

# St John Southworth's RC Parish

at Holy Saviour's Church, Vulcan St, BB9 8HE and Christ Church, Carr Road, BB9 7JS

### Nelson

Parish House: 5 Park Drive,

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Parish Priest: Rev Gerard Kelly

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Click on the moneybox 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 always experience the beginning of September as a new beginning - even more so than the beginning of Advent or the beginning of a new calendar year in January. The summer period thus provides a transition-time during which we might reflect on where we are in life, and in which direction we would like to be moving in the year and years ahead.

This might be true for our personal lives, but also as a Church or parish we might ask ourselves what is happening and where are we going? As one of the ever decreasing number of priests I have to constantly review my responsibilities, and, calling on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I have to reassess what my priorities might be.

It would seem to me that the role and purpose of the Church is to proclaim, promote, and encourage faith in the person of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. There are many individuals and organisations promoting health and well-being, social outreach, care for the environment, education, and every kind of human development; there are also many groups campaigning for a better world where human rights are respected and opportunities for all are promoted.

I would not want to belittle at all the importance of all these 'good works' but—and this might sound a little controversial—all these activities can obscure the essential vocation of the Church which is to bring people into a living relationship with the Father through faith in Jesus.

No other persons or groups or organisations are going to promote faith in Jesus, and, in fact, by their non-reference to Jesus, many 'good' people unconsciously and unintentionally actually supress faith as being an irrelevance in our society while they get on with the 'real work' of building our world!

These reflections do not provide me with a blueprint of how to be a priest, or a template of how we might be a parish, or a code of behaviour as to how we might be Catholics; they do, however, encourage us to ask searching questions as to what we think we are trying to achieve as disciples of Jesus.

One thought that comes to mind is that the elderly, sick, and housebound can be catered for so well by carers and nurses, and supported so well by the NHS which is always at work in the background. But, no one will bring a word of faith and Holy Communion to these sometimes forgotten members of the Catholic community other than the brothers and sisters who share together in the Mass at church.

I think it would be a great Catholic witness to search out those who would welcome Jesus in the Sacrament and to serve them in this particular need. What do you think?

Take care, and God bless,

Fr Gerard.

# Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 8th August, 2022

Monday 8th August	Tuesday 9th August	Wednesday 10th August	Thursday 11th August	Friday 12th Aug	Saturday 13th Aug	Sunday 14th Aug The Assumption
CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am Eucharistic Service	Funeral Service 10.30am HS HS: 7.00pm	CC 10.00am Exposition until 12.00	CC 10.00am	Baptism HS 1.00pm	CC: 9.30am HS: 11.15am

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2	
This week: 7th August	Jeremiah	Zechariah	
Next week: 14th August	Maggie King	Gerard King	

Children's Liturgy: There will be no children's liturgy during the summer holiday.

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Anne Pemberton, died recently.

#### ANNUAL RETREAT at the BRIERY, ILKLEY.

This year, the parish retreat will take place in October on the weekend of Friday 21st (5.00pm) - Sunday 23rd (2.00pm).

£140.00 for the weekend. Single, double, twin rooms - all ensuite - with lift access available.

£20.00 deposit required.

Transport by own car - lifts can be arranged. Dietary requirements—inform Sue on booking. Saturday afternoon free in town.

Refresh your soul as well as your body!

Contact Sue Barnes on 01282 618231 for details.

## **POUND DRAW WINNERS**

£10 Orla Dempsey

£10 Margaret Clark



£65.00 towards Parish Funds, thanks very much.

The weekly Parish Pound Draw is being extended to include entries from Holy Saviour's.

If you would like to participate, then just put a pound in the brown envelopes provided, and put your name and telephone number on the front. Place your envelope in the blue box at the back of church. If you prefer, you can put £10 in the envelope and you will be entered for ten weeks and then reminded after ten weeks to renew your subscription. Anyone from Holy Saviour's who would like to help run this please contact Fr Gerard or Ian Dempsey (615057) for more info.

#### **CHURCH COLLECTION**

31st July, 2022: £335.00 Standing Orders: approx. £635 p/w.

#### **BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

August 1st Clive Astbury (1999)

August 4th Rose Mary Shutt (1977)

August 5th Anne Rossall (1986)

August 9th Lucy Gildea (2005)

August 12th Annie Darcy (1955)

August 13th Annie Fegan (1985)

August 14th Jason Lee Thompson (1992)

Paul Simm (2019)

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

# Tea & coffee in the presbytery at Holy Saviour's after 11.15am, Sunday Mass.

In order to facilitate the Sunday-morning social time, we need volunteers who will get things ready before-hand, serve the tea and coffee, and clean and tidy at the finish. If you feel this is something you can do, then please give your name to Sheila Birchall who will put a rota together so that we can have a couple of people taking responsibility each week.

#### **CATHOLIC ENQUIRIES**

Beginning with an introductory meeting on 17th September we will run a series of instruction sessions for those who might be interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. Please ask Fr Gerard for more information.

#### **FUNERAL SERVICE**

Next week's funeral service on Wed 10th August at Holy Saviour's at 10.30am is for Margaret Phelan (79). May the Lord receive her into his eternal glory, and bestow peace on her family.