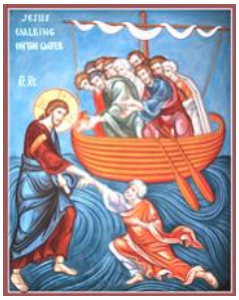
The Parish of the Good Samaritan

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

NEWSLETTER

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9TH AUGUST 2026 YEAR A



In today's Gospel, Peter achieved the impossible by walking on the raging waters towards Jesus. He did this because his faith enabled to trust in Jesus and thus with him everything is possible. However, the Lord was there to reach out to help Peter when he realised the enormity of what he was doing and begins to sink. The Lord is there for us to reach out to us when we mess up, however we do have to get the trust and humility to reach out to Jesus and invite him to bring us closer to him.

Pope Benedict saw this Gospel as illustrating that the Church operates in the area between grace and gravity. The gravity of temptation to sin pulls us down into the rough waters whereas the strong reassuring hand of the grace of Jesus offered in the sacraments through the Church raises us up out of the danger zone and restores us to safety.

In the roar of the mighty wind and the midst of the storm, with the disciples really struggling to move forward, the voice of Jesus was heard telling them to have courage, not to be afraid and reassure them that he is near.

The same message is given to us; we are not to despair or be afraid if we really struggle with some area of our lives, where we keep slipping up from time to time. We are to be reassured that in the dark times when we feel alone and just struggling with our weaknesses and our failures that the Lord is just nearby. He is ready to reach out to us, to remind us of his undying love for us and to reassure that despite our sins that make us feel full of shame, we matter immensely to God.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP AND LEARN

Can you help our less able, more isolated parishioners, please, by bringing Mass into their homes on Sundays (St Mary's 10.00am). Here's a great opportunity to learn and add to your skills and knowledge - skills that you can offer your current or future employer, or add to your UCAS application. Our current team who stream our Sunday Masses can quickly teach you, sitting with you until you feel able to go solo. We have written guidance to reassure, and help you develop.

It's an impressive skill set easily learnt, no matter your current 'tech' knowledge.

Our streaming of Sunday Masses brings God's word, and a sense of belonging to our community to those who can't get to Mass every week, and you can bring this joy to our faith family.

Please talk to Fr David, or 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 £5.00pp with accompanied Under 16's free, and are now available.
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. Please bring the cakes to St Mary's Parish Rooms after the 10.00 Mass on the day.

MASS INTENTIONS

Lately Dead: Cecelia Edmondson, David Hampson, Bernard Dugdale, Betty Goulding, Freda Argyle, George Thompson, Richard Broadelday, Michael Schofield, A. Allen,

In Memoriam: Peter Makin

Birthday Memoriam: Ernest and Winifred McKnight

Anniversaries: Daniel (Danny) Magee

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.

Uniforms for Families in Need — Deadline Date

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. **Last day for donations is this Tuesday 09/08/2026.**

Thank you for your support and generosity which has been very good.

Memory Space and Memorial Walk in support of Mind

On 8th October Christopher Whittle, a parishioner, is walking from Llandigai to Llas Ogwen on the Lôn Llas Ogwen trail. He's walking in memory of his late brother Anthony Whittle who died on 25th November 1994 aged 30yrs. Please support him with sponsorship in aid of mental health charity, Mind. Sponsorship forms are now available at the back of each of each of our three churches. **Thank you**

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 support**

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for August 2026

For Evangelisation 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.

Did You Know?

Did you know that Ferrero Rocher is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary? Michele Ferrero, who built the company, declared "The success of Ferrero we owe to Our Lady of Lourdes. Without her we can do little." He placed Virgin Mary statues in every single one of his production facilities worldwide and led annual pilgrims to the Shrine at Lourdes. ENJOY

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 the source for our Bonus Ball. So in the light of the above information, the winning Bonus ball number for last Wednesday was number **8** Congratulations to last week's winners who are as follows:

St John's: ~ Joe St Mary's: ~ Geraldine Christ the King: ~ Rollover

Please collect your prizes from the appropriate presbytery

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

1st of the Month at St John's

Thank you for all the joining in and help each Sunday and especially, on the first of the month where the 'extras' kick in, with this time the raffle raising £45 to Parish funds.

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.

SVP Parish Conference - Wonderful Work

Eight children from our Primary Schools have just spent a holiday at an outward Bound Centre in Snowdonia fully paid for by the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Between the 26th- 31st July they have enjoyed fun-filled days of outdoor activities, making new friends and no mobile phones in sight. For each child we sent our Conference donates a £100 towards their holiday. We would like to thank the Parish and the two separate gifts of a £100 each for their support in this venture. Eight very happy but tired children returned home with lots of tales to tell.

A massive 'Thank You' goes to our SVP team for all the great work they do in our name

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.

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 10th August to Sunday 16th August 2026

Please note the changes this week

Monday *St Laurence*
9.30am St Mary's

Tuesday *St Clare*
9.30am Funeral Mass at St Mary's for Cecilia Edmondson RIP
NB Only one Mass today

Wednesday *St Jane Frances Chantal*
9.30am Christ the King **NB Only one Mass today**

Thursday *Ss Pontian and Hippolytus*
9.30am Mass at St John's **NB Only one Mass today**

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

Saturday *Weekday*
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 ***Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary***
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 from Monday to Friday. (Except before funerals)

Stay with us Lord on our journey

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.

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.

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 1st/2nd Aug was £1696.69, 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 **Website email:** website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

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St John the Baptist
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