


# PARISH OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN: SERVICES THIS WEEK

	Feast Days	MASSES and SERVICES		
		Christ the King	St Mary of the Assumption	St John the Baptist
		Entries in red signify a change from the norm. Where appropriate these are detailed in the 'Changes/New' panel below.		
<b>MON 16TH DEC</b>	Advent Weekday	9.15am <b>In School</b>	12.30pm	9.00am
<b>TUES 17TH DEC</b>	Advent II Weekday	9.15am	10.00	12.00 noon
<b>WED 18TH DEC</b>	Advent II Weekday	9.15am	12.30pm	6.30pm Evening Prayer 7.00pm Mass
<b>THUR 19TH DEC</b>	Advent II Weekday	9.15am	<b>9.00am</b>	9.00am
<b>FRI 20TH DEC</b>	Advent II Weekday	9.15am	12.30pm Mass	9.00am
<b>SAT 21ST DEC</b>	St Peter Canisus	9.15am	<b>12.00 Noon Healing Mass</b>	10.30am
	VIGIL MASS	–	6.30pm	6.00pm
<b>SUN 22ND DEC</b>	4th Sunday Advent	9.15am 5.00pm	10.00am	10.45am

### CHANGES / NEW

Christ the King  
Monday 9.15am: Mass will be in School

St Mary's  
Saturday 12.00 noon: The Healing Mass followed by lunch in the Parish Rooms

St John's  
Wednesday 6.30pm: Evening Prayer of the Church

### OTHER SERVICES

	EXPOSITION	RECONCILIATION	ROSARY
Wed 8.45am	Mon Wed Fri 12.00 to 12.30	Mon Wed Fri 12.00 to 12.30 Sat 10.30 to 11.30	Sat after Morning Mass
Sat after 9.15 Mass			After Wed Mass. Sat 11 –11.30am 5.30 to 6pm
MTTFS 30 mins before morning Mass	Tues Thurs Sat 20 minutes before weekday Mass		Wed. 6.30pm Evening Prayer

### ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

If you want an item included please email to: [itemsforfrank@gmail.com](mailto:itemsforfrank@gmail.com) or drop it into your presbytery letterbox by Thursday evening. Thanks

### Clergy Team

Parish Priest: Fr David Featherstone St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007  
 Assistants: Fr Kevin Tierney St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007  
 Fr Emmanuel Ugwuoke C.M. St John the Baptist 01282 423824  
 Fr Benneth Okonkwo C.M. St John the Baptist 01282 423824  
 Newsletter email: [itemsforfrank@gmail.com](mailto:itemsforfrank@gmail.com) Parish email: [djfeatherstone@outlook.com](mailto:djfeatherstone@outlook.com)  
 Parish of the Good Samaritan website: [www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk](http://www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk)  
 Email for the website: [website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk](mailto:website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk)

<b>Christ the King</b>	<b>St Mary of the Assumption</b>	<b>St John the Baptist</b>
Healey Mount	3 Todmorden Road	Bracewell St
BURNLEY BB11 2QJ	Burnley BB10 4AU	Burnley BB10 1TB

# The Parish of the Good Samaritan

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

## NEWSLETTER

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT: GAUDETE SUNDAY

15TH DECEMBER 2019



### FR DAVID'S REFLECTION ON THE WORD THIS WEEK

Today is Gaudete Sunday, which speaks of joy. Today we light the pink (rose) candle and the priest can wear rose-coloured vestments. This is because the coming of the Lord is getting nearer and so the mood of Advent changes from solemnity to joy.

In today's Gospel, Jesus answers the messengers of John by saying that in Him the fulfilment of the prophet Isaiah is happening before their very eyes: "the eyes of the blind are opened: the ears of the deaf unsealed: the lame shall leap like the deer..."

"The eyes of the blind shall be opened  
 The ears of the deaf unsealed  
 The lame shall leap like a deer  
 And the tongues of the dumb sing for joy  
 For those the Lord has ransomed shall return"  
Isaiah 35:1-6,10

So the Lord asks us also to look for signs that He is coming: let us look for things in life that fill us with joy. It is likely to be simple things, not complicated things that bring you joy: the smile of a child; someone remembering to send you a Christmas card: an answer to prayer. Whatever brings us joy let us always know the true source of joy is the Lord.

Finally, In the second reading St James tells us to: "be patient, brothers, until the Lords coming" we must therefore be patient for the Lord's coming. we must be patient with each other, be patient in prayer and be patient in silence. At this time of year, when queues for everything can be much longer than usual, patience can be in quite short supply, so let our joy be anchored in patient prayerful anticipation.

### PARISH PRAYER COMPETITION

Many thanks to all those who took part in this competition. All the prayers were excellent and each week we are publishing one in the Newsletter over the coming months. Here's this week's:

*Almighty God, you have given the example of the Good Samaritan to your people to demonstrate compassion and love to those rejected and injured by others. With your help, may we follow the Gospel by our actions in loving our neighbour as ourselves. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

*Advent Prayer: For the desert places in which we walk, the streets we roam, the paths we cross; Guide our feet. Take us to places where you would go, give us words that you would use, that this Advent season of promise and preparation we might point the way, with John the Baptist to the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! Amen*



**Lately Dead.** Gordon Ramsbottom, Constance Smith, Cathleen Margaret Foster, B Gerstel, Maureen Elizabeth Ashton, Dr Yousef Ali, Mark Holmes, Joan Townley, Gerald Scott.

**Anniversaries:** Andrew McNamara, Philip Guilfoyle, William McMillan, Derek McMillan, Monica Burrow, Michael Ennis, Mary Atkinson.

**Birthdays Memoriams:** Paula Helm, John Coupe, Mary Coupe, Terence Chambers, Monica Atherton.

**In Memoriam:** Kathleen Wigglesworth, Jacques and Elizabeth Molinari, Dr Dermot Healy, Michael Thomas, Annie Gorman,

**Other Intentions:** To St Margarita for cure of kidney infection, St Anthony, For dedicated service to the church, For healing for MW and RW.

**Christmas Intentions:** Canon Deeney, Bill Mortimer, Daniel and Ann Conroy

**THANKSGIVING MASS FOR VOLUNTEERS**

A date for your diary: the Thanksgiving Mass for all volunteers from across the parish will take place at 12 noon at St Mary's church on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January followed by lunch in the Vincent Farrell Centre. Full details to follow.

**TOY AND CLOTHES APPEAL FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Final collection this weekend** at the back of St Mary's. Your gifts will go to a group of 'displaced' single mums who need help at Christmas. They are looking for *new* toys and *new* clothes or cash donations. Ideal gifts are items for children up to 10 years of age. Thank you.

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION - DECEMBER 2019**

That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.



**THE PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**

For children in school year 3 and above will start in January with information meetings for parents only are arranged as below—(all dates January):  
**St John's** (parish hall) Thursday 14th at 7pm  
**Christ the King** (school hall) Thurs 16th at 6pm  
**St Mary's** (School hall) Thursday 23rd at 7pm  
 At these meetings application forms will be issues and individual family appointments with Fr David will be arranged.

**FINANCE**

Offertory collections : St Mary's: £704.22; St John's: £660.00; Christ the King: £488.84. Thanks to St John's Ladies Guild for the £1000 donation.

**THE MASK BALL** will take place in the Vincent Farrell Centre Saturday 25th January 2020. Details to follow.

**Foodbank at Christmas**

Please keep you donations coming. They will welcome Christmas Cakes and Puddings and mince pies (of course!), but also oranges (not satsumas!). Your generosity continues to attract comments from the organisers—well done! (And keep it up!!).

**ST MARY'S SCHOOL RAFFLE**

The prizes are: a signed Claret's shirt; and two adult tickets for BFC vs Leicester in January. Tickets are £5 and are available from the school office. It will be drawn at the school production.

**ST JOHN'S LADIES GUILD**

Unclaimed raffle prizes from the Christmas Fayre listed in the porch. Next Meeting on Jan 15th when we will plan for the year ahead.

*May the peace of Christ live in the hearts of all people as we journey through Advent*

**CAFOD CHRISTMAS PRESENTS HERE!**

**CAFOD** *Just one world* The World Gifts catalogue is available. For £4 upwards you can give a gift that helps others to live simply and sustainably with creation. It means that we are showing our solidarity with the poor of our world.

**CARD AND BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON**

At our last Board & Card Games session, we introduced the board game Go. We had to have our wits about us as we travelled the world and were ready for tea & biscuits when we reached our destination! Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 2 o'clock. If you would like to join our happy group, you will be very welcome. Please phone Maureen Smith on 01282 433706 for details.

**SVP Housebound Mass at St JOHN'S LAST SATURDAY**

Heartfelt thanks to Fr Emmanuel and Fr Benneth for the uplifting Mass and enriching Anointing of the Sick. During the lunch that followed, parishioners donated a Christmas Tree, tree decorations for the five children to dress the tree with, sufficient monies for a bumper Christmas food hamper, and children's presents for the large family we are continuing to support. Such inspiring love from everyone present. Thanks be to God for the caring sharing of the Parish of the Good Samaritan Comment from a parishioner: "It was an amazing experience..."

**BLESSED TRINITY SENIOR CITIZENS' PARTY**

Heartfelt thanks to the staff and children at Blessed Trinity for the wonderful lunchtime party. The food was excellent, the 'waiting staff' so helpful and polite, and the entertainment was totally delightful. A great effort by so many and a great success. Don't forget you can enjoy the wonderful music again next Thursday at St Mary's at 7.00pm. A treat not to miss.

**BLESSED TRINITY ADVENT LITURGY AND CAROLS**

The College will lead a service of carols at St Mary's church on Thursday 19th December from 7;00to 8.00pm. You are guaranteed superb talent in the orchestra, with the sweet voices of young people—soloists and choir alike. A delightful evening ahead! Be there!!



**Stay with us Lord on our journey**

**CHRIST THE KING CHRISTMAS FAIR**

The Fair was thoroughly enjoyed by all! It raised a massive £2,000!!! Sincere thanks to everyone who helped from the Head and staff and the wonderful choir from school, plus the 'Friends', through to Father Christmas, the stall-holders and everyone who donated time and gifts so generously. There have been some charity suggestions, but we would like to give you two more weeks for you to put forward ideas before a final decision is made. We prefer local charities, helping local people. Ideas to Fr David or Gabrielle please. Thanks again for all you have done!!

**GOOD SAMARITAN PARISH PRAYER CARDS**

The prayer cards are now available in all three churches. They include the prayer submitted by a parishioner earlier this year, and a picture created by a pupil from each of our three junior schools. Well done to them for their creativity. Please take one and use the prayer.

**SCRIPTURE STUDY/LECTIO DIVINA GROUP**

Our next gathering will be at Christ the King presbytery at 7pm this Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**HEALING MASS**

The next Healing Mass at St Mary's is on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 12 Noon. This will be followed by lunch in the parish rooms.

**HOPE IN THE FUTURE DEANERY EVENTS**

The 'Strung Sung Supper is a social evening for all of the people of Deanery. It's at St Joseph's, Accrington on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 ~7.30pm. Limited Tickets - £5. Ring Anne-Marie on 01282721701 or 07544491425 to book.



**ADVENT TUNING IN GROUPS—GROWING IN COMMUNITY AS A PARISH**

Week two was another series of enjoyable meetings. The five groups of parishioners from the three communities getting together to share their lives and experiences as they focus on Advent. The feedback has again been excellent across the groups. "I joined feeling stressed for time, but taking time out from the hurly burly has been well worth it—getting in touch with what Christmas is about." Please keep the groups in your prayers for the final week of meetings..

**CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS—MASS TIMES**

	CHRIST THE KING	ST MARY'S	ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
<b>Tuesday 24th December</b>	5.30pm Vigil	6.30PM Vigil	7.00PM Vigil
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	12.00 MIDNIGHT		12.00 MIDNIGHT
<b>Wednesday 25th December</b>			
<b>Christmas Day</b>	9.15am	10.00am	10.45am

**Carol Service at St Mary's: before to the Christmas Vigil Mass starting at 5.30pm**