



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 (click)

4th Sunday of Advent



19th December, 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.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation captures the full meaning of Advent, in that it is the ideal preparation for the celebration of the presence of the Lord in our lives!

The baby Jesus is born into the humble stable; the Light shines in the darkness; the Saviour comes to reconcile us to the Father; and words of forgiveness are spoken to the repentant sinner.

These statements of faith give us glimpses into God's plan of salvation for the world, but it's only when we make our own personal step of faith that we enter into this dimension of life that is hidden from the casual onlooker. We ourselves must step into the stable; we must recognise the darkness that engulfs our world; we must desire to enter into a close friendship with God; and we must long to know God's forgiveness for our sins.

The 'Inn without vacancies', where worldly merriment is the order of the day, still stands on the corner of every street! The real excitement is taking place elsewhere! It's away from the lights and the music that the glory of God shines forth and the sound of angels can be heard.

Why not slip down to church, and, in that seemingly rather unspectacular meeting with the priest, find the One who speaks the most important words we will ever hear, "I absolve you from your sins..."

Opportunities to receive this sacrament of cleansing and new-beginning are available in this coming week at Christ Church:

Monday: 6.00 - 7.00pm

Tuesday: 6.00 - 7.00pm

Wednesday: 6.00 - 7.00pm

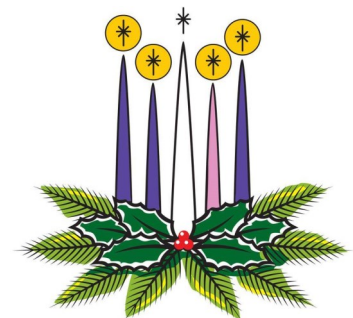
Thursday: after 10.00am Mass - 11.50am

Christmas Eve: 10.00 - 11.00am

May our preparation for Christmas be complete!

With every blessing,

Fr Gerard



Advent Reconciliation



On Christmas Eve there will be a special **Children's Mass at 5.00pm in Christ Church, Carr Road, Nelson**. We hope that the children will take part in telling the Nativity story during the Gospel. If your child is willing to be involved, then a simple rehearsal will then take place **after 9.30am Mass this Sunday 19th December**. There will also be a second opportunity to rehearse on **Christmas Eve at 10.30am**.

Thank you, Monica (McArdle)

(Email: monica.mcardle@dioceseofsalford.org.uk/Tel: 01282 614859)

Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 20th December, 2021

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Monday 20th December | Tuesday 21st December | Wednesday 22nd December | Thursday 23rd December | Friday 24th December | Saturday 25th December | Sunday 26th December |
| For times of Masses at Sacred Heart, Colne, click here. | | | | | | Holy Saviour's 11.15am |
| CC 10.00am Funeral | CC 10.00am | CC 10.00am | CC 10.00am Exposition until 12.00 | Christmas Eve CC 5.00pm 7.30pm | Christmas Day CC 9.30am | CC 9.30am |

| Date | Reader 1 | Reader 2 |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| This week: 19th December | Roger Lee | Monica McArdle |
| Next week: 26th December | Carol Hartley | Margaret Needham |

The 10.00am Mass on Monday, 20th December will be the funeral Mass for Bernard Welsh.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Every Sunday of Advent through until Christmas at 9.30am Mass

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Dec 21 Mary O'Donnell
Dec 21 Jim Eccles
Dec 23 Jean Garaghty
Dec 24 Charlie Horner
Dec 25 Joan Willan



May the memory of the lives of those who have gone before us, inspire us to be a people of faith and prayer; may they rest in peace, AMEN.

POUND DRAW WINNERS

£10 Jackie Jennings;
£10 Orla Dempsey;
£10 Ray Whalley;



£69.00 towards Parish Funds. Thank you!

This Sunday is the special Christmas Draw with £100 first prize, £50 second prize, £25 third prize and £15 fourth prize.

THE DRAW WILL CLOSE 15 MINUTES BEFORE MASS STARTS, 9.15am.

The Draw will then take place at the end of Mass in Church rather than the cafe. Thanks for all your support and good luck! Jack, Wilf and Ian.

Mass Intentions

Mike Kenny, RIP
Gerda McArdle, b'day anniv, 19th Dec

CHURCH COLLECTION

5th December: £179.00
Standing Orders: approx. £335 p/w.

Instruction in the Catholic Faith

On Saturday 8th January we will begin to hold sessions for non-Catholics who might be interested in learning more about the Faith. We will meet on Saturday mornings at either Sacred Heart in Colne or Christ Church in Nelson. If you, or someone you know, would like to come along, then get in touch with the parish priest or simply come along to Sacred Heart Church at 10.00am on Saturday 8th January.

Welcome - to Rev Rick Ormrod & Carol Service

This weekend, we welcome Rev Rick Ormrod who will share some words with us during our Sunday Mass. May the Holy Spirit anoint his words, and may our hearts be open to receive the gift that Rick brings!

We are invited to join with the Methodists in a shared Carol Service which will take place after Mass at 11.00am.



The final C.A.F.O.D. Advent Soup-Lunch takes place this Friday 17th December, **TODAY!** after 12.00 noon Mass.