



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



4th Sunday of Easter
25th 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,

When I was a student for the priesthood at Ushaw College in the North East of England, the 4th Sunday of Easter was the day on which the students were sent out to local parishes around Durham to speak at Masses about their vocation journey. The 'journey' refers to the series of thoughts, feelings, situations, events, relationships, and all those experiences of life that have led to the present moment, and the decision to explore the road to priesthood.

This exercise was of great benefit to the students who had a chance to get out of the confines of the seminary and to speak about their faith to the parishioners who they were preparing to serve as future priests. However, there was one unfortunate drawback! As seminarians talking about our vocation, we seemed to be confirming in the minds of the listeners that only certain, and even few, Catholics had a vocation to respond to a personal call from the Lord in their lives. It is true that the Lord doesn't call everyone to priesthood, but, a deeper truth is that the Lord wants to speak to each one of us in our lives, guiding us along that journey towards the fulfilment of his plans and purposes for each one of us.

So many people are living good lives within their families where they are hard-working, faithful, and dedicated to spouse and children and grandchildren. This is a solid foundation on which the Lord can help us to further develop our Christian life. But, without grace and the prompting of the Holy Spirit, our sense of vocation can become stifled and limited, and the wider family of the church begins to suffer. Who is taking care in a personal way of the lonely, those without immediate family, and all those who need the love and support that professional services can't provide?

If we all say that that these concerns are someone else's responsibility, then we are not on the journey to discovering the fullness of our own personal vocation. The question which leads to a more personal sense of vocation is: Lord, what are you asking of me?

*May God bless you and your families,
Fr Gerard*

Sacramental Programme

Our next meeting for the candidates preparing for their first Reconciliation and Holy Communion takes place this Tuesday evening at Christ Church at either 4.30pm or 6.00pm.

POUND DRAW WINNERS THIS WEEK

£10 Margaret O'Brien; £10 Mary Porter; £10 Joe Gibbons.
£66 towards Parish Funds. Thank you.



Mass Schedule for week beginning Monday 26th April, 2021

Monday 26th April	Tuesday 27th April	Wednesday 28th April	Thursday 29th April	Friday 30th April	Saturday 1st May	Sunday 2nd May
Please see parish of the Good Shepherd newsletter for Mass times at SH and HS						
CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am	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, 1st May, 6.30pm](#) (Good Shepherd Newsletter)

[Sunday Morning Mass at Christ Church, 2nd May, 9.30am](#) (click on link)

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
This week: 25th April	Maureen Rawlinson	Monica McArdle
Next week: 2nd May	Zachariah	Jeremiah

Mass Intentions

Mary Perkins, died recently
 Eileen Sharkey, died recently
 Letizia Pomini (sister of Emily Sutton, died in Italy, 10th March 2021, aged 88)
 Charles Sutton, anniv, 22nd March

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 +1)

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL

This weekend we will have a collection in support of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). SPUC is currently campaigning to stop home abortion. In home abortions women are given pills to take at home without medical supervision. This development is one of the most dangerous threats in decades to unborn children and their mothers. Please be generous in supporting SPUC in their campaign to defend the inviolable right to life of the unborn child. Online donations can be made here: [Donate to SPUC](#).

A donation box will also be available at the back of church.

Book of Remembrance

April 26th Angelina Shepherd
 April 28th Agnes Varyam
 April 30th Eileen Thomason
 May 1st Dorothy Reid
 May 2nd Angela Cairns
 May 2nd Bagio Parente



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

Church Collection

Last week's collection : £183.50
 Standing Orders: approx. £285 p/w .
 Many thanks!

Monica's Children's Liturgy Video

How has the Good Shepherd been good to you?!

