

# The Parish of the Good Samaritan

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



## NEWSLETTER

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

30TH NOVEMBER 2025 YEAR A



Today is the first Sunday of the season of Advent which marks the start of the Church's liturgical year. Today's Gospel urges us to stay

awake because we do not know the hour when Christ will return.

Each day we are called from sleep to wake up and to respond to the challenges that the new day has to offer us. Especially in Winter it can be really difficult waking up from our sleep and even harder to get out of bed and get ourselves ready for both the expected and the unexpected that lie ahead.

Whatever our circumstances it is good to greet each new day with thankfulness to the Lord. We should try to see the joy that lies in every day that the Lord gives us. On some days this might be very challenging



to do, but on other days it is blatantly obvious where the joy lies. We are to see each new day as a gift from the Lord to us. Each new day is an

invitation to respond to the Lord's love for us through a life of prayer and service.

As we begin our Advent journey, may we approach it as we approach the arrival of a new day. Advent is always a challenge because it overlaps with our secular busy Christmas celebrations. May we rise to the challenge to use this sacred season as an invitation to stop, slow down and reflect on the direction our lives are taking. May we use this gift from the Church to become more appreciative of who we are and to grow in our awareness of how central Christ is in our life.



#### JOIN THE BIG COFFEE MORNING AT ST JOHN'S—THIS SUNDAY

It's a "BIG" coffee morning on Sunday November 30th at St Johns - 11.45am onwards!! To celebrate the Season of Advent we've indoor games, a lucky dip, a big tombola with prizes that may come in handy for Christmas, a cake sale, and of course there's a raffle, all the while munching on homemade delicious pizzas.

#### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BURNLEY CRIB BLESSING WITH CAROLS—NEXT SATURDAY

This will take place at 1pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December at the Market Hall, led by Bishop Joe and it will be followed by light refreshments.

All are welcome



#### HOLY SOULS ~ NOVEMBER INTENTIONS

Please place the names of your departed loved ones in an envelope at the back of church and it will be brought forward in a basket at the Offertory part of the Mass. **Please** do not include any money in these envelopes.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Elsie Pegg,

**Other intentions:** Rosalie Riley, donor's ints, Anthony Moore, 80th Birthday.

**In Memoriam for Month of the Holy Souls:** the McPhearson family, Catherine And Lewis McPhearson,

**Lately Dead:** Susan Ellis, Kath Braithwaite, Christopher McKnight, David Gaughan Junior, Hayley Greenwood, John Foley, Fr John McClusky MHM,

**Anniversaries:** Victor Gonzales, Walter Hollingworth, Shaun Gaughan, Dennis O'Hara, Maragret Teresa Burke, Peter Francis Shackleton,



### SVP ADVENT MASS



The next SVP Housebound Mass will take place on Saturday November 15th at 12 15pm in St John's Parish Hall. Followed by our usual lunch. As per usual it is an extended invitation across the parish for anyone who is housebound, alone or who would like to attend. Should transport be required please contact Maria on 07929256406 or Klaus on 07977913092. Our Advent Housebound Mass will be on Saturday December 13th at 12 15pm.

### 'FIRST OF THE MONTH' AT ST JOHN'S

The "First of the Month" is at St Johns on Sunday December 7th after the 10.45am Mass. It's in the main Parish Hall with refreshments and games 'somewhere' - that is on the Lawn or maybe on the carpet!!

### OUR PARISH SCHOOLS' CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Pupils from the three primary schools in the parish are taking part in the Salford Diocese Schools' Singing Programme this year. On the December 9th, there is Christmas concert at St Mary's church at which the pupils will be singing. Members of the parish are invited to this free concert. The concert starts at 6.30pm. Come and show your support for our children and their teachers—as well as having the joy of children's delightful voices!



### CATENIAN INVITATION TO JOIN THEIR CHRISTMAS MEAL



Burnley Catenians are holding their annual Festive meal on Wednesday 10 December at Nelson House, and would welcome parishioners to join them. The three course menu will be: \* Pate \* Turkey \* Christmas pudding. The meal will be served at 20:15 (ie after the Circle meeting); diners should arrive at 20:00. The cost will be £20 per head. There is ample parking at Nelson House. The meal will be followed by carols.

Bookings to terry.hephrun@btopenworld.com or 0789 659 8854 before 9.00am on 4th December.

### Prayer for Advent



*God of love, Your son Jesus is your greatest gift to us. He is the sign of your love. Help us to walk in that love during Advent, as we wait and prepare for his coming.*

### SALFORD DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK

This is now available from each of the three churches price £5 This incorporates the Ordo as well as what was previously included in the Almamac.

### POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

**For the prevention of suicide.**

Let us pray that those who are tempted to commit suicide might find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.



### 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.

### PARISH BONUS BALL GAME—WINNERS!



Thanks to all who have supported the bonus Ball game in each of the three churches, which will continue each week. The winning Bonus ball for last Wednesday was number **40**. Congratulations to this week's winners:

**St John's ~ Rollover**

**St Mary's ~ Trish**

**Christ the King ~ Rollover**

Please claim your prize from the appropriate sacristy.

### ST JOHN'S SCHOOL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY AND CONCERT



On Wednesday 17th December, St John the Baptist Primary School will hold its annual Parish Christmas Tea Party. Tickets are available from the school office or from Michael Mulrooney. The concert starts at 1.30pm and includes an afternoon tea.

There is no charge for this event.

**Everyone Welcome**

### CHRISTMAS DECORATION VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED AT ST MARY'S

The annual Christmas Decorating of St. Mary's Church will be carried out from 11.45am on Sunday 21st December 2025 and volunteers are required to assist with this effort. Due to health reasons the group responsible for this in previous years have limited ability to do the same again this year. **Please meet up in the parish rooms at 11.45am.** Further information from John Edmondson via email: teeta1958@gmail.com



### CAFOD NEWS NOVEMBER 2025



Our CAFOD group wish to express thanks to all those parishioners who organised, helped with or took part in the enjoyable quiz on 21st November. The evening raised **a wonderful £550**. Thanks also to the quizmasters for giving their time freely. CAFOD will use this wisely. Through partners CAFOD is still active in today's greatest conflicts, providing aid in the Holy Land, Sudan and Ukraine together with development aid in many other countries.

**World Gifts:** World Gift for Christmas catalogues are available at the back of each church. Please take a catalogue and consider treating someone to a gift that makes a difference to people's lives. Or check out the full range of gifts at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts).

Please pray for the work of CAFOD and for our sisters and brothers in need.

### "ALL CHANGE" MORNING AT ST JOHN'S

It's all change from Sunday December 14th expanding our regular Sunday mornings after the 10.45 Mass, into the "Upper Room" of the parish hall. Our set up is run on donations and help yourself to whatever you like. There's tea, coffee, soft drinks, cakes, smiles, chat and all out of the wind and rain - marvellous!!

### FR THEO'S JOURNEY TO PRIESTHOOD

Fr Theo has an excellent and very readable article on the Diocesan website. It's a lovely insight into how our new Assistant Priest has followed his vocation. Enjoy and share his journey at:

<https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/fr-theo-sharrock/>

### PARISH CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR PEOPLE ALONE AT CHRISTMAS—INVITATION



Are you on your own this Christmas Day and fancy a bit of company & Christmas cheer? Or maybe somebody you know will be on their own? If so please get in touch with either Mike on 07563 998 334 or Barbara on 07884 014 711. Alternatively, you could email us on [Christmas@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk](mailto:Christmas@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk)

A warm welcome is guaranteed! Couples who would otherwise be on their own are very welcome too! The traditional Christmas dinner is free and starts at 2:00pm on Christmas Day at St Mary's Church Parish Rooms. **But book early – places are limited and on a strictly first come, first served basis.**

**We look forward to welcoming you on Christmas Day!**

### PRAYER FOR THE DECEASED

*Remember, Lord, those who have died and have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially those for whom we pray this November. May these, and all who sleep in Christ find in your presence light happiness and peace.*



### ADVENT TALKS: REFLECTING ON DILEXI TE

During Advent, we are pleased to present a series of talks reflecting on Pope Leo's Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te. Join us every Tuesday between 2nd and 16 December. The venue will be Our Lady and Lancashire Martyrs Church Hall, M38 0DL, (Little Hulton) between 10:30am - 12:30pm. Please email [joankfmsj@gmail.com](mailto:joankfmsj@gmail.com) or phone 07934 816796 to register your interest.



**KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA WEEKLY QUIZ:** Our next quiz night will be on Monday 1st December at 8pm in St Mary's parish rooms. Come and join the fun and evening with friends!

### 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.



**MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: MONDAY 1ST DECEMBER TO SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2025**

**Please note the changes this week**

**Monday** *Advent Weekday*  
9.30am St. Mary's

**Tuesday** *Advent Weekday*

**9.15am Mass at Christ the King School** 12 Noon Mass at St John's

**Wednesday** *St Francis Xavier*  
9.30am Christ the King

**NB Only one Mass today**

**Thursday** *St John Damascene*

**9.15am Mass at St Mary's School** **NB Only one Mass today**

**Friday** *Advent Weekday*

**9.15am Mass at St John's School**

12.00 noon St Mary's preceded Exposition with Reconciliation 11.30am to 11.55am

**Saturday** *St Nicholas*

9.30am St. Mary's, Exposition with Reconciliation from 10.30am to 11.30am

**Vigil Masses**

6.00pm St. John's preceded by Reconciliation with Exposition from 5.15 to 5.55pm

6.30m St. Mary's

**Sunday** **Second Sunday of Advent**

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 weekday Mass (except before Funerals)

*Stay with us Lord on our journey.*

**WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS AND CALENDARS FOR ADVENT**

These are now available at the back of all three churches.

**STRING QUARTET JUBILEE CELEBRATION**

Thanks to Fr Theo, Fr Chris, Holly and Hannah as well as all those who organised and supported this enjoyable event in church and in the parish rooms, which raised £194.00 for the parish SVP.

**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

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

The offertory collection, not including standing orders, from the three churches in the parish for weekend of 22/23 Nov was £1236.56, 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

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

**Website email:** website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

**Christ the King**

Healey Mount Burnley

**St Mary of the Assumption**

3 Todmorden Road Burnley BB10 4AU

**St John the Baptist**

Bracewell St Burnley