

# The Parish of the Good Samaritan

## NEWSLETTER

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

23RD MARCH 2025 YEAR C

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025



#### Churches of

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

In today's Gospel, I see Jesus as the gardener, God is the Vineyard owner and each of us is the fig tree that fails to produce fruit. The gardener pleads with the vineyard owner for time to work on the tree to enable it with his help to produce fruit in the future. There is a sense of urgency about Jesus' words because he is urging us to take the opportunities a complete change of heart and change of direction in our lives. Just as the fig-tree exists to produce fruit we are given the gift of life to make a difference with our lives ~ to give glory and praise to God, to follow the teachings of Christ and build up the kingdom here on Earth. The consequences of not producing fruit are that we lose the life of grace that God desires for us.



Jesus was consistent as a gardener, pleading on our behalf, he gave people who were almost written off as no good, another chance and many of them took it; the tax collector, the woman at the well, the good thief on the cross; they all took the chance given to them by Christ. We can also be inclined to write people off as being beyond redemption, but Jesus is telling us everyone needs another chance. Divine grace can really take root, and the results can be miraculous. In these remaining weeks of Lent, may we seize all the opportunities that present themselves for us to grow as children of God and with help from Our Lord Jesus, strive to produce fruit that will be pleasing to God Our Father.

#### LENTEN MASSES AND SERVICES IN THE PARISH

#### ST JOHN VIANNEY DEANERY LENTEN STATION MASS

#### This Thursday at St Mary's

This year we are having just one Deanery Lenten Station Mass which is to be celebrated by Bishop John at St Mary's church on Thursday 27th March at 7pm. Visiting priests from the Deanery will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 6.15pm. Light refreshments are available in the parish rooms afterwards during which Mgr John Allen will do a Deanery "book launch" for his new publications about the history of the Diocese and the Jubilee, all proceeds for which go to Caritas. **All are welcome.**



#### Early Morning Friday Lenten Mass

There will be an extra Mass **28th March** at **6.30am** at **St Mary's** and on all Fridays of Lent. It will be followed by tea/coffee/toast in the parish rooms afterwards for all present

#### Stations of the Cross

The Stations will be celebrated in a different church each week. This week the service will be at **Christ the King church** at **6.00pm** on **Friday 28th March**.

### KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA SACRED RELIC TOUR IN THE PARISH—THIS WEEKEND

The parish is honoured to host the sacred relics of St Columba, St Margaret of Scotland and St Andrew between **21st and 24th March**. There are remaining opportunities to experience Masses in their presence. Please attend as many of these Masses as you can.

**Sunday 23rd March:** Morning: Mass at **St. John's 10.45am**. Transfer to Christ the King for the Evening Mass at: **Christ the King Mass at 5.00pm**. Transfer back to St. Mary's

**Monday 24th March 2025: St. Mary's Mass at 9.30am.** If anybody wants to know anything more about the relics or KSC Council 110 - Burnley, please don't hesitate to contact Grand Knight - Tom Wilkinson, email: grand-knight-council110@ksc.org.uk mobile: 07891124951.

### CARITAS SALFORD—PARISHES TACKLING POVERTY 'HOPE THROUGH ACTION'

A free session will be delivered, through Caritas, **at St John's Church Hall, Ivy St, on Sat 29th March from 10.00am to 12.00noon**. This is a training session for parishioners providing information and understanding about practical tools and best practice for supporting people in poverty in our parishes. For more information and to register to attend this event, please go to:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/resolvepoverty/1583005>.

### CAFOD NEWS—LENTEN SOUP LUNCH

**The lunch will be on Friday 28th March** the parish CAFOD group and supporters will be hosting a Lenten soup lunch, this year the soup lunch will be held in St Mary's Parish Rooms after the midday Mass. Please come along to support this event that is very much needed after the recent cuts to the aid budget.

### THE ARCHCONFRATERNITY OF ST STEPHEN

Our parish recently received the exciting news that our application for affiliation to the Guild of St Stephen for Altar Servers has been approved by Cardinal Vincent Nicholls. This means the Altar Servers who have been regularly serving at the altar for more than a year will be enrolled during Mass into the Guild of St Stephen, the patron saint of Servers. They will be presented with the bronze medal on red cord which they will wear whenever they are carrying out their ministry. We have a wonderful team of Altar Servers across the parish so we will be enrolling some of our experienced Altar Servers into the Guild in all three churches over the next few Sundays.



### ST MARY'S MEMORIAL CORNER

**Historic Photos:** Peek into our community past with the new photo display at the back of church. Our record of our men who died in WWI has been transferred into a folder which is set out there.

**Lately Dead Memorial:** There is a stand with Orders of Service of people who have recently had their Funeral at St Mary's to enable your remembrance and to ask for your prayers. Older ones are filed aside.

**A Brief history and Short Guided Walk around the Church:** The leaflet has been updated and is now available at the back of church, for your interest.

### LAWN MOWER AVAILABLE

A Bosch 37cm/14.5" electric rotary lawnmower, blade sharpened variable cut height, is available, free of charge if you can afford, a small donation to church funds. For viewing and additional details please contact Andy on 07745491050

### THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop John in each Deanery. For St John Vianney Deanery this will be at **St. Mary's church, Burnley on Tuesday 1st July**. Young people living in the parish, who are in school year 8 or older and who have been through the parish Sacramental Programme are eligible to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you are interested **please contact Fr David by 31st March**, who will give you a letter providing details of the programme of catechesis and a Parental Consent/Application Form. We will also be promoting the Sacrament through Blessed Trinity Catholic College.



### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION MARCH 2025

**For families in crisis.** *Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.*

*Hope is on the other hand a gift and a task for every Christian. It is a gift because it is God who offers it to us. Hoping, in fact, is not a mere act of optimism, like when we sometimes hope for good weather. No, hoping is waiting for something that has already been given to us; salvation in God's eternal and infinite love. To hope is to savour the wonder of being loved by God. Hope is also a task that Christians have a duty to cultivate and put to good use for the sake of all.*



## MASS INTENTIONS

**Lately Dead:** Seamus McGahon, Brian Flynn, Rosalia Sessini, Michelle Sharples, Patrick William Laverty, Ann Collins, Peter Hovington, Margaret Frankland, Joseph Brewer, Pauline Waters, Ronnie Flynn, Barbara Mullin, Margaret Drummond,

Ronnie Flynn,

**Other Intentions:** Mairead Maguire

**Birthday Memoriam:** Tom Edmondson, Evelyn Gleeson, Bashir Variyam,

**Anniversaries:** John Entwistle, Margaret Melville Edwards, Ann Bryan (Nee Ferguson), Mary Ferguson, Elizabeth Gaughan, John McKune, (1st Ann),

### ST MARY'S CLEANING TEAM SEEK SUPPORT

The cleaners work for just one hour every Tuesday at 1.00pm. If you can help, you will be most welcome to join the team. Just call Seamus on 01282 420294. Thank you.

### MESSAGE OF THANKS

Mrs Rose Slattery wishes to thank all who attended the funeral of her dear daughter Rosie, and she extends her sincere gratitude for all the prayers, kindness, caring thoughts and messages of comfort and condolence expressed during this most sad time. God bless you all.


### PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2025

In the coming weeks, the children will be preparing to celebrate their First Reconciliation. Please pray for these children during this important time.

### DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY PILGRIMAGES

Our diocesan Youth Ministry Team is organising two fantastic pilgrimage opportunities, led by Bishop John, for young people in Years 7, 8, and 9. The first pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 3 May with a pilgrimage to Walsingham, in conjunction with our main diocesan pilgrimage. The second is a pilgrimage to The Holy Island of Lindisfarne, taking place between 20-22 June. Find out more and register at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/youth/ministry/prayer-and-pilgrimage>

### SALFORD PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025

 Thank you to those who have expressed an interest in joining as a Youth (16-35) volunteer group in Lourdes this year from 30<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> August. It is still possible to express interest by contacting Deacon Theo. There have been a number of kind offers of substantial financial support for the pilgrimage which we hope will enable anyone wishing to come on this life changing experience to do so without financial worries. Please contact Deacon Theo ([theo.sharrock@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:theo.sharrock@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or 01282 422 007) for more information.

### Opening St John's church for private prayer

We will open St John's church for private prayer on Tuesdays between 10am and 2pm which incorporates the usual Midday Mass and preceding period of Adoration. We plan to start this as from Tuesday 1st April.

### ST. JOHN'S MISSIO BOOKLETS AND BOX COLLECTION

St. John's Spring Missio Booklets now being distributed. Please see your Promoter or bring your box/monies to church. With grateful thanks from Missio for your continued caring support and prayers.



### FOREIGN COINS AND NOTES, OLD ENGLISH COINS AND NOTES, 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

Our next quiz night will be on Monday 24th March at 8pm in St Mary's parish rooms.



### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BURNLEY SERVICE

There will be a Churches Together in Burnley Service at St Mary's on Pentecost Sunday. 8th June at 6.30pm.

### 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 19th March was number **28**. Congratulations to this week's winners:

**St John's ~ Danny**

**St Mary's ~ TBA**

**Christ the King ~ Sheila**

Please claim your prize from the appropriate sacristy.

**MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: MONDAY 24TH MARCH 2025 TO SUNDAY 31ST MARCH 2025**

**Please note the changes this week**

- Monday** *Lent Weekday*  
9.30am St. Mary's  
**10.00am Funeral Mass for Margaret Clapham RIP at St John's**
- Tuesday** *Feast of the Annunciation*  
**10.00am Funeral Mass for Rosalia Sessini RIP at St Mary's**  
12.00 noon at St John's
- Wednesday** *Lent Weekday*  
9.30am Christ the King                      7.00pm St John's
- Thursday** *Lent Weekday*  
**10.00am Mass at St John's**  
**2.00pm Funeral Mass for Patrick Laverty RIP at St Mary's**  
**6.15pm to 6.55pm: Reconciliation with visiting priests available at St Mary's.**  
**7.00pm Deanery Station Mass at St Mary's celebrated by Bishop John**
- Friday** *Lent Weekday*  
**6.30am Lenten Mass at St Mary's**  
**12.00 noon CAFOD Mass at St Mary's with Exposition and Reconciliation available from 11.30 to 11.55.**  
**12.30pm Funeral Service for Margaret Frankland RIP at St John's,**  
**6.00pm Stations of the Cross at Christ the King**
- Saturday** *Lent Weekday*  
9.30am Mass at St Mary's    10.30am—11.30am Reconciliation and Exposition
- Vigil Masses:**  
6.00pm St John's preceded at 5.15pm until 5.55pm with Reconciliation and Exposition  
6.30pm St Mary's
- Sunday** ***Fourth Sunday of Lent***  
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  
(\*A recording of the Mass should be available later from Sunday afternoon)

**EXPOSITION** There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament starting 30 minutes before each week-day Mass in church, Monday to Friday (Except before Funerals)

*Stay with us Lord on our journey.*

**BURNLEY CATENIANS CURRY NIGHT**

Parishioners are invited to join them at the Usha Restaurant for the curry night on Wednesday 21 May.18:30 for 19:00. Cost £14.95 for the Banqueting Menu. Bookings to Phil Needham philipjohn1987@icloud.com 0753 599 8706

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PARISH**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION** The offertory collection, not including standing orders, from the three churches in the parish for weekend of 15th/16th March was £1357.27 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    01282 422007

**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