

# The Parish of the Good Samaritan

## NEWSLETTER

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5TH JANUARY 2025 YEAR C

2025 JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE



#### Churches of

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

Today, we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany the moment when Christ the newborn king is made manifest to the whole world in the guise of the Magi. God allows him to be made known first to the shepherds of Bethlehem and then to the pagan kings. Epiphany means a manifestation, which involves the drawing back of the curtain, an unveiling ~ albeit for a short time. The lives of the Magi would never be the same again they would never forget this privilege given to them by God.



For there to be an epiphany it needs people to respond, it needed people to be searching. So like the shepherds, the Magi too had to take their invitation seriously using their intelligence, wisdom and desire to find the truth; they had to follow through their journey to that epiphany experience.

Christ continues to reveal himself to us in the Church today, through the gift of the

Holy Spirit. He makes himself known to us in our encounters with him in personal prayer. He reveals himself to us in the Gospels where he teaches us and nurtures us. He especially is made manifest in the Eucharist, where at the Consecration of the Mass, the Body and Blood of Christ is raised high by the priest, and we are all invited to do him homage.

Christ is continually making himself known to the people of our own time. Let us renew ourselves today in searching for Christ in our own lives. Like the Magi we are also to respond to the promptings of God so he can reveal his Son to us. Otherwise, there will be lost "Epiphany experiences" in our own lives. May we ensure that we take the all the opportunities presented to us to manifest the presence of Christ in our own lives to those we encounter.

#### DEACON THEO



As a parish it was an honour to organise Theo's diaconate ordination last Saturday at St Mary's. It was a great privilege for us to host such a big event but everyone rose to the occasion. Many people including Deacon Theo and his family have commented about how delighted they were at how beautiful it all was, as well as how smoothly everything went.

This was all down to the generosity and love of the people of this parish who really gave their best to ensure that everything about the ordination and the reception afterwards at St Mary's school went really well.

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who had a part to play before, during and after the Mass as well as those who prepared and served at the wonderful reception.

Our warm congratulations to Deacon Theo on his ordination and he is already embracing this new ministry with great enthusiasm. If anyone would like to invite Deacon Theo to carry out a blessing of their home please arrange a convenient time by getting in touch with him on 01282 422007.

#### PARISH MASS OF THANKSGIVING

This year's parish Mass of thanksgiving for all those who have a role or a ministry in the parish will be celebrated at 12 Noon at St Mary's on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January **followed by a pie and peas lunch in the parish rooms** for all present. For catering purposes it would be helpful if you could kindly **add your name to the lists** which are now placed at the back of each of the three churches.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Lately Dead:** Richard Hibbert, Gerard Hardy, Agnes Dooley, Patrick Gaughan, Sr Anne Bross FMSJ, Marko Egan, Michael Lord, Mark Manley, Andrew Tootle, Shaun Patrick O'Brien, Mr Kershaw,  
**Other Intentions:** For a successful operation and recovery, Terry Manley, Mrs June Manley, Irene Maguire.

**Anniversaries:** Mick Pickles, Vera Fitzpatrick, Jack Mayor, Catherine Boland, Michael Boland, Gerard Boland, Patrick Terence O'Brien, Philip Crowne, Joan Crowne, Christine Ostle, Leanna Oliver.



### GAMES ON THE LAWN AT ST. JOHN'S—THIS SUNDAY

Games on the Lawn" is on Sunday January 5th after the 10.45am Mass at St Johns. All are welcome to join in the fun. Refreshments are in the Parish hall at the same time - and if it's a little chilly the games may well be on the carpet!!

### New Year Message

*On behalf of Fr David, Fr Job and Theo we wish all our parishioners and your loved ones a peaceful and healthy New Year. We thank you for all your gifts, cards, love and support throughout the year.*

### PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2025

We are now able to proceed with the Parish Sacramental Programme for the baptised RC children currently in Year 3 or above. **The initial information meeting will be held at St Mary's church at 6.30pm on Thursday 16th January 2024.** During this information meeting, we will outline your child's Sacramental journey which will lead to the children being prepared to celebrate Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. This meeting will also allow parents/carers to book their time slot for the next meeting which will be a "1 to 1" appointment for the child and their parents/carers with a priest and a catechist. The dates set aside for these early evening appointments are as follows:

23rd January – St Mary's children                      28th January – St John's children  
4th and 13th February – Christ the King children

Following these "1 to 1" appointments, parents will then receive full details of all further meetings and celebrations. If you have any questions please contact Fr David.

### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION JANUARY 2025 FOR THE RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION

*For the right to an education. Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.*

*Lord make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring love. Where there is offence, let me bring pardon, Where there is discord let me bring union. Where there is error let me bring truth, Where is doubt, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness let me bring your light. Where there is sadness, let me bring joy*



### OLD MOBILE PHONES WANTED

Father Emmanuel, who was a priest at St John's a few years ago, is asking for mobile phones (even if not in working condition) for a charity in Nigeria. There will be a box in three churches where they can be left.



### 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.

### PARISH BONUS BALL GAME—WINNERS!



Thanks to all who have supported the bonus Ball game and it will continue each week. The winning Bonus ball number for Wednesday 1st January was number **41**. Congratulations to this week's winners, (which includes the special Christmas Bonus of £50) are as follows:

**St John's ~ Margaret      St Mary's ~ Peter      Christ the King ~ Mary**

Please claim your prize from the appropriate sacristy.

## MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: MONDAY 6TH JANUARY 2025 TO SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY 2025

Please note the changes this week

<b>Monday</b>	<i>Monday after the Epiphany</i> <b>10.00am St. Mary's</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>St Raymond of Penyafort</i> <b>12.00 noon St John's</b>	<b>One Mass only today</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<i>Wednesday after the Epiphany</i> 9.30am Christ the King	<b>One Mass only today</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>Thursday after the Epiphany</i> <b>1.00pm Funeral Mass at St Mary's for Agnes Dooley RIP</b>	<b>One Mass only today.</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Friday after the Epiphany</i> 12.00 noon St. Mary's preceded by Exposition and Reconciliation 11.30 to 11.55am	
<b>Saturday</b>	<i>Saturday after the Epiphany</i> 9.30am Mass St Mary's, followed by Reconciliation with Exposition from 10.30 to 11.30am	
<b>Vigil Masses:</b>		
	6.00pm St John's preceded at 5.15pm until 5.55pm with Reconciliation and Exposition	
	6.30pm St Mary's	
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The <i>Baptism of the Lord</i></b> Christ the King: 9.15am and 5.00pm St Mary's: 10.00am (This Mass will be live-streamed on the parish website*). St John's: 10.45am	

### Exposition

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

(\*A recording of the Mass should be available later from Sunday afternoon)

*Stay with us Lord on our journey.*

### PARISH CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER



Thanks to everyone who contributed to and worked to provide the Christmas Day dinner for those who would otherwise be on their own, as well as couples who would otherwise also be alone. The meal was well attended, and greatly enjoyed in really convivial company.

### FOREIGN CURRENCIES, PENNIES, MEDALS AND GOLD

If you have any of these items please bring them to church and place them at a box at the back of each church. The parish has received over £500 from what has already been raised.. Thank you.

### KSC QUIZ NIGHT AT ST MARY'S PARISH ROOMS

Thanks to all who have supported the quiz in its new home at St Mary's this last year, we will take a break during the Christmas season and resume on 13th January at 8pm.



### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PARISH

**WEEKLY COLLECTION** The offertory collection, not including standing orders, from the three churches in the parish for Christmas and the weekend of 28/29 December was £2689.95, for which many thanks.

#### Clergy Team

Parish Priest: Fr David Featherstone St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007  
Assistant Priest: Fr Job Zirra St John the Baptist  
Deacon: Rev. Theo Sharrock St Mary of the Assumption

**Parish email:** [djfeatherstone@outlook.com](mailto:djfeatherstone@outlook.com)

**Newsletter email:** [itemsforfrank@gmail.com](mailto:itemsforfrank@gmail.com)

**Parish website:** [www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk](http://www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk)

**Website email:** [website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk](mailto: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