



St John Southworth's RC Parish

at Christ Church, Carr Road, BB9 7JS
and St John Southworth Church, Vaughan St

Nelson

Parish House: 5 Park Drive,
Nelson, BB9 0JY

Parish Priest: Rev Gerard Kelly

Tel: 01282 614859

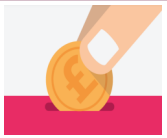
Email: stjohnsouthworthrc@gmail.com



Fourth Sunday of Advent



20th December 2020



Click the box to make a secure
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[St John Southworth's Facebook Page](#)



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

A drama which did not include disappointments and surprises, twists and turns, and impossible situations, would hardly be a drama at all! Life in this world is most certainly a drama, and although we find ourselves in the midst of a swirling plot, in which all kinds of unexpected events take place all around us, we too make our own contribution to the script by the decisions we make and the actions we take!

Once again, we prepare to revisit the scene of Christmas, and once again we are invited to make a response to the God who dreams up, and brings into being, the most outrageous plots and scenarios.

God is sending his Son into our world and, pandemic or no pandemic, this is the news that takes the headlines! However the plot might have been unfolding, everything is now changed and all previous expectations have to be rewritten. I am now invited to write a subplot to the overarching story—the story of how I responded, and how God's initiative changed my world.

"The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." We welcome the lead character on to the stage! He must increase, and we must stand back in amazement and allow the Christmas story to unfold.

May the Lord bring us into an experience of his love in the blessings he bestows upon us.

Fr Gerard

[Fr Gerard shares a Thought for Today on Bolton FM Radio](#)

[Bishop John's message for Christmas](#)

[Fr Gerard's Christmas message for the children](#)

A Christmas Prayer

The Light of Christ: a peaceful glow

The Light of Christ: a guiding truth

The Light of Christ: a searching beam

The Light of Christ: bright, shining truth

The Light of Christ: sparkling with joy

The Light of Christ: shining on me

The Light of Christ: leading me home. (GK)



World Gifts are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the people you give them to, and help transform the lives of families living in poverty.

Click on the logo above to see the CAFOD catalogue

[Monica's Children's Liturgy Video for this Weekend](#)

Filmed on location
at Vaughan Street!



Mass schedule for this coming week, commencing Monday, 21st December

| Monday 21st Dec | Tuesday 22nd Dec | Wed 23rd Dec | Thurs 24th Christmas Eve | Friday Christmas Day | Saturday 26th Dec | Sunday 27th Dec |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|---|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| SH NO MASS | SH 10.00am | SH 10.00am | SH + HS (fully booked) | SH + HS (fully booked) | SH 11.30am | SH (Booking) |
| | CC 8.45am MP 9.00am Mass Exposition | | CC 5.00pm 7.30pm (bookings only) | CC 9.30am (bookings only) | CC 10.00am HS 6.30pm Bookings only | CC 9.30am Bookings only |
| SH = Sacred Heart | | | CC = Christ Church | | HS= Holy Saviour's | |

Masses at SH, live-streamed and recorded, to be found here: [Masses at Sacred Heart, Colne](#)

Online booking for **Christmas Masses** (available now)

I'm afraid to have to say that only those who have made a booking will be allowed into church due to the necessity of maintaining a Covid-safe indoor space, as legislated by the Government.

- Please let me know if you make a booking and you are then unable to come
- Book just ONE place for a household or social bubble and add the number of people attending with you. (eg Mary Smith +3)
- Sorry, masks are a must, and singing is a mustn't!
(All complaints directed to Mr Corona at Virus International)

[Christmas Eve Mass at Christ Church, 5.00pm](#)

[Christmas Eve Mass at Christ Church, 7.30pm](#)

[Christmas Morning Mass at Christ Church, 9.30am](#)



Online booking for **Sunday Masses** (available from 11.00am on previous Sunday)

[Saturday Vigil Mass at Holy Saviour's, 26th December at 6.30pm](#) (Good Shepherd Newsletter)

[Sunday Morning Mass at Christ Church, 27th December at 9.30am](#)

Mass Intentions

John Craig Howarth, 1st Dec
Thomas Howarth, 12th Dec
Thomas Donnelly, 2nd Anniv, 26th Dec
McGuinness Family, Anniv, 28th Dec

Book of Remembrance

Dec 21 Mary O'Donnell
Dec 21 Jim Eccles
Dec 23 Jean Garaghty
Dec 24 Charlie Horner
Dec 27 Valerie Emery
Dec 25 Joan Willan
Dec 27 Edward Nolan
Dec 27 Norah Seel



POUND DRAW

Last Sunday's winners: £10 Nick Spain
£10 Helen Keating
£10 Marie Clarke.



£72 towards Parish funds, thank you! Don't forget extra prize of £50 this Sunday (20th). You might fancy putting an extra envelope in!!

Last Week's Church Collection

Envelopes: £321.00
Loose Monies: £173.00
We also receive approximately £265.00 p/w in standing-order donations.
MANY THANKS!

Masses for Christmas and New Year in Nelson and Colne

Christmas Eve (Thursday, 24th Dec)

CC 5.00pm

SH 6.00pm

CC 7.30pm

HS 7.30pm

Christmas Day (Friday, 25th Dec)

SH 9.00am

CC 9.30am

HS 10.30am

St Stephen (Saturday, 26th Dec)

CC 10.00am

SH 11.30am

HS 6.30pm (Vigil Mass)

Holy Family (Sunday, 27th Dec)

CC 9.30am

SH 9.30am

Monday 28th Dec (The Holy Innocents)

CC 10.00am

Tuesday, 29th Dec (St Thomas Becket)

CC 10.00am (followed by Exposition)

SH 10.00am

Wed, 30th Dec (sixth day of Octave)

CC 10.0am

SH 10.00am

Thurs, 31st Dec (seventh day of Octave)

CC 10.00am

SH 6.30pm (Exposition at 5.45pm)

Mary, Mother of God (Friday, 1st Jan)

SH 10.00am

CC 10.00am

Saturday, 2nd Jan

SH 11.45am

HS 6.30pm (Vigil Mass)

2nd Sunday of Christmas 3rd Jan

CC 9.30am

SH 9.30am

Monday, 4th January

CC 10.00am

Tuesday, 5th January

CC 10.00am

SH 10.00am

The Epiphany (Wednesday 6th Jan)

CC 10.00am

HS 10.00

SH 7.00pm

Key to the churches:

CC Christ Church

SH Sacred Heart

HS Holy Saviour's