The Parish of the Good Samaritan

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

NEWSLETTER

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26TH JULY 2026 YEAR A

Jesus loved to point people in the right direction by giving them clear clues as to where it is best to be searching. In today's Gospel, Jesus says that we should be searching for the Kingdom of God ~ this means that we discover that we are loved by God, and we know the meaning of life. It also means that we know how we should be living it to get to our eternal home.

The parables of the treasure and the pearl of great price in today's Gospel have a similar message; the Kingdom of Heaven is worth investing everything we have to acquire it. However, we also need the gift of wisdom to see this. This wisdom will hopefully tell us that in order to find and hang on to the pearl of great price, we need to give it our all and we also need to let go of other things that we think matter to us.

Our faith tells us that God loves us so much he has bestowed upon us great dignity by calling us his children. This is the most precious gift he has given us and should be our most treasured possession. Searching for this, should cost us not less than everything.

In effect, we are all seeking holiness, a word that can make us feel a bit uncomfortable; but a person who is holy is a whole person because their life is complete because their faith sense of their life and God is in it.

May the Lord give us the wisdom and the energy to keep searching and looking to build the Kingdom of God by seeking that which completes our life.

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 last week's 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 per person with accompanied Under 16's free, and will be available soon. There will be 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: Philomena Brennan, Reg Melling, Ray Williamson, William Mansell, Agnes Graham, Linda Williams, Ann Cavanagh, Teresa Lagan, Mary Manning, Peter McGahan, David Hampson,

In Memoriam: Cyril Zephir, Benjamin Cesrarine, Gaetan Guillaume,

Anniversaries: Albert Marshall, Fergus Toman, Kieron Toman

Other Intentions: Gladys Kumar

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

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 10km 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

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!!

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 **46** Congratulations to last week's winners who are as follows:

St John's: ~ Carole St Mary's: ~ Margaret Christ the King: ~ Rollover

Please collect your prizes from the appropriate presbytery

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

A Date for your Diary

The parish day trip to St Anne's will be on Tuesday 25th August.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for July 2026

For Respect for Human Life

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

Masses and Other Services: Monday 27th July to Sunday 2nd August 2026

Please note the changes this week

Monday *Weekday*
9.30am St Mary's

Tuesday *Weekday*
9.30am St Mary's
1.00pm Funeral Mass at St John's for Ann Cavanagh RIP

Wednesday *Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus*
9.30am Christ the King **NB Only one Mass Today**

Thursday *St John Chrysologus*
9.30am Mass at St John's **NB Only one Mass Today**

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

Saturday *St Alphonsus*
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 ***Eighteenth 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
Parish website: www.goodsamaritanparish.org.uk **Website email:** website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk

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St John the Baptist
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