



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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7th Sunday of Easter



16th May 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.

A Novena Of Prayer & Reconciliation

Lord Jesus, you send your Holy Spirit to live in our hearts.

May your Breath of Life bring us forgiveness and freedom from sin.

**May your Spirit of Love lead us into new depths of relationship
with you and with one another.**

**May your Church, gifted with signs and wonders,
be empowered to bring your Good News to our world. AMEN**



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The Novena of Prayer and Reconciliation is underway! On Ascension Thursday we celebrated the Ascension of Jesus into glory - his mission in this world is accomplished! However, although it was the mission of Jesus to put the cornerstone in place, he has handed over the task of completing the building to his Church.

The task which has been handed on to us becomes the very reason that the Church exists - the Church exists to extend the mission of Jesus throughout history. This mission, although it embraces the concrete realities of our world, is essentially a supernatural undertaking and can be accomplished only through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

This is why the Feast of Pentecost, for which we are preparing, is of supreme importance. In the Incarnation, Jesus took on human flesh - the divine embraced what was human. At Pentecost, that which would be merely human is raised up to become a divine reality! The Church, unlike any other human grouping or organisation is of divine origin, and can be referred to as the Body of Christ.

It was not until Jesus, purposefully and specifically entered into his work of mission that his divine nature began to be revealed to the world. At the age of thirty three, Jesus entered into his Spirit-filled life of mission, demonstrating his authority over evil spirits, his power to bring healing to the broken, and his unbreakable resolve to do his Father's will.

As disciples of Jesus, at some point in our lives, it dawns upon us that we are called to 'punch above our weight'! We have been entrusted with a task, on which our salvation depends, but a task that we cannot accomplish in our own strength!

What is the solution to this life or death conundrum? The answer is that it is the Holy Spirit who heals and enhances our human nature that we may enter truly into the life and mission of Jesus!

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession, is a necessary aid to us if we are going to be sharpened and well-oiled tools in the hand of the Lord, that we may give ourselves to the building of the Kingdom and follow Jesus through Death and Resurrection and be taken up into glory with him.

May the Lord be with us all in this week of prayer and reconciliation,
and may we be with him in his openness and submission to the Holy Spirit.

With every blessing,
Fr Gerard

Mass Schedule for week beginning Monday 17th May, 2021

Monday 17th May	Tuesday 18th May	Wednesday 19th May	Thursday 20th May	Friday 21st May	Saturday 22nd May	Sunday 23rd May
For times of Masses and booking at Sacred Heart, click here.						HS 11.15am (booking)
CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am Exposition until 12.00	CC 10.00am	CC No Mass	CC 9.30am (booking)

Online booking for upcoming Masses

[Sunday Morning Mass at Christ Church, 23rd May, 9.30am](#) (click on link)

[Sunday Morning Mass at Holy Saviour's, 23rd May, 11.15am](#) (click on link)

Times of Exposition and Reconciliation at Christ Church

Weekdays from Monday 17th May - Friday 21st May: every evening from 6.00pm—7.30pm

Thursday 20th May: after 10.00am Mass until 12.00noon.

Saturday 22nd May: 9.30am - 12.00noon

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
This week: 16th May	Margaret Borman	Maureen Rawlinson
Next week: 23rd May	Monica McArdle	Roger Lee

[In this video \(click here\)](#), two American priests chat about Confession. To my “non-American” ears it can sound a little amusing but I can assure you that these guys are deadly serious! I knew them during my two years in Detroit when I was studying there. That said, it is good to hear about the understanding of the Sacrament coming from a different culture.

Church Collection

Last week's collection : £438.95
Standing Orders: approx. £295 p/w.
CAFOD: £25.00

Sacramental Programme

Congratulations to the children who are celebrating their First Forgiveness this weekend. Even the very young ones have a developing sense of the difference between right and wrong. They know almost instinctively that loving decisions are the right decisions. However, it takes experience, wisdom, and God's grace to develop those initial thoughts and feelings into a life-project of striving for what is referred to in the Eucharistic Prayer as the “fullness of charity”. It's the responsibility of the whole Parish to model what this means in our own practices so that we each become lights for each other and especially to the young ones.

Monica's Children's Liturgy Video

Follow Boris's Novena each day on the above link!



POUND DRAW WINNERS THIS WEEK

£10 David Hustler; £10 Margaret Clarke;
£10 Tyrone McLaughlin.
£71 to Parish Funds, thanks very much.



Book of Remembrance

May 20 Rev Fr Bernard Heseltine
May 21 Leonard Redfern.



Mass Intentions

Colin Hardacre
William Spillane, died recently