

The Parish of the Good Samaritan

Churches of

- ◆ Christ the King
- ◆ St Mary of the Assumption
- ◆ St John the Baptist Burnley

NEWSLETTER

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4TH DECEMBER 2022

YEAR A



FR DAVID'S REFLECTION ON THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

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 that are right, not the ways that are wrong. The tree that bears good fruit will flourish in the promised Kingdom of God. John 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. John is not an easy or comfortable companion for us but 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.



Wait for the Lord whose day is

The season of Advent is a time to welcome in the Lord, particularly to get rid of all the things that clutter our lives: our mistakes and acts of selfishness that become barriers between ourselves and the love of God. John's preaching is not meant to be scary because he does not intend to be finger wagging or issue a moralistic ultimatum to us. Rather he preaches to us to prepare us for the kingdom of heaven which is close at hand.

Essentially John is teaching us to hope: we are to hope in the one who is to come with the Holy Spirit and with fire. In the form of our Redeemer will put an end to harm and ruin by which we mean sin and death. At the heart of Advent therefore is the desire to have a change of heart and to repent of our failings.

PARISH CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

"We must live the faith, not only with our words, but with our actions." Pope Francis

Thanks to a terrific response to our recent appeal for help, we now have a strong team of volunteers to enable us to offer a free two course Christmas Day lunch in the parish for those who would otherwise be on their own.

This will take place in the parish rooms on Sunday 25th December. Places are strictly limited to those who book.

If you would like to book a place please contact Michael Morris by Sunday 11th December on tel 07929 451 566 or email website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

When making a booking please state: your name, your telephone number and any dietary requirements.



MASS INTENTIONS

Lately Dead: Pat Unsworth, Sir Simon Towneley, John Daly, Joseph Scanlan, Kathleen Southwell, Brian McNulty, Jean Cunliffe, Michael MacMahon, Frances Foster, May Cleary, Kieron Devers, Ellen Heap, Sheila Howarth, Patrick O'Keefe, Mary Kay, Andy Durkin

Anniversaries: Clifford Gregson, Kathleen Atkinson, Shaun Gaughan, Frank Donnelly, Peter Francis Shackleton, George Vincent, Elsie Pegg,
Birthdays: Anthony Moore, Anthony James Turner,
In Memoriam: Mary and Edward Durkin, Olga Rosales, Vivian Martine, Eve Smith and family, Voncaref Pepito, Rosales family,
Birthday Mem; George and Andrea Vincent
Other: a successful operation, John Morgan's family

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA—THANKS FROM THE SVP

Once again, the SVP Working with Prisons Group wishes to express our thanks to the KSC for the Christmas posters, which are available through the SVP to our Prison Chaplains. This year we are sending out 5000 posters to 53 establishments. Besides encouraging the true message about Christmas, simply supporting Chaplains in their challenging jobs is so powerful. So thanks again to the Knights, particularly in Burnley.



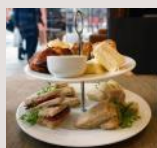
KSC 110 Club Weekly Quiz Night: Every Monday at 8.30pm. Bring a team, or join one on the night.

SUPPORT AT CHRISTMAS FREE EVENT—LOTS OF FUN!

This Thursday 8th December, Church on the Street are having a free event offering family food, fun and support! There will be hot and cold food and drinks, from baked potatoes to mince pies! Free gifts and other fun for children—face painting, hair braiding, and a barber and a nail job for everyone. **ALL FREE!!** It starts at 4.00pm at 7 Hammerton Street **and everyone is invited**. There will also be help and advice for people with longer-term needs from many organisations.



AFTERNOON TEA AT ST MARY'S



Afternoon Tea in the Parish Rooms at St Mary's Parish Rooms this Wednesday 7th December starting at 1.00pm. **Due to its popularity, this weeks event is now fully booked.** Keep an eye out in the newsletter for future events.

FOODBANK

The people of the parish have given donations and goods, through and in addition to the excellent work of Blessed Trinity College, who have raised over £13,000 since they started. You are asked to continue to put food into the collection point in many supermarkets, as well as using the Blessed Trinity site for financial donations at <https://tinyurl.com/BlessedTrinityJustGiving>. St John's will continue to accept money gifts, in an envelope clearly marked dropped into the presbytery letterbox. Donations for November totalled £105. Our parish SVP has also generously donated £50.



Enormous thanks to everyone for their generosity

GOOD SAMARITAN SVP HOUSEBOUND MASS— THIS FRIDAY 10TH DECEMBER



The first post-lockdown SVP Housebound Mass will be on held on Saturday 10th December, 12:00 noon in St John's Parish Hall. It will be a Mass for Advent and will be followed by our usual Christmas party luncheon.

We offer an open invitation across all of our three churches for any housebound or elderly person who would like to join us, especially any new people who now find themselves housebound and may be lonely. Transport can be provided both there and back if required.

If you would like to attend you can contact an SVP member on 07929256406 or email mariaboys46@gmail.com leaving your name, address and telephone number.

POPE FRANCIS' INTENTION FOR DECEMBER 2022

For Volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Eucharistic Ministers can now visit people in their own home in order to give Holy Communion to anyone who is unable to come to church. 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 who will make arrangements to visit them.



CHRISTMAS SONGS AND CAROLS AND AFTERNOON TEA—AN INVITATION

The pupils of St John the Baptist Primary School present an afternoon of Carols and Songs with a Christmas themed afternoon tea on Wednesday 14th December at 1.30pm for all members of our parish. Tickets are available from the school office and are **free of charge but limited in number**. Please call in to school or contact the school office (tel: 438120)



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Both St John's and St Mary's have a selection of Christmas cards. They all depict appropriate scenes, and messages conveying the true message of the Holy Season. And at good prices too!

CHRIST THE KING CHRISTIAN BOOK LIBRARY

The small library of Christian books has been reinstated at the back of the church. Please take a look. There is a wonderful selection including books by writers such as Gerard W Hughes, books on Saint Teresa of Lisieux and a CAFOD lent 2000 book which is as relevant to today as it was at the Millennium

HANDY-PERSON FROM BURNLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL—CORRECTION OF PHONE NUMBER



This scheme is eligible for those aged over 60 years, or disabled or vulnerable. They offer to do affordable small jobs in the home. The charge for labour is just £10 per hour and they usually accept jobs that take up to 2 hours. Enquiries by telephone **01282 477234**.



"As we prepare for Christmas, it is important that we find time for self-contemplation and carry out an honest assessment of our lives

Pope Benedict



"We must be awake, alert, vigilant. Jesus warns us: there is the danger of not realizing His coming and being unprepared for His visit. I have recalled on other occasions what Saint Augustine said: 'I fear the Lord who passes by'... that is,

I fear that He will pass by and I will not recognize Him!"

Pope Francis



Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

A CHILD IN GERMANY 1939 TO 1950—THANK YOU!

One of our parishioners, Klaus Lamle, shared experiences of his early life in wartime and post-war Germany. It was a moving recount describing the impact on him and his family in simple, touching descriptions. Our sincere thanks to Klaus. Thank you also to those who attended. Klaus had asked for voluntary donations to be taken to go to the Ukraine Relief Fund. He has sent the handsome total of £225 to the Fund. Well done!

CAFOD NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022



World Gifts – It's that time of year again with Christmas fast approaching. Don't worry though as CAFOD have just the best unusual presents for your friends and family that can make a real difference to people living in poverty. World Gifts are CAFOD's range of gifts that help those families in most need across the world. For each gift you buy this Christmas, you will receive a beautiful gift card to pass on to your loved one. To see the latest selection visit the CAFOD website or pick up a brochure

at the back of church: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/UK-news/New-World-Gifts-Christmas-2022>

November Remembrance – During last month the CAFOD group wished to remember with gratitude and prayers all our deceased former members and supporters. It is only through their work and generosity that CAFOD has been able to support those in most need around the world. To pray with CAFOD and remember our deceased loved ones just follow the link: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayers-of-remembrance>

Daily Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

It is clear that the need for peace in the world is great, and little sign that it will happen through worldly means. A parishioner has suggested that say the 'Our' Father at 9.00pm every evening, until the war ends. Please join in!

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.



