrank@gmail.com

Parish website: www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

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St May of the Assumption
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St John the Baptist
Ivy Street Burnley