

The Parish of the Good Samaritan

Christ the King

St Mary of the Assumption

St John the Baptist

Burnley



NEWSLETTER

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10TH MAY 2020



FR DAVID'S REFLECTION



Today's Gospel is set at the Last Supper, just hours before he is going to die a terrible death, Jesus speaks really lovely words of comfort and reassurance. I don't think the gathered disciples in that upper room realised the enormity of Jesus' very intimate words to them that night before he died. He says: "Do not let your hearts be troubled, trust in God still and trust in me". He knows full well what is going to happen to Him and he is trying to ease the blow for the disciples, because he knows the next day is going to be really devastating for them. He knows the disciples will literally be all over the place on Good Friday and will find it very hard to accept the particularly violent death, he is about to face. It is incredible that Jesus should even think of saying these very powerful words to his closest friends, however, he is trying to focus them beyond his death and to look to the glory of Easter.

Today's Gospel reading is very popular at funerals, perhaps because Jesus' words are so heartfelt and comforting for those who are grieving. When someone we love and have known all our lives is taken from us, our world is shattered. How can life go on! As people of faith, we know death is not the end for our loved one, and we believe because of Easter their soul lives on and can be welcomed into their eternal home through God's mercy. So to hear words of reassurance from the Lord himself in telling us not be devastated, but to rely on our faith, because God has not abandoned us. He is close to us in this time of pain. These words are just what we need to hear when we are mourning.

In getting his friends to focus on Heaven and eternal life, Jesus tells them that he Himself is the way to the Father's House, which is our eternal home. Heaven is where we can see God as he is. We know that the way to get to Heaven is by modelling our lives on Jesus himself. If you think about what being like Jesus means, then we have got to be Christ-like; being obedient to God the Father; being generous, as Jesus literally gave his life for us; we are also to be trusting in God, as the Lord was to the end; we are also to be approachable and easy to get on with, just as He was; and we are to be merciful like He was with sinners, even with those who made him suffer, which means we have to be forgiving when others do wrong to us. Finally let us think of those words of Jesus:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust in me"

"I am the Way the Truth, no-one can come to Father except through me".

REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL



We're all deeply into our new way of life and most of us we need to look for the silver linings. Till things go back to normal, let's try to cheer each other up.

Parishioner Tony Waters, who many of you may know from St Mary's, has contacted us with a brilliant idea. – In the current climate, why not have a series of items on reasons to be cheerful? ... we reckon that anything that lightens up some of the doom & gloom has got to be good! We'll publish them on the website, and in the Newsletter when space allows.

Inside there are some Cheerful Lists from people including our two youngest contributors:

Just email us with your suggestions to diane@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

Lots of sharings on the website! Join the fun—share the joy! Tell us *your* Reasons to be Cheerful!

MASS INTENTIONS

Lately Dead

Elaine Cartmell
Paddy O'Connell K.I.A
Kenneth Murgatroyd,
Kathleen Sanders,
Iris Potter,

Kevin Walsh,
Eunice Bacon,
Connie Haworth,
Gerald Martland,
Joseph Molyneaux,
Susan (Sohan) Mayers

Anniversaries:

John Michael Bailey,
Fred Evans,
Henry Roach,
Florence Evans

Other Intentions

Thanksgiving for a first Great-Grandchild
Thanksgiving, for good health for eye sight and hearing
Special intention



LOOK AT THE PARISH WEBSITE. PASS THE NEWS TO PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT ON THE INTERNET!

<http://www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk/>

Keep in touch! Keep others in touch through you! Call them and have a chat. There is new material every single day—to lift you spiritually, to bring news, to stay together. The longer this goes on, the more the friendly calls are needed.

IN THE LIGHT OF THE CORONA VIRUS

Because all churches are closed until further notice the obligation for the faithful to attend Holy Mass on a Sunday and on a Holy day of Obligation is removed until further notice.

PARISH SUNDAY MASS—LIVE STREAMING

There will be a 'live' stream of the Mass from St Mary's every Sunday morning at 9.30am. A recording will be available later in the day for those who cannot view the live stream.

Daily Private Masses in the Parish

The priests of the parish will continue to celebrate Mass daily in the churches of the parish **in private**. This will enable you, the people of God, to join in "spiritual Communion" with the priests and each other. **St Mary's:** Fr David celebrates at 9.30am **St John's:** Fr Emmanuel or Fr Benneth at 9.00am

OFFERTORY COLLECTION—IMPORTANT UPDATE

We now have a way for those who can afford to make donations to the Parish. Please see the back page of the Newsletter on how to do this. If you cannot make payments online please hang onto your envelopes until things go back to normal then you can kindly bring your envelopes and contributions.

Weekly Easter Reflection from Blessed Trinity CC

As we did with Holy Week, for each Sunday of Easter there will appear on our website, a video reflection produced by Miss R Wilkinson and involving different pupils from the school along with Fr David. Many thanks to the school for this lovely resource for the Easter season.

MAILING THE NEWSLETTER

While the churches remain closed, if you need a paper copy of this Newsletter please contact Fr David tel 422007 with your name and address. He is happy to forward it to you. We've had to move the posting of the Newsletter forward because there are no deliveries on Saturdays at the moment. If you would like to include an item, or make a Mass Offering, please email your request by midday on Wednesdays. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Thought for the Day

These daily reflections from the parish clergy team are available on the parish web site each day.

The Lord's Day at Home

These sheets, available on the website, are great for providing sacred time at home while the churches are closed. <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/LDAH-Easter-4A.pdf>

Daily Streamed Masses

There are live streams daily Mass from Walsingham; www.walsingham.org.uk and from The Good Shepherd parish in Colne; www.goodshepherdpendle.org.uk.

REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL

We've had lots of happy ideas be here are two from our youngest contributors:

- G. aged 7:** 1. I'm alive 2. Mummy, Daddy, F and C (G's sisters)
3. Playing in my den in the back garden 4. Jesus 5. NHS and my teacher Mrs N.
- C. aged 12:** 1. Family 2. Cooking 3. WhatsApping my friends
4. Sunshine 5. Netflix



Janet sends: Family and grandchildren Staying safe and healthy My husband Kevin
Walking our dog Having my faith
Come on! Join in! It's a bit of fun when we need it!!



Stay with us Lord on our journey

PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2020

For Deacons We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.



BURNLEY TOGETHER

We've learnt about a website offering support to all of the town's population. Burnley Together has been set up to bring together all the people who are helping our community to be safe in the most difficult times so that, if you aren't sure who to turn to - we'll know someone who can help.

The list of matters they will help with is long and very comprehensive.

They are available to call seven days a week: 01282 686402 between 9am and 5pm or go to the website <https://burnleytogether.org.uk/>

FOODBANK—UPDATE

Please continue to support the Foodbank. Here's how:

Blessed Trinity are now actively supporting the Foodbank, including being channel for your **money donations**. If you want to make a money donation here is the website <https://tinyurl.com/BlessedTrinityJustGiving>

Every local Spar shop should have a collection point for tins, pasta, juice and other produce, so keep donating if you are able to do so. They welcome all non-perishable foods and oranges continue to be popular as they last a good while.

At St John's only. You may leave a cash donation (in a clearly marked envelope) at the presbytery if your daily exercise takes you past the presbytery, or contact David H on 07434 763822 and we will see if we can collect. This week our St Vincent de Paul Conference donated £100 and with further parish donations of £50 were posted on to the Food Bank. Thanks to everyone who has contributed.



"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, ... a people set apart of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light". Peter 1:2 9.

FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Mon 11th May | Easter Weekday |
| Tues 12th May | Ss Nereus and Achilleus |
| Wed 13th May | Our Lady of Fatima |
| Thurs 14th May | St Matthias |
| Fri 15th May | Easter Weekday |
| Sat 16th May | Easter Weekday |
| Sun 17th May | Sixth Sunday of Easter |

MARRIAGE WEEK 2020

11th – 17th May is the week that is nationally set aside to celebrate commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage. The theme this year is "The Forever Conversation," recognising the need for continual open communication to enable a marriage to be long lasting. Marriage Encounter is working in partnership with Marriage Week UK to promote events and celebrate marriage.

For more information see <https://marriage-week.org.uk/>

or <https://wwme.org.uk/>

and <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7aPwW6AIOVszW3yFIbrOA/>



"As I Have Loved You" ®

CAFOD WEBSITE—PETITION



The CAFOD website has lots of new material to support those they help during the Coronavirus crisis, and other items of interest for us during our isolation. It's well worth a look. Included you'll find Liturgies, talks and a quiz. Perhaps most importantly there is a petition which you should consider. It appeals to the Government to not neglect those most disadvantaged in our troubled world, pointing out that their needs should not be lost whilst dealing with our own challenges. Please go there and sign if you agree.

There's a CAFOD Newsletter with links across the web to more items of interest. Please have a look at all these important matters.

ONLINE FINANCIAL DONATIONS TO THE PARISH—UPDATE

Many people have asked how they might contribute to the weekly church collection now that churches are closed? The diocese has set up a web page where you may make a single donation which will be transferred to your local parish. Go to <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/supporting-your-parish-financially/>. Click on the 'Make a Donation' button, scroll down to the bottom of the page and follow the instructions from there (don't forget to Gift Aid it if you can).

It's planned that some time next week you would be able to fill in a Standing Order to the parish and we'll let you know when it is. It's fully recognised that some people will now be in a worsened financial position and less able to give at the moment so please do not feel obligated. Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS ABOUT RECONCILIATION



These words from the Holy Father should help us while the Sacrament is not currently available:

"Do what the catechism says. It's very clear. If you don't find a priest to go to confession, speak to God. He's your Father. Tell Him the truth: 'Lord, I did this and this and this. Pardon me.' Ask His forgiveness with all your heart with an act of contrition, and promise Him, 'afterwards I will go to confession.'

"You will return to God's grace immediately. You yourself can draw near, as the Catechism teaches us to God's forgiveness, without having a priest at hand."

THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Is there a voluntary organisation or charity you really admire? Do you wish you could give a little back—or a little 'extra' to them?

The Queen's Award is your opportunity. The Award recognises service from these groups, with what is called "The MBE for Volunteer Groups". Our own Handicapped Children's Fellowship won it a few years ago, and it really was great recognition—and fun.



The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

If you would like to nominate a Group, there is lots more information on our own website as your first step, to help you decide if you want to go ahead,

<http://www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk/>. The QAVS website is a good next stage: qavs.culture.gov.uk/guidance-notes.

Then, Terry Hephrun, a parishioner who works on the project, is happy to talk with you if you want to chat once you've read a little. (Tel: 01282 424626).

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 | | Parish email: djfeatherstone@outlook.com |
| | Parish of the Good Samaritan website: www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk | | |
| | Email for the website: 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