

The Parish of the Good Samaritan

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



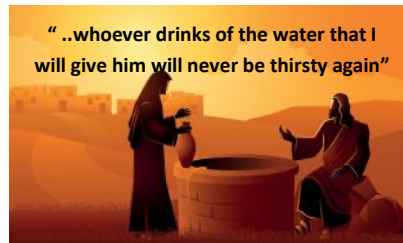
NEWSLETTER

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

8TH MARCH 2026 YEAR A



In today's Gospel, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at a well in the heat of the midday sun. She has made a lot of mistakes and as a result is no doubt the source of much local gossip. Jesus convinces her by talking about "living water" that she needs God in her life. She has come to seek water from the well but is "thirsting" for something else in her life: a chance to change, to be forgiven her sins and to be given a clear new direction for her life. The Lord broke with custom to engage with the woman and this of course paid off and as a result of the encounter many others were won over to believe in Jesus through the word of the Samaritan woman. In this way Jesus shows us that everyone matters to God, he wants no one to be forgotten



or overlooked because everyone is of value to him and of course people can change.

Lent is a time for giving, Jesus gave the woman something money could not buy; He gave her respect. He also gave her self-worth in the sight of God. He gave her hope and a chance to start again. The spirit of Lent is to give without counting the cost to us: when we give we should not do it for ourselves but for the Lord and the good of all. Our giving and other disciplines of Lent are opportunities to change and to become more like Christ. May the Lord help us to always be careful in our encounters with others and give everyone we meet a chance to change and be open to be changed ourselves.

LENT 2026

During Lent we are called to pray, self-sacrifice and charity. There are additional opportunities to help us make Lent a holy and fulfilling preparation for Easter.

Friday early morning Lenten Mass at St Mary's: There will be 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 the churches in the parish. This week it will be on **Friday 13th March at St Mary's at 7.00pm.**

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



SVP HOUSEBOUND MASS

The SVP's next Housebound Mass is on **Saturday March 21st commencing at 12.15pm in St John's Parish Hall.** As in the past it is an invitation across the parish for anyone who is housebound or disabled young or old to attend. If transport is required please contact Klaus on 07977913092 or Maria on 07929256406. The usual lunch will be served afterwards. **All are welcome!**

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2026

Congratulations to the children of the parish who were presented last weekend onto the Parish Sacramental Programme, and also to those who will celebrate being presented onto the Programme at this Sunday's 5.00pm Mass at Christ the King.

MASS INTENTIONS

Anne and Patrick Canning, Michael John Toman, Peggy Purcell, Rita Lyons, Peter Coyne, Mary Ferguson, Elizabeth Gaughan,

Lately Dead: Fr Francis Austin, Fr Bob Morrow, Joan Draper, Jess Collins, Barbara Cardwell, Vera Cambell,

Other intentions: Cesar and Aida Domingo, Thanksgiving for 30 years of marriage. Donor's ints

Anniversaries: Terry Opacic, John Haygarth, Eileen McCaffery, Pitappli Marri Therasa, Albert Fell, Genevieve Whittle, Margaret Melling,

Birthday Memorial: John Whittaker



CATHOLIC SAFER RECRUITMENT DROP-IN SESSION FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ATTENTION OF EVERYONE WHO HELPS IN THE PARISH

We are hosting a Drop in Session" for all parish volunteers who have not registered with the Diocesan Safer Recruitment . We are also inviting those Parish volunteers who have had a change in their voluntary role(s). We would also like to see those parish volunteers whose DBS is due to expire in the next 6 months. Staff from the Diocesan Safeguarding team will be in attendance to assist and answer any questions.

The session will take place in St Mary's Parish rooms on Thursday 19th March between 10am and 3.30pm, no appointment is necessary. For further information please call Anna 07714 664 519.

With sincere thanks for your continuing support for the parish and the mission of the Church.

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.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Bishop John will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for St John Vianney Deanery at St. Mary's church, Burnley at 7.00pm on Thurs 25th June. Young people living in the parish, who are in school year 8 or older and who have completed the Sacramental Programme (ie made their first Holy Communion) are now eligible to be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you are interested please contact Fr David by 31st March , who will give you a letter providing details of the programme of catechesis and a Parental Consent/Application Form. We will also be promoting the Sacrament through Blessed Trinity Catholic College.

A DAY WITH THE LORD 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.



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.



SALFORD DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

If you, or your child, would like to join this group please contact Fr Theo (theo.sharroock@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) during the coming week, so that we can form a group.

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 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



PARISH EVENTS ~ # ~ # ~ # ~ # ~ SNAKES AND LADDERS CHAMPION!

The Good Samaritan Parish now has a **Snakes & Ladders Champion!** Well done to all who took part, cheered and oooed along the way by all who supported. Aand a big on going thanks to all the cake bakers - it really is appreciated! Keep a look out for our next Champion search??!!

There is a gathering next **Wednesday March 11th at 6.30pm at St Johns** to bring together ideas for an **event on Easter Sunday 12th April**. Easter bonnets, tombola, games, hamper raffle, Easter bunnies, refreshments?? If you'd like to offer help or have any ideas but are not able to be around next Wednesday contact Margaret P 07751 025178 - cheers!

A Spring Stroll: is in the air especially on **Sunday March 22nd** so let's go for a Stroll. Everyone is welcome to meet at St Mary's carpark for 1.00pm. We'll walk along to Towneley Hall and if you have not been this way, at this time of year, you're in for a treat as the daffodils line the route. A cup of tea in the cafe could also be enjoyed and yes we go whatever the weather!!

RCIA SCRUTINIES

We are hoping to have a number of people from our parish to be baptised or received into full Communion with the Church this Easter. Four of them; Jake, Izzy, Joshua and Adam are currently "Catechumens" and so will receive the "Scrutinies" during the Sunday Masses over the next three Sundays, starting this Sunday the 3rd Sunday of Lent at 10.45am Mass at St John's. This is based on the Gospel of Jesus and the Samaritan Woman at the well. This is a very important time for them so please pray for them and the candidates over the coming few weeks as Easter draws near.

FORMING CATHOLIC STUDENT LEADERS—COURSES FOR YR 12 AND YR 13 STUDENTS

We offer two summer courses exploring faith, ethics and leadership for sixth form students, offered by the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst.

Join us for 6 days in the beautiful Ribble Valley to explore themes linked to The Common Good (Year 12) and to The Human Ecology (Year 13). Meet new friends, discuss and share with peers, tutors and academics, learn new skills, develop your relationship with Christ, build your character. Find out more at:

www.christianleadershipformation.com

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES AND CARERS

In February the SVP had talks from two local charities which may be of use to some of our parishioners.

Home Start East Lancs have trained volunteers who work with families with children up to the age of 11 years in their own homes or in groups. Other areas of work are, loss of a child and a baby on Neonatal Care Unit. www.homestarteastlancs.org or 01282 6900536

Carers Link Lancashire is a befriending service offering compassion, companionship, conversation and can be used for anything that gives a short break from the caring roll. It is a free service that engages volunteers to offer 2 hours or more per week for regular support to a cared-for adult over the age of 18 who has low level care needs. They also support young carers. 01254 387444 or info@carerslinklancashire.co.uk

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION



Thank you to all our parishioners who took a Fast Day envelope and to those you made a donation on line. Your kind donations can help families around the world to grow food in difficult conditions and enable our neighbours to provide for their families. You can still donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: MONDAY 9TH MARCH TO SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2026

Please note the changes this week

Monday	<i>Lent Weekday</i> 9.30am St Mary's	
Tuesday	<i>Lent Weekday</i> 9.30am St Mary's, 12 Noon St John's	
Wednesday	<i>Lent Weekday</i> 9.30am Christ the King	6.00pm St John's
Thursday	<i>Lent Weekday</i> 9.30am St Mary's	10.00am St John's
Friday	<i>Lent Weekday</i> 6.30am Lenten Mass at St Mary's 9.30am St Mary's 7.00pm Stations of the Cross at St Mary's	NB: No Reconciliation and Exposition today
Saturday	<i>Lent Weekday</i> 9.30am St. Mary's followed by 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	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> 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 the Masses Monday to Friday. (Except before Funerals)

Stay with us Lord on our Journey

HCPT APPEAL

We have heard from HCPT group 72 following their recent appeal at the Sunday Masses across the parish. We raised a total of £1221.10 for which they are very grateful. Please be assured they will remember all you and your families at all the Masses in Lourdes during Easter week this year. Thanks.

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 **45**. Congratulations to this week's winners Please claim your prize from the appropriate sacristy.

St John's ~ Myles St Mary's ~ Teresa Christ the King ~ Daniel



WEEKLY COLLECTION

The offertory collection, not including standing orders, from the three churches in the parish for weekend of 28th Feb / 1st March was £1742.79, for which many thanks.

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

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

Christ the King

Healey Mount Burnley

St Mary of the Assumption

3 Todmorden Road Burnley BB10 4AU

St John the Baptist

Bracewell St Burnley