



St John Southworth's RC Parish

at Christ Church, Carr Road, BB9 7JS

Nelson

Parish House: 5 Park Drive,
Nelson, BB9 0JY

Parish Priest: Rev Gerard Kelly

Tel: 01282 614859

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5th Sunday of Lent

Pray for Ukraine



3rd April 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.

FINANCE MATTERS!

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Although I advert very little to matters of money, the financial situation of the parish is a real and integral dimension of parish life, and, like everything else, needs some attention from time to time. As parish priest, it is my duty, along with the parish finance committee, to keep my eye on the financial health of the parish, and so, with these thoughts in mind, I would like to bring some concerns to your attention:

1. The two years of pandemic has reduced our practising congregation by about a quarter to a third of pre-pandemic levels; this has consequently reduced our income. Those who 'pay as you go' don't make a contribution when they don't 'go'! The bills, however, remain much the same— apart from a reduction in the number of communion hosts required!
2. The weekly income of the parish does not cover the general running costs of the parish, and, although the parish does have reserve funds, I just don't think that a parish which is not covering its own day-to-day running costs is in a good place.
3. For those of us who are still giving to the parish, I would ask you to review your level of giving— inflation does eat away at our giving, devaluing what we might have decided on two or three years ago!
4. Maybe most importantly, I would ask everyone to consider making a standing-order donation! This method of giving is by far the easiest way to give because, after a simple form has been filled in, everything is automatic. Also, on the receiving end of the standing-order donation everything becomes so much easier: there is no need for collecting, no need for counting, no need for going to the bank, no security issues. Apart from these considerations, the Diocese has rolled out a new accounting system called *Xero* which connects directly to the bank account so even the accounting process becomes automatic once it has been set up (thank you to Gerard Spain!)
5. Personally speaking, I think that the days of using cash and envelopes, which have to be accounted for manually each week, are passing. I remember in my father's day that there were four teams of counters in the parish and I sometimes went along with my dad to 'help out' (or so I thought!). This is not the parish life of today, and will certainly not be the parish life of tomorrow!
6. I finish with the words of St Paul: "Remember, thin sowing means thin reaping!" (2 Cor 9:6)

With every prayer and blessing,
Fr Gerard

Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 4th April, 2022

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday 4th April | Tuesday 5th April | Wednesday 6th April | Thursday 7th April | Friday 8th April | Saturday 9th April | Sunday 10th April |
| For times of Masses at Sacred Heart, Colne, click here. | | | | | | Holy Saviour's 11.15am |
| CC 10.00am | CC 10.00am | CC 10.00am HS 7.00pm | CC 10.00am Exposition until 12.00 | CC 12.00 noon CAFOD LUNCH | | CC 9.30am Passion Sunday |

| Date | Reader 1 | Reader 2 |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| This week: 3rd April | Jeremiah | Zachariah |
| Next week: 10th April | Gerard King | Maggie King |

Children's Liturgy : **This week:** Linda & Amanda **Next week:** Wendy & Khuram

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

April 4th, John Richardson (1966)

April 4th, Lilian Baldwin (2007)

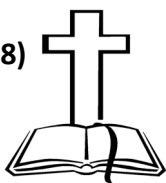
April 5th, Father Thomas Dillon (1928)
(PP Brierfield, 1919 to 1928)

April 5th, Bob Spillane (2021)

April 9th, Catherine Burrows (1979)

April 9th, Mary Holden (1996)

April 10th, Betty Hirst, (2011)



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.

Mass Intentions

Anne Whalley, special intention.
Clare Fitzpatrick, died recently.
Bob Spillane, 1st anniv, April 5th.
Sarah Howarth (for Mothers' Day)

POUND DRAW WINNERS THIS WEEK

£10 S Ellison
£10 G Turner
£10 R Hartley
£62.00 towards Parish Funds, thank you!

Deanery Lenten Station Masses

The third of this year's three Deanery Lenten Station Masses will take place this coming **Thursday, 7th April** at St Anselm's, Whitworth. Mass will begin at 7.00pm. Once again, if you would like to attend this Mass, and require transport, then just inform me or Ian Dempsey, and a lift will be arranged.

CHURCH COLLECTION

27th March, 2022: £ 128.00
Standing Orders: approx. £340 p/w.

Confirmation 2022

The Bishop will be conferring the Sacrament of Confirmation on candidates from Years 8 and 9, (plus any older candidates who would like to be confirmed) during a Service which will take place at **St Mary's, Burnley on 16th June at 7.00pm.** Eligible candidates will have already made their first Communion. Fr Peter and Fr Gerard are now collecting names of those who would like to enter into a course of preparation in order to be able to be confirmed. The preparation sessions will take place at Christ Church at 4.00pm on the Sundays of May (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) followed by presentation of candidates at the Pentecost Masses on Sunday 5th of June, and a concluding meeting on 12th June before the actual Confirmation Service on Thursday 16th June.

The Holy Week Services

Passion Sunday, 10th April

CC: 9.30am, HS:11.15am

Holy Thursday, 14th April

Mass of the Lord's Supper, HS: 7.00pm

Good Friday, 15th April

Solemn Service, CC: 3.00pm

Easter Vigil, 16th April

HS: 7.00pm

Easter Sunday, 15th April

CC:9.30am, HS: 11.15am