

St John Southworth's RC Parish at Christ Church, Carr Road, BB9 7JS Nelson

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New Year's Weekend



1st/2nd Jan 2022



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,

Whenever we set off on a ferryboat, whether across to Ireland or across the English Channel, or maybe to even more exotic destinations, our gaze tends to be fixed on the receding shoreline. Our hearts and minds are filled with all that we are leaving behind, and it can be an emotional, if not a spiritual, moment. This would be especially the case if we are leaving loved ones behind, and even more so if we don't know if we will ever be returning!

As we arrive at the other side of the sea, our eyes fix themselves on the land coming into view. There is always something exciting about the sight of a distant shore, especially if we have never travelled this way before. What adventures will be in store for us? Who will we meet? And then, disembarking into a new situation where everything is that little bit unfamiliar, we can begin to feel like strangers in a foreign land.

We don't really notice the transition we make from looking back to looking forward, but if we don't make that necessary adjustment, then the homesickness we will suffer as a consequence makes the seasickness we might have experienced during the crossing seem as nothing!

These images of 'leaving' and 'arriving' can help us to reflect on the 'crossing' that we make as we leave one year behind and arrive into a new year. No matter what the past has been for us, we can now look forward to a new year of opportunity.

We might make some New Year's resolutions, or have goals that we wish to accomplish, but the highest and most satisfying goals are those that flow from the Holy Spirit at work in our hearts. The Holy Spirit's desires for us are not necessarily 'religious', as such, but they do take us in a direction that ultimately leads us into closer relationship with God.

And so our greeting might be that of, "Have a happy and a holy New Year!" This is because holiness is guaranteed to lead on to happiness and fulfilment, and in ways that we wouldn't even be able to dream up for ourselves!

So, with a final look over my shoulder, may I just acknowledge all the Christmas greetings, cards, and gifts that I have received over the Christmas period. Many thanks for your kindness and generosity!

And on that note, may I wish you all a happy and a holy New Year. May the Lord come to us with unexpected blessings as we acknowledge that this coming year belongs to him, and as we receive it from his hands as wonderful gift to us!

In the love of Jesus, our Lord,

Fr Gerard

Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 3rd January, 2022

Monday 3rd January	Tuesday 4th January	Wednesday 5th January	Thursday 6th January	Friday 7th January	Saturday 8th January	Sunday 9th January
For times of Masses at Holy Saviour's, and Sacred Heart, Colne, click here.						
CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am	CC The Epiphany 10.00am	CC 10.00am	RCIA Meeting 10.00am Sacred Heart	CC 9.30am

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2	
This week: 2nd January	Jeremiah	Zachariah	
Next week: 9th January	Gerard King	Maggie King	

Epiphany of the Lord, Thursday, 6th January, Mass 10.00am

CHRISTMAS POUND-DRAW WINNERS

£100.00 Linda Shutt

£50.00 Brian Sagar

£25.00 Charlotte Hancox

£15.00 Bernadette Whitaker



Thanks again for making the Christmas Draw such a great success.

Jack, Wilf, and Ian.



Pound Draw Winners this week.

£10 St John Southworth Parish;

£10 Mary Mullarkey;

£10 Margaret Morgan

£58 towards Parish funds. Thank you!



This week we paid £895 to CAFOD which was the sum of monies collected at the Advent soup lunches and donated through the CAFOD box.

An amazing effort on behalf of those in desperate need throughout the world. Thank you!

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Jan 2nd, Mildred Hodson Jan 6th, Winifred May Spenser Jan 7th, Mary Anne Jennings Jan 8th, Gerald C Kelly



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.

Mass Intentions

Peggy Duffy, anniv, 27th Dec.

Christine Hill (Beeby), 6th anniv, 31st Dec.

Mary Ingham, anniv, 2nd Jan.

Kathleen Boland, died recently.

Herman Eccles, RIP.

Mary Eccles, RIP.

John Fox, RIP.

Mary Fox, RIP.

Hugh Fox, RIP.

Private intention

Margaret Collier

Raymond Du Preez

Jacinta Grahame

CHURCH COLLECTION

24th/25th/26th December: £672.30 Standing Orders: approx. £340 p/w.

A HAPPY AND HOLY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!