

# The Parish of the Good Samaritan

Christ the King

St Mary of the Assumption

St John the Baptist

Burnley



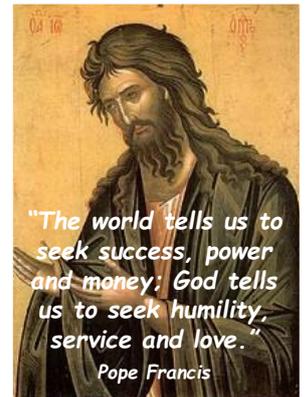
## NEWSLETTER

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY)**  
**12TH DECEMBER 2021**      **YEAR C**



### FR DAVID'S REFLECTION ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In today's Gospel, John prepares the people for the one who is to come ~ The light of the world ~ he does this by telling them to make their paths straight ~ straighten out their lives ~ get rid of all aspects of their lives that are not life giving and that are not of God. We should be able to easily identify with all three groups of questioners who come to John because the human condition has not changed in 2000 years. We can still be selfish, we still are greedy and we still abuse power. Peace will not come if these conditions prevail – peace in our nation, peace in the world, or peace in ourselves.



John prepares them for the coming of Jesus. He gets people to think about their lives and to think about where God is in their lives. Asking them to think how faithful are they being to God? We should be more appreciative of the things we have and not thinking about having more. We should be appreciative of the people in our lives and less critical of them. We should strive to be more content and less dissatisfied with our lives and with ourselves and all the blessings we enjoy. On this Gaudete Sunday, as we contemplate the sources of joy in our own lives, we can ask ourselves how much joy do we bring to those that we encounter.

So, on this Gaudete Sunday, as the light on our Wreath gets brighter to herald that the coming of the Lord is nearer, let's take some time out from the hustle and bustle to see what each of us needs to do if our lived-out lives are to truly reflect what we say we believe in!

### MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS 2021

We are not intending to have a booking system this year

#### Christmas Eve Friday 24th December

9.30am Christmas Eve Mass at St John's  
5.30pm Mass of Christmas at Christ the King  
6.30pm Mass of Christmas at St John's  
7.30pm Mass of Christmas at Christ the King

#### Christmas Day

9.30am Christmas Day Mass at Christ the King  
10.15am Christmas Day Mass at St John's

#### Sunday 26th December Feast of the Holy Family

Mass at Christ the King 9.15am  
Mass at St John's 9.30am and 11am

### SINGING AT MASS AT CHRISTMAS—JOIN THE CHOIR AN INVITATION TO ALL CORNERS OF THE PARISH

You would be most welcome to join the singing group for a Christmas practice at St John's on Thursdays 16th and 23rd December, 6.00pm to 7.00pm. We will be preparing the carols for the Christmas Masses. Then, we will be singing on Christmas Eve at the 6.30 Mass at St John's, and the Christmas Day Mass at 9.30am at Christ the King. Please come and join us! We're a small friendly group and you'll have a warm reception, and good fun singing! Call Barbara on 424967 to chat if you want more information before you come.



## MASS INTENTIONS

**Lately Dead:** Michael Murray, Pat Morrisroe, Kath Royle, Fr Lionel Devany, Anne Hargreaves, Fr Anthony Fagan, Kathleen Atkinson, Elaine Vasey, Pat Baker, Fr Kevin Callaghan CSSR, Clare Kirrane,

**Other intentions:** Vincent Snape, Brian Bennett, Clergy of the Good Samaritan parish.

**Birthday Memoriam:** James Taylor, Anthony Moore

**Anniversaries:** Sam Slattery, Elsie Pegg, Winifred Taylor, Albert Harrison, Steven Greenwood, Peter John Mason, Mary Atkinson, Philip Guilfoyle, Andrew McNamara, Doris Hephrun, Peter Francis Shackleton,

**Christmas Memoriam:** Caning family, Bill Salmon, Alan Oldham,



## MASS INTENTIONS

The mail at St John's is checked regularly so you may continue to put Mass intentions through the Presbytery letterbox.

### FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION PARTICIPATION AND MISSION



Pope Francis has called Universal Synod themed as above. What does it mean? It is an important opportunity and invitation to give your views on the church as it moves forward—"Journeying Together". Pope Francis asks us to reflect, pray and, both as individuals or as communities (parishes, societies etc), listen to each other and give our views. He is aiming to have feedback from every parish in the world, so we are all involved. He wants to hear from as many people as possible, **those involved in the church and those who are not.** CAFOD

You can take part by completing an online submission following this link:

[www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3D3FXJ2](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3D3FXJ2).

Please share this link with family and friends. We have until 1st March 2022 to make our submissions then, after national and continental gatherings, the Synod of Bishops will gather in Rome in 2023 to reflect on what has been heard. Please remember the Synod in your prayers. Your contribution is invaluable and will make a considerable difference to the future of the Church in our diocese and across the world.

The Diocese encourages us all to participate, and have produced a range of resources which are available at <http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod>. Our own website carries fuller description of what it's all about.

### PAPAL INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

#### Catechists

*Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.*



*Stay with us Lord on our journey*



### KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

**The next Council Meeting** will be on this Monday 13th December. All Knights are encouraged to attend, please.

**Don't forget, the Club is open** Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 19:00 – 00:00; Sunday 14:30 – 22:00 every week. A friendly chat, a welcome drink, and a chance to relax as we approach the Christmas Rush! Hours. If you use the car park please register at the bar.



### COVID UPDATE FOR THE PARISH

The parish clergy team has reviewed the current arrangements. In the light of the new variant, the continuously rising numbers of cases, hospitalisations and deaths we decided to leave arrangements unchanged until further notice. We continue to request that adults continue to wear face coverings and sanitize their hands before entering church. Thank you for your help and cooperation in these difficult times.

### LIVE STREAMING—CAN YOU PLEASE HELP ONCE A FORTNIGHT!



Our live stream is a vital, and sometimes the only connection for many of the people in the parish, who, for whatever reason cannot get to Mass on Sundays. We need someone to help out on the live stream team for an hour or two every other Sunday. It's not too hard and it's a new skill, a new insight into how we live-stream services. Full training and lots of support given.

In addition, from time to time we need help with week-day services, (eg funeral Masses, weddings, etc) which is again an invaluable service to many at home and abroad - even if you cannot help on a Sunday, are you sometimes available during the week when you might be needed?

You'll be joining a small, friendly team, giving a great service!

If you think you may be interested and would like to know more, please have a chat Mike Morris on 07929 451 566 or email him at [website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk](mailto:website@goodsamaritanparish.org.uk).

### SVP—"THANK YOU"

On behalf of my wife and myself I would like to thank members of the SVP for the parcel of food items we received last week and have had for a few years now. Had a nice chat to the good person who came about my wife and his mother, both of who have limited walking ability.

Your kindness is well appreciated.

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PARISH BY STANDING ORDER

Our individual church bank accounts **was closed at the end of November**, Please, could those who contribute to St Mary's, Christ the King and St John's by Standing Order, kindly contact your bank and inform them that the payment should now be made as follows:

Name: The Salford Diocesan Trust :The Good Samaritan Parish.  
Sort Code: 205558 Account number: 50404640



**Thank you.**

### FOODBANK—THE NEED CONTINUES



Factors have sadly increased the need for the Foodbank, so the appeal has to continue. There are lots of places where you can drop off actual groceries—non-perishables please unless it's oranges. All the 'big' supermarkets and Spar shops have drop-off points, as do Barclays, Lloyds, and Nationwide banks in the town centre. Why not choose a few extra pieces with your weekly shopping, if you can afford, and help families in great need.

You can also contribute online (via Blessed Trinity at <https://tinyurl.com/BlessedTrinityJustGiving> by making one-off or monthly payments. Congratulations to Blessed Trinity—their **Just Giving webpage has passed the £10,000 marker!! Well done young'uns!!** You can donate cash at St John's Presbytery, drop it off in a clearly marked envelope. This led to **£118.00** being donated during October. **Thank you all for your great and continuing generosity.**

### AN ADVENT PRAYER

Father, as each year comes round anew, we look forward to the coming of your Son and recall his first coming in the stable at Bethlehem. Bless each of us and make us more Christ-like this Christmas. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



### CHURCH STEWARDS



Huge thanks to our stewards who make attendance at church possible as we continue to work at remaining safe. Please call Fr David if you would like to join this invaluable team.

### ST MARY'S CHURCH REPAIRS



St Mary's church unfortunately remains temporarily closed. A new architect has been appointed who will carry out the essential assessments between now and Christmas. He has produced a works schedule which work will start in early January. It should be completed by the end of February ready to open in early March in time for the start of Lent. We will continue to update through the Newsletter and through the Web site.

## PUBLIC MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES WEEK COMMENCING 13TH DECEMBER

Whilst St Mary's church remains closed, all Masses and Services are taking place in the other two churches. This is the planned programme for next week:

<b>Monday</b>	<i>St Lucy</i>	
	9.30am St John's	7.00pm Christ the King
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>St John of the Cross</i>	
	9.30am Christ the King	12.00 noon St John's
<b>Wednesday</b>	Advent I Weekday	
	9.30am Christ the King	7.00pm St John's
<b>Thursday</b>	Advent I Weekday	
	9.30am Christ the King	

### 10.30am Funeral Mass for Kathleen Atkinson RIP at St John's

<b>Friday</b>	Advent II Weekday	
	9.30am St John's	10.00am Christ the King
<b>Saturday</b>	Advent II Weekday	
	9.30am Christ the King	
	<b>Vigil Masses:</b> 6.00pm St John's	6.30pm Christ the King
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	
	9.15am and 5.00pm Christ the King	9.30am** and 11.00am St John's

\*\*The Sunday 9.30am Mass at St John's will be live-streamed.

The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.  
Pope Francis



### WEEKDAY MASS PROGRAMME

With there being only two priests now to serve the parish, you will notice that we have slightly adjusted our weekday Mass programme. We will continue to review this over the coming months to see if any other changes are needed. Fr Damien and Fr David count on your continuing support and encouragement. Thank you.

### EXPOSITION AND RECONCILIATION

**EXPOSITION:** There will be Exposition starting 30 mins before each weekday Mass.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on Saturdays from 5.15pm to 5.55pm at St John's church, prior to the Vigil Mass.

**EXPOSITION AND RECONCILIATION:** There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation every Saturday at Christ the King church from 10.30am to 11.30am.

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS? CAFOD CAN HELP!



**World Gifts** –The new World Gifts catalogues are available at the back of our churches. They offer an opportunity to give life-changing Christmas presents for people living in poverty. You can also see and buy online: <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

### Clergy Team

**Parish Priest:** Fr David Featherstone

St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007

**Assistant:** Fr Damien Louden

St Mary of the Assumption 01282 422007

**Parish email:** david.featherstone@dioceseofsalford.org.uk **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 BB11 2QJ

#### St Mary of the Assumption

3 Todmorden Road  
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#### St John the Baptist

Bracewell St  
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