



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

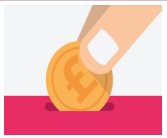
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2nd Sunday of Christmas



3rd January 2021



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

[St John Southworth's Facebook Page](#)
New! Live-streamed Masses each day from
Christ Church.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

A very Happy New Year to you all!

We call to mind that we are celebrating a New Year of the Christian era—2020 years have elapsed since the birth of Christ as we now step out into the year 2021.

In John's Gospel, Jesus describes himself rather enigmatically as 'the gate'. I have a sense that Jesus invites us into the New Year, holding open the gate for us so that we can receive the New Year as a gift from him.

"Enter this New Year with me!" he would say to each one of us. This is the only way we can be sure that we will be able to make the most of the year that lies ahead, and we will have the discernment and courage to make not just the best choices but the holiest choices!

A holy choice is the choice that Jesus himself would make; a choice which considers only God's will and the benefit of others; a choice that doesn't count the cost of any sacrifice that maybe involved.

Robert Frost once wrote a poem called, "The Road Not Taken" in which we find the lines:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference.

These words are reminiscent of the words of Jesus who tells us that it is the wide road which leads to perdition, but it's the narrow road which leads to life. And then he adds in rather ominous tones, "And few there are that find it!"

Let's step through the gate which is Jesus and skip into the New Year with excitement in our hearts as we prepare to receive all that is to come as a gift from Jesus to his friends.

May God bless you and your families with peace and joy,

Fr Gerard.

It is with sadness that I announce the news of the death of Joan Simm on Tuesday 29th December. Joan was known to many in the parishes of St John Southworth and The Good Shepherd. We keep Joan and her family in our prayers at this time.

Epiphany Masses, this Wednesday, 6th Jan

Holy Saviour's, 10.00am

Christ Church: 12.00noon

Sacred Heart: 7.00pm

[Monica's Children's Liturgy](#)
[Epiphany Video](#)

Filmed on location
at Vaughan Street!



Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 4th January 2021

Monday 4th Jan	Tuesday 5th Jan	Wednesday 6th Jan	Thursday 7th Jan	Friday 8th Jan	Saturday 9th Jan	Sunday 10th Jan
SH No Mass	SH 10.00am	HS 10.00am SH 7.00pm	SH 6.30pm	SH 10.00am	SH 11.45am	SH (Booking) 9.30am
CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am (followed by exposition)	Epiphany CC <u>12.00noon</u>	CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am	HS (Booking) 6.30pm CC No Mass	CC (Booking) 9.30am
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 **Sunday Masses** (booking available from 11.00am on previous Sunday)
[Saturday Vigil Mass at Holy Saviour's, 9th January at 6.30pm](#) (Good Shepherd Newsletter)
[Sunday Morning Mass at Christ Church, 10th January at 9.30am](#)

First Holy Communion Programme

One of the many disruptions caused by the pandemic is that of the delay in beginning the First Holy Communion preparation for the children in Year 3, or above, who attend St John Southworth's and Holy Trinity primary schools. It would seem that when the new term begins in the New Year we will have to make a start in organising this programme even if we have to begin with online sessions with the children and parents.

If you would like to be part of the First Holy Communion Preparation Team then please contact me and we can have a chat about how the programme will work and how you might be able to be involved.

Thank you for considering this important invitation.

Church Collection for Christmas

£711.50 (including a donation of £150.00)
 Standing Orders: approx. £265 p/w
 Many thanks!

Mass Intentions

Abina Falvey: died recently
 Joan Simm: died recently

Book of Remembrance

Jan 6th William Spencer
 Jan 7th Michael Jennings
 Jan 8th Gerald Kelly
 Jan 9th Annie Halstead.

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 this week: £10 Margaret Hillary;
 £10 Eileen Spillane;
 £10 Orla Dempsey.



£76 towards Parish Funds.

Update on Pound Draw Accounts

Monies received: £1,191.00
 Monies paid out in prizes: £510.00
 Gifts received: £272.00
 Money paid into parish funds: £951.00

The year 2020 was so severely disrupted in terms of cancellation of weekend Masses that the Draw took place on only 19 weekends.

Thank you all for your support this year, and best wishes for the New Year.

The Pound Draw Team.