

# The Parish of the Good Samaritan

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



## NEWSLETTER

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

15TH FEBRUARY 2026 YEAR A



In today's Gospel, Jesus continues his Sermon on the Mount. Among others, He addresses several moral issues which includes the issue of thou shalt

not kill. Jesus calls us to choose to be either people of peace and compassion or to be persons of violence. Murder can be like the eruption of a volcano that begins with anger in the heart. Violence begins within a person who is hurting, whereas being a person of peace and compassion means being a person of forgiveness. Unless we forgive, anger continues to build up until it erupts. It may take years or months, but some day it could blow up, "burning" anyone near that person. That is why it is so important to fight every tendency that could result in murder, namely our anger, our hatred, our grudges, our hurts of the past, because they destroy the life of Christ within us. It is not in the action itself, but it is in

(About keeping the Commandments) "... whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven".



the motivation behind the action where our identity as a Christian is found and formed. We are called to take upon ourselves the very identity of Jesus

Christ. We are also called to be selfless givers, like Him and to rejoice in His presence in our families. We are invited to discover meaning in the laws that God gave us so that our external actions might truly be a true reflection of our internal attitudes.

The Gospel challenges us to choose the values of forgiveness, fidelity and honesty at all times. In choosing these values we choose God's wisdom which, though may appear challenging, in fact transforms us into the best possible person we can be. So let us choose to forgive someone who has hurt us and to live faithfully and honestly. This will make a huge difference to our own individual lives and even the wider community.

### HCPT (HOSANNA HOUSE AND CHILDREN'S PILGRIMAGE TRUST) THIS WEEKEND

**THIS weekend** there will be an appeal at all the Masses for HCPT, which organises Pilgrimages to Lourdes for handicapped and disadvantaged people. Please support this as best you can. Thank you.

### LENT 2026

We begin our Lenten journey this week, and there are additional opportunities to help us make Lent a holy and fulfilling preparation for Easter.

**Ash Wednesday:** Lent begins on Ash Wednesday which this year falls on 18th February. Masses with distribution of ashes will be as follows;

9.15am St John's, 12.00 Noon St Mary's, 7pm Christ the King

**Friday early morning Lenten Mass at St Mary's:** There will an extra Mass at 6.30am at St Mary's on Fridays of Lent. This will be followed by breakfast in the parish rooms for all present.

**Stations of the Cross:** Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each week during Lent at one of the churches in the parish beginning on Friday 20th Feb at St Mary's at 7pm.

**'Walk with Me'** Booklets and calendars are available in all three churches.



## MASS INTENTIONS

**Lately Dead:** Fr Francis Austin, Colin Richardson, Joan Draper, David Holloway, Marie Evans, Gerry Dillon, David Griffin, Helga Smith,

**Other intentions:** Safe delivery in thanksgiving, successful operation, Maureen Bradley

**Anniversaries:** Malcolm Robinson, Stefana Albanese, Sybil Bacchus, Angela Allan, John Burrow, Jimmy Carter, Michael Dolan, Christopher John Nolan, Marie Breslin, Nasreen Sultana, Asmat Perez,

**Birthday Memorial;** Patricia D'Silva



### COFFEE MORNING AT ST MARY'S - HELP NEEDED PLEASE

The Coffee Morning after 10.00am Mass on Sundays is hugely popular, lively event, greatly valued as a social get-together. We now need to add to the team of people who make and serve the drinks. There is a rota so you would only be on duty once every few weeks. It means setting the tables, making the brews and serving. The current team members will support you, and the parishioners enjoy the chat. Please call Maureen on **07807 184 743**

**NB: Corrected Number—apologies.**

### 'FIRST OF THE MONTH' MARCH - THE GOOD SAMARITAN "GIANT SNAKES AND LADDERS CHAMPIONSHIP"



This novel event will take place on **Sunday March 1st beginning at 11.45am** in St Johns parish hall. It's open to all - fancy your chances?? We have room for 16 competitors, 50p a ticket - winner takes all!! Tickets from Margaret P 07751 025178 or at St Johns Sunday Mass.

**THANK YOU**

There's also a **big "Thank you"** for the various unneeded Christmas gifts recently donated and to all who supported the warming homemade soup event last Sunday - it really was - souper!!

### A DAY OUT FOR THE PARISH IN SOUTHPORT

On **Tuesday 28th April** we are planning a day out in Southport. We would leave Burnley around 9.30am and arrive at Holy Family RC Church in the Meols Cop area of Southport. On arrival we would have tea/coffee in the parish rooms then afterwards receive a spiritual talk by the Parish Priest Fr Kevin McLoughlin. Fr Kevin will then preach at a concelebrated Mass in the church around midday. We would then proceed towards Lord street and the promenade for lunch and time to explore. We plan to leave around 3.30pm and be home for 5pm. Our mode of transport will depend on how many people are interested; but if we work on the cost being £10 per person then we can adjust accordingly. If interested in booking a place, please call Lynne .tel 07850048538.

### POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2026 For Children With Incurable Diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.



### NOTICE FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS—VOLUNTEER REGISTER—ACTION REQUIRED



It has been two years since the last survey, and it is now time to update our volunteer register, for all three churches. Forms are available at the back of each church. If you are involved in any activities or Ministries, kindly take a form, fill it out, and place it in the designated box at the back of the church.

**Thank you.**

### PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026

The children and parents are now having their one-to-one appointments with Fr David or Fr Theo. Following these one-to-one appointments, Parents will then receive full details of all, further meetings and celebrations. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. David.

### CASTLERIGG MANOR

**Catholic Family Retreat at Castlerigg Manor** // March 27-29th // £160-230 per family- For the first time since Covid, Castlerigg Manor are bringing back their popular family retreats. There will be streams for different ages and fun activities for everybody including Mass in the evening and time to explore Keswick

**May Half Term B&B Stays at Castlerigg Manor** - In May half-term, Castlerigg Manor (Catholic retreat centre in Keswick, Cumbria) will once again be opening their doors for B&B stays. A great way for families, groups of friends, and individuals to get an affordable stay in Keswick. Mass will be provided on site.

For more information go to: [castleriggmanor.com](http://castleriggmanor.com)

### RIGHT TO LIFE—ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL PLEASE ACT

The people promoting this Bill are seeking to avoid the normal processes to ensure it passes without the analysis of the House of Lords. Many issues remain unresolved, many of which are concerns for senior medical personnel. **Please help stop this.** Please email your MP and ask them to oppose this now – it takes just 30 seconds using this easy tool: <https://righttolife.org.uk/zq8b> The site takes to a pre-prepared letter for you to read and add your name. It's that simple.

### CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions - such as flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/](http://cafod.org.uk/) envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.



**Family fast Day is on Friday 27th February. Members of our parish CAFOD group will speak at Masses on 21st/22nd February.**

### SALFORD DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Every year Salford Diocese takes hundreds of pilgrims on pilgrimage to Lourdes. Many pilgrims are sick, elderly or disabled and so require additional care. Pilgrims are supported by a medical and nursing team and a group of volunteers from across the Diocese.

Last year one of our young people from the parish joined the volunteer team alongside Fr Theo and had a wonderful time. This year we would again like to offer young people (from Year 11 upwards) the chance to join the pilgrimage. The group will travel to Lourdes by coach from 29th July to 6th August 2026 as part of the Diocesan Youth Group (DYG). The special "youth price" for this is £699 which includes travel, accommodation and all meals. Funding and fundraising will allow this cost to be reduced significantly (such as £100 from the Catenian Association). We wouldn't want anyone not to put themselves forward due to cost.

If you, or your child, would like to join this group please contact Fr Theo ([theo.sharrock@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:theo.sharrock@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)) by Sunday 1st March so that we can form a group.

If anyone would like to join the medical and nursing team or would like more information about joining as a pilgrim, then please speak to Fr Theo who can provide more information

### KSC: BFC SIGNED FOOTBALL SHIRT RAFFLE

The Grand Knight Tom Wilkinson of KSC 110 is selling numbers towards the draw of a Framed Team Signed BFC Shirt 25/26. **All money raised is being equally split between Pendleside Hospice and Georgia Fourie Butterfly Fund.**



Please dig deep this Lent to help raise much needed funds for these amazing charities. Numbers are only £5 each, around the same price as a large Costa Coffee! Draw is to be made on Easter Monday provided 100 tickets are sold. Numbers are £5 each. Please get in touch with a Brother or Tom (07891 124951) to buy or for more information.

*Lord, help me to follow Your path in all my actions today. Grant me the wisdom to make choices that honour You and reflect Your love. Amen.*

### 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

### 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.



