The Parish of the Good Samaritan

Churches of: Christ the King | St Mary of the Assumption | St John the Baptist | BURNLEY

NEWSLETTER

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2ND AUGUST 2026 YEAR A

In today's Gospel, we see the compassion of God manifest in Christ, Jesus yearns for people to come to him and to listen to him because he knows what he wants to tell them is good for them. He is very aware of human needs; he knows people get tired, hungry and thirsty and have basic human needs like rest and food and drink in order for them to be able to respond to Him. He has led the people to a remote place, and he knows they are hungry, but he also knows full well what he is going to do: he is going to lead people closer to his Father.

In the miracle of the loaves and fishes we can see what it meant to Matthew and his readers. For them, the miracle story called to mind the Old Testament story of manna in the desert. Matthew depicts Jesus as the new Moses who feeds his people in the desert. In this feeding we have an anticipation of the Eucharist. The gestures and words Jesus uses are those of the Last Supper and of the Eucharist; ie he took the bread, blessed, broke and gave it to them. The Eucharist in turn anticipates the final heavenly banquet of the Lamb.

The message from our Mass today is that we do have something that will feed, satisfy and sustain our selves, and something that we can give to others so that they may have fulfilment and direction in their lives too. The Lord Jesus is here to give you the Eucharist, the Bread of Life, not so that you can keep it all to yourselves but so that you can help feed those whom you have contact with in your daily and weekly lives. They are looking for the same thing you are; a life of meaning, with a purpose, a life lived in the closeness of God. After all, He is the one who will do the feeding. All we have to do is share His food; which is His tender loving mercy, His presence, and His love.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASSES – HELP NEEDED!

Every week we live stream Masses from St Mary's for those parishioners who cannot attend in person and according to viewing figures we have a pretty good 'following'.

The live streaming is done by two regular, reliable volunteers who each do every other week, so all Sundays are covered. However, one of them is leaving in September to train for the priesthood so we have **an urgent need** to replace him.

Live streaming isn't complicated or 'high tech' and those who've tried it quickly pick it up. To begin with you'd sit in with a regular live streamer and learn the ropes before gradually going solo when you're ready. We've written an illustrated instruction booklet for you to refer to and there's lots of backup support. If you're interested call Mike Morris on 07563 998 334 or email him via website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

PARISH GARDEN PARTY - SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST

Following our recent planning meeting, our annual Parish Garden Party will take place this year on Sunday 23 August 2026 from 2pm to 4pm. Afternoon tea and the tombolas will be based in St Mary's Parish Rooms The usual games including Spin the wheel, Spot the ball, Knock the cans. Velcro darts and Bonanza. Tickets for entrance to afternoon tea are £5.00 pp with accompanied Under 16's free, and will be available soon. There is a box at the back of each of the three churches for anyone to **donate items for the tombola stall** . If we are receive too many such gifts we would like to use them at another parish fundraiser. If you would like to **pledge baking home-made cakes** please contact Barbara on 07713 718 700 or 07930 508 209.

MASS INTENTIONS

Lately Dead: Fr Michael O'Leary, David Hampson, Bernard Dugdale, Betty Goulding, Ann Cavanagh, David Green, Winifred Cattigan, Frank Potter,

In Memoriam: Lynn Clegg RIP

Birthday Memoriam: Jean Hunter

Anniversaries: Kath Young, Yolanda Cubillon, Keith Francis Shackleton, Mary Moss, Tressa Byrom, Kathleen Beckett,

Other Intentions: Bernard Mullin's Intentions

Parish Coach Trip to St Annes on Sea

A coach has been booked for our parish trip to St Annes on Sea, which will also in-corporate the summer treat for the parish Altar Servers. This will take place on Tuesday 25th August and the cost will be £12.50 per person. We will be leaving after 9.15am Mass from each of the three churches. To reserve a seat please contact Lynne on 07850 048538, who will give details of how to pay and pick up times.

Canal Ministries - Two Events this Week

Canal Ministries" are back in town this week - various activities are on offer and here are a couple you might like to join in.

This Monday August 3rd at 7.00pm is an evening of live music with "Out of the Valley", story telling accompanied by pie and peas. It's at Finsley Gate Wharf BB11 3FG. It's £10 payable on the night, however, **booking is needed so** please contact 07397 775388.

The second event, with no booking needed, is **Thursday August 6th**. It's a stroll along the canal (so it's flat!) taking in sights of old Burnley which we normally only drive over! This one will be lead by Fr David, leaving from and returning to Finsley Gate Wharf - 7.00pm to 8.30pm - with a cooling lemonade to finish the evening?? (Other beverages are available)!!

Prayer for Peace::

God, I pray for peace, not confusion. Calm my mind and sooth .my heart.

Bring clarity to my thoughts and serenity to my everyday living. Help me to trust in your plans. Amen

CAFOD News— Venezuela Appeal

The situation continues to be dreadful, so the need for your donations, if you are able, please use one of the following methods:

1) Donate online via the CAFOD website at: https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/venezuela-earthquake-appeal **OR**

2) via phone by calling 0303 303 3030 (9.30am–5.30pm, M–F) **OR**

3) Make a cash donation in an envelope marked "CAFOD Venezuela Earthquake Appeal" and placing it the offertory collection.

Many thanks for all your previous support

Uniforms for Families in Need

Do you have any unwanted school uniform items? We are collecting school uniforms from any school and in any condition to help local families affected by the cost-of-living crisis. Collection boxes labelled "School Uniform Collection" will be available at the entrances of all three churches. This is a joint project, led by The Rotary Club and Building Bridges in Burnley.

Thank you for your support and generosity

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for August 2026

For evangelization in the city.

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Parish Bonus Ball Game— Important Update

Thanks to all who support the Bonus Ball game in each of the three churches, which will continue each week. Since changes to the National Lottery, **we will use the first of the two draws** as our source for our Bonus Ball. So in the light of the above information, the winning Bonus ball number for Wednesday was number **54** Congratulations to last week's winners who are as follows:

St John's: ~ Rollover **St Mary's: ~ "NC"** **Christ the King: ~ Ona**

Please collect your prizes from the appropriate presbytery

1st of the Month at St John's - This Sunday!

Our next " 1st of the Month " **is Sunday August 2nd** after the 10.45am Mass at St Johns. We have had lots of sporty Sundays recently in the beautiful weather. With the "1st Sunday" all the challenges appear on the lawn, along with the refreshments moving into the Parish Hall and this month, the excitement builds, with a raffle too!!

Caritas Salford Hike from Downham—10Km or 5Km

Caritas Salford have organised a sponsored hike to raise funds for their work with the needy and disadvantaged in our diocese.

The hike will take place on **Saturday, 5th Sept**, with a shorter 5km route also being incorporated into the overall event, for those who would rather take on a more manageable distance. Both routes start and finish in the picture postcard village of Downham and after returning to the village refreshments can be obtained from the cafe on the village green, or from the pub opposite the church.

There is a leaflet with further details on the notice boards at the back of each of our churches and to register for the event please contact Caritas on: 0161 817 2250 and select option 1 for fund raising or email: fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk

Annual March for Life

The March held in London on Saturday September 5th. There will be Mass at Westminster Cathedral at 10.30am. At the nearby Emmanuel Centre there will be workshops and testimonies from 10.00am.There are specific activities / workshops for young children and teenagers.

There will be a peaceful march around Parliament from 1.30pm with speeches at 3.00pm.

Bishop John Arnold will be one of 15 Catholic bishops attending. More information is available from the official website ttps://www.marchforlife.co.uk/2026-event-page/

Prayers for the success of the March for Life are very much appreciated.

St Teresa: Contemplation on Life

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.
Life is beauty, admire it.
Life is a dream, realise it.
Life is a challenge, ,meet it.
Life is a duty, complete it.
Life is a game, play it.

Life is a promise, fulfill it.
Life is sorrow, overcome it.
Life is a song, sing it.

Life is a struggle, accept it.
Life is a tragedy, confront it.
Life is an adventure, dare it.
Life is luck, make it.
Life is too precious, do not destroy it.
Life is life, fight for it.

Proposed Road Closures Outcome of Consultations
Outcome following Our Protests

Can I thank those parishioners who responded to the consultation by letter and by signing the petition.

Fr David, along with representatives from St Catherine's, local and County Councillors, recently met with BFC, Lancashire County Council, Burnley Borough Council and Lancashire Police.

The Police and BFC pointed out that discussion on the issue had been going on for the last 18 months and were triggered by the Police nationally divesting themselves from traffic management for events such as football matches (and Remembrance Day parades etc). It was acknowledged that earlier involvement with interested parties might have assuaged some of the dismay. concern and anger felt.

We received assurances that access to St Mary's car park would be preserved in that it was unlikely that Todmorden Road and Yorkshire Street would be subject to closure and there would be a soft closure on Belvedere Road between the Cricket Club and the Fire Station which would ensure access to Holcombe Drive. In effect, the only change from last season's approach is that responsibility for managing traffic to ensure safety of residents and supporters would rest with the Football Club, albeit working in concert with other statutory agencies, and the current road closure regime would be extended to include short stretches of Brunshaw Road and Higgin Street.

The Football Club and Lancashire County Council have issued a joint statement which covers most of the above points: BURNLEY FC & LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STATEMENT

Masses and Other Services: Monday 3rd August to Sunday 9th August 2026

Please note the changes this week

Monday *Weekday*
9.30am St Mary's

Tuesday *St John Vianney*
9.30am St Mary's **NB Only one Mass Today**

Wednesday *Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major*
9.30am Christ the King **NB Only one Mass Today**

Thursday *The Transfiguration of the Lord*
9.30am Mass at St John's **NB Only one Mass Today**

Friday *St Cajetan*
12.00 noon St Mary's preceded by Exposition and Reconciliation from 11.30 to 11.55am

Saturday *St Dominic*
9.30 St Mary's 10.45 to 1130am Exposition & Reconciliation at St Mary's
5.15pm to 5.55pm St John's Reconciliation and Exposition

Vigil Masses
6.00pm St. John's
6.30pm St. Mary's

Sunday ***Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time***
Christ the King: 9.15am 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 the Masses Monday to Friday. (Except before funerals)

Stay with us Lord on our journey

Free Firewood for collection from St Mary's

Following some tree work on an unsafe tree at St Mary's , there is some firewood/logs suitable for a log burner available for collection. Please contact Andrew (07745491050) or Gunther (0777615530) for details and to arrange collection.

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. Thank you to all those concerned which is greatly appreciated.

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

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.

Weekly Collection: The offertory collection, not including standing orders, from the three churches in the parish for weekend of 18/19uly for £1568.87, for which many thanks.

Clergy Team

Parish Priest: Fr David Featherstone St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007
Assistant Priest Fr Theo Sharrock St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007
Parish email: djfeatherstone@outlook.com **Newsletter email:** itemsforfrank@gmail.com
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