



## 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

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**3rd Sunday of Easter**  
**18th April 2021**



Click the box to make a secure  
online donation to the parish!

[St John Southworth's Facebook Page](#)

Click link for live-streamed and recorded Masses.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I would like to bring to our attention the Sacrament of Reconciliation! It could be said that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the first gift to the Church from the Risen Lord. On that first Easter Sunday evening, Jesus appeared to his disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained."

Although we are all called to generously offer, and humbly receive, forgiveness in all our relationships, it is, of course, only God who can forgive sins against God! Jesus, as the unique Son of God, has the authority to speak on behalf of his Father, and the words spoken to us by Jesus are words of mercy and forgiveness.

Jesus prolongs his presence and ministry in the world by being present to us in the Church through the power of the Holy Spirit. It is in the Sacrament of Reconciliation that we find a privileged encounter with Jesus who now speaks his words of forgiveness through the priest who is entrusted with this ministry by Jesus.

When we follow Jesus, we realise that we are called to follow a path for which we need a strength which is beyond our human capacity. We can become settled in a way of being for which we excuse ourselves by saying, "Well, I'm only human" or we can accept God's grace and healing which brings the power of the resurrection into our lives.

In the near future, I intend to provide as much opportunity as possible for everyone to receive this most precious and personal sacrament which opens the way to a deeper and more intimate union with the Lord.

Take care, and may the blessings of the Easter Season be ours.

Fr Gerard.

We continue to keep in our prayers those parishioners who have recently died: Irene Sumner, Alan Waddington, and Bob Spillane. We present them to the Lord with every confidence that in His love and mercy, He will receive them into his loving care, and send His Holy Spirit to console their families with His peace.

### POUND DRAW WINNERS THIS WEEK

£10 Elliott Taylor, £10 Margaret Clarke, £10 Gerald Howarth

£80 towards Parish Funds,

Thank you very much.



## Mass Schedule for week beginning Monday 19th April, 2021

Monday 19th April	Tuesday 20th April	Wednesday 21st April	Thursday 22nd April	Friday 23rd April	Saturday 24th April	Sunday 25th April
<a href="#">Please see parish of the Good Shepherd newsletter for Mass times at SH and HS</a>						
CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am Funeral Bob Spillane	CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am Exposition	CC 10.00am	CC No Mass	CC 9.30am (booking)

### Online booking for upcoming Masses

[Saturday Vigil Mass at Holy Saviour's, 24th April, 6.30pm](#) (Good Shepherd Newsletter)

[Sunday Morning Mass at Christ Church, 25th April, 9.30am](#) (click on link)

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
This week: 18th April	Roger Lee	Margaret Borman
Next week: 25th April	Maureen Rawlinson	Monica McArdle

#### Mass Intentions

Irene Sumner, died recently  
 Alan Waddington, died recently  
 Bob Spillane, died recently  
 Nora Brown, anniv.

**NB.** When booking for Mass, please remember to make just ONE booking per household. The number of 'bubbles' in the church is more critical than the number of individuals! (Eg John Smith +2)

#### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

It was great to welcome 28 children, along with a parent or carer, to our first Sacramental Programme meeting last Tuesday. I am so grateful for the team who are leading the programme: Margaret Borman, Linda Goddard, Amanda Duckett, Sian Spencer and Monica McArdle. I would most certainly be 'lost at sea' amidst a church filled with Y3s and Y4s! It was lovely to welcome the heads and deputy heads of both schools to the meeting which highlighted for all of us that our first Holy Communion preparation is both valued and supported by our schools. We pray that the children of our parish may come to know Jesus as a constant and faithful friend in their lives and, by a gift of faith, come to know him truly present in Holy Communion.

#### Book of Remembrance

April 20 Rev Louis Purcell.  
 (Nelson born, APF Missionary priest)

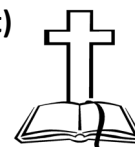
April 20 Alice Rushton

April 21 Agnes Bulman

April 22 Denis McDermott  
 (Head at Holy Trinity School for many years,  
 former Parish organist)

April 23 Leonard Quinn

April 23 James Littlefair



#### Church Collection

Last week's collection : £221.30  
 Standing Orders: approx. £285 p/w .  
 CAFOD: £164.50  
 Many thanks!

#### Monica's Children's Liturgy Video

*Boris discovers Easter joy!*



#### Conscientious Objectors in Nelson, 1916-1919 in Nelson (click here)

I have been emailed by a lady doing research into the Conscientious Objectors in the 1st World War. She is interested in a story of three Catholic brothers from Nelson, and wondered if anybody had any further information than that contained in the article which you can find on the link above. The lady is called Theresa Alessandro and her email address is: [message4theresa@gmail.com](mailto:message4theresa@gmail.com).