

# The Parish of the Good Samaritan

Churches of

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

## NEWSLETTER

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**18TH DECEMBER 2022 YEAR A**



**FR DAVID'S REFLECTION ON THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT**

Both Mary and Joseph are our companions during this full 4th week of Advent. In today's Gospel, Mary and Joseph are guided through the very difficult and challenging circumstances surrounding the birth of Our Lord. Joseph is a good and upright man and he wants to do the right thing.

So often, many of us look to be noticed and the centre of attention, but life is not about that, we all have a part to play in life and we are to work out what it is that God asks of us. We can do far worse than be inspired by Joseph's simple faith and trust in God. He is humble but in his own quiet way, he accepts that he also has a privileged role in the story of salvation. He carries out this role with great dignity and knows he is part of something truly divine.

Of course Mary is such a perfect model of discipleship in her trust in God and of course her faith. Her "fiat" was going to open her up to many uncertain-



ties and risks, but her trust in God's word was so powerful and strong that she did not hesitate to say Yes to her Lord and God, and to her crucial part in our salvation history. Her undying love for her Lord and her Son are something which we all

strive to imitate in our own daily lives.

In our families we face from time to time, ups and downs. However a relationship based on the firm foundations of obedience to God, and trust in God's guidance is a fitting model to inspire us in our preparations for Christmas. Today we rejoice in Mary and Joseph's witness especially their obedience and responsiveness to the will of God.

Mary's 'yes' to God was essential for our salvation but Joseph's acceptance of God's plan ensured the safety and protection of mother and child. May both Mary and Joseph inspire, encourage and guide us on the final stage of our Advent journey to draw closer to Christ.

### **THANKSGIVING MASS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE A MINISTRY OR A ROLE IN THE PARISH**



Everybody who has a ministry or a role in the Parish of the Good Samaritan is warmly invited to join in a Concelebrated Mass which will take place in the Christmas season at St Mary's church on Saturday 7th January at 12 noon. It will be celebrated as a Mass of thanksgiving for all who work for the Parish.

It will be followed by a light lunch in the parish rooms for all those present. If you are able to attend please put your name on the sheet by 2nd January at the back of each church to assist us with catering.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Lately Dead:** Pat Unsworth, John Daly, Amy Whalley, Patrick O'Keefe, Mary Evans, Denis O'Hara, Paul Towey,

**Anniversaries:** Andrew McNamara Ian Dearden, Michael Sylvester Mee, Alan Hayhurst, Monica Burrow, Frederick Aloysius Pickles, Patsy Gaughan, Patsy Green,

**Other Intentions:** Intention answered, Shaun Gaughan

**Birthday memoriam:** Paula Helm, John Coupe, Mary Coupe,

**In Memoriam** Deceased members of the Ryan and Nelson families, Deceased members of the Byrom and Greenall families, Daniel Gaughan, Sarah Gaughan, May Durkan, Edward Durkan, Michael Horrocks, Linda Theresa White,  
**Christmas Memoriam;** John Entwistle, Margaret Nelson, James Raymond Nelson, Canning and Oldham families.

**Christmas Intentions:** Eileen Ennis.

## T DANCE AT ST JOHN'S

The next T Dance will be held on Wed December 21st in St John's Parish Rooms at 1.15pm. This will be a Jacob's Join, so please bring something to share if you like. All are welcome.

What we would like to do is change the world - make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended for them to do....We can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world. We repeat, there is nothing that we can do but love, and, dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbour, to love our enemy as well as our friend.

Dorothy Day

## 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 you will be welcome to join one on the night.

## 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.

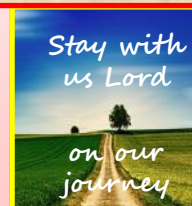


**Enormous thanks to everyone for their generosity**

## 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.



### THE ADVENT MASS AT ST JOHN'S

An Advent Mass for the housebound was held last Saturday December 10th in St John's Parish Hall, celebrated by Fr David, and organised by the SVP. It was lovely to see new and old beneficiaries from across our three churches coming together to take part in the mass and then enjoy food in a lovely Christmas atmosphere. Unfortunately the weather got the better of us and a number of people were unable to attend. The next housebound mass has yet to be arranged but hopefully after Easter 2023.

### 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

### MISSIO TODAY CALENDARS

Are now being distributed and are a 'THANK YOU' to all our wonderful Red Box holders for your kind and generous support throughout the year. Christmas blessings to you, your families and loved ones.



See the Caritas page on the parish website for information relating to the festive season and their #BeeThere appeal. Also on the webpage is the Chocolate Story!

### CAFOD NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022



**World Gifts** – In Advent, let us share the promise of hope that has been made to us with our sisters and brothers around the world. You can buy CAFOD's World Gifts for family and friends this Christmas online at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/> or pick up a catalogue in church. World Gifts such as "super soup kitchens", "trees for life", or "water for a family" will help transform lives in a world filled with challenges.

**CAFOD Online Talk** – CAFOD Director, Christine Allen, recently welcomed CAFOD volunteers and supporters to a review of the year. She shared how you, the Catholic community in England and Wales, have helped those facing the current global challenges. Rhea Tariq, CAFOD Director of International Programmes and Jenny Hayward-Jones, Parish Fundraising Team Coordinator, joined Christine. To watch a recording of this uplifting talk visit: <https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/Review2022>

**Thanks and Happy Christmas** – Many thanks for your generosity throughout the year, your support of CAFOD's campaigning and the prayers you have offered up for those living in poverty. Your fantastic generosity, action and prayer enabled CAFOD to support those who go hungry, those who face the ravages of climate change and those suffering the effects of the pandemic, to name but just a few of the current crises you helped others overcome. Therefore, the CAFOD group want to wish everyone in the parish a blessed Advent, a happy Christmas and a happy New Year.

### 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.



## MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER TO SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER 2022

Please note. All changes to the usual schedule are in **bold**.

<b>Monday</b>	<i>Advent II Weekday</i> 9.30am St Mary's	<b>Only one Mass today</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>Advent II Weekday</i> 12.00 noon St John's	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<i>Advent II Weekday</i> 9.30am Christ the King	<b>1.30pm Funeral Mass at St Mary's for Mary Evans RIP</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>Advent II Weekday</i> 9.30am St Mary's	<b>Only one Mass today</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Advent II Weekday</i> 9.30am Christ the King 12.00 noon Mass at St Mary', preceded at 11.30—11.55am by Reconciliation and Exposition	
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>Advent Weekday</i> 9.30am St Mary's	

### Exposition

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

## MASSES AT CHRISTMAS

We will have the following Masses in the parish at Christmas this year, which replace the usual weekend programme:

### Saturday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

#### First Mass of Christmas

5.30pm at St John's, 6.30pm at St Mary's, 7.30pm at Christ the King

### Sunday 25th December (Christmas Day)

#### Christmas Day Masses

9.15am at Christ the King, 10am at St Mary's, 10.45am at St John's.  
(The 10am Mass at St Mary's will be live-streamed on the parish website).

**NB: No Mass at 5.00pm at Christ the King on Christmas Day**

**NB: There will be no Exposition or Reconciliation on Christmas Eve**

### Short Prayer for 4th Sunday of Advent

Come Holy Spirit, breath and life of God and fill us this day with all that is holy. Give us the courage and strength that you gave Mary. During these days of our final preparations for Christmas, may we too hear your words 'Do not be afraid, I am with 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)
- ~ The Sign of Peace may be offered.
- ~ Please say 'Amen' when receiving Holy Communion.

### Clergy Team

Parish Priest:	Fr David Featherstone	St Mary of the Assumption	01282 422007
Assistant:	Fr Damien Louden	St Mary of the Assumption	01282 422007
<b>Parish email:</b>	djfeatherstone@outlook.com		<b>Newsletter email:</b> itemsforfrank@gmail.com
<b>Parish website:</b>	<a href="http://www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk">www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk</a>		<b>Website email:</b> website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

#### Christ the King

Healey Mount  
BURNLEY BB11 2QJ

#### St Mary of the Assumption

3 Todmorden Road  
Burnley BB10 4AU

#### St John the Baptist

Bracewell St  
Burnley BB10 1TB