



## 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,  
Nelson, BB9 0JY

**Parish Priest:** Rev Gerard Kelly

**Tel:** 01282 614859

**Email:** [stjohnsouthworthrc@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsouthworthrc@gmail.com) (click)

## 3rd Sunday of Easter

Pray for Ukraine



1st May 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.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Although I haven't yet received formal notification from the Bishop, I am gradually taking on responsibility for the parish area of Holy Saviour's which includes Holy Saviour's school and church, and, most importantly, the people of Holy Saviour's parish.

When we think of a parish church, it must be much more than just a place where we come for Mass; it must be the hub around which the life of the parish community can flourish. At Holy Saviour's church, at this moment, there is not even the possibility of sitting down to have a cup of tea! So, obviously, we have to do some thinking about what we see as the way forward for us.

When we are reflecting and deciding, in a spiritual sense, we use the word, 'discernment'. When we are discerning, we ask the question: What is the Lord doing, and how does he want us to co-operate with him?

I would like to present you with an image of a discernment process: if we come down to the beach and we discern that the tide is on the way out, we might decide to play some games on the beach. If we discern that the tide is coming in, then we might decide to get the boats ready to do some fishing. The point of this image, or analogy, is that we have to work with realities, and some realities are outside of our control.

So, the rather radical question might be: does Holy Saviour's have the spiritual power, within its community, to grow and to flourish, or is Holy Saviour's church on the way to becoming a Mass centre? The answer to this question is not to be found in either pessimism or optimism, neither is the answer to be found in the realms of negative attitudes, nostalgia, or wishful thinking!

The answer is to be found, strangely enough, or maybe not so strangely, in prayer! How does this work? If we come to the Lord with open and surrendered hearts, he plants desires in them which grow and bear fruit. The Lord enables us to do the impossible: the impossible being either the power to hold on tightly, or the trust to let go!

I know that as a priest, covering an area which not so long ago was served by four priests, I can't make choices or decisions which are much more than an endorsement of what the people of the parish desire, and what they are prepared to be fully committed to.

Just to return to that image of the sea, I don't want us to be like driftwood which sooner or later is smashed up on the rocks. I want us to be a ship with our engines switched on so that we can decide where we are going, and together, have the assurance that we are steering the right course to a secure destination!

May the Lord's Easter blessings be upon us!

Fr Gerard.

[Report on the condition of Holy Saviour's church, hall, and presbytery](#) (click)

## Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 2nd May, 2022

Monday 2nd May	Tuesday 3rd May	Wednesday 4th May	Thursday 5th May	Friday 6th May	Saturday 7th May	Sunday 8th May
CC 10.00am	CC 10.00am	Funeral Service 12.00noon HS 7.00pm	CC 10.00am Exposition until 12.00	CC 10.00am	RCIA Meeting 11.00am	CC: 9.30am HS: 11.15am

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
<b>This week:</b> 1st May	Jeremiah	Zachariah
<b>Next week:</b> 8th May	Margaret Borman	Joan Penny-Heys

**Children's Liturgy :** This week: Linda & Amanda Next week: Carmel & Siobhan

The funeral service on Wednesday at 12.00noon is not a Mass, but a simple service of prayer for Sylvia Whittle of 296 Kings Causeway who died on 16th April, aged 79. May she rest in peace.

The 7.00pm Wednesday Mass at Holy Saviour's will resume this week.

### CHURCH COLLECTION

24th April, 2022: £135.50  
Standing Orders: approx. £390 p/w.

### POUND DRAW WINNERS THIS WEEK

£10 Joe Gibbons  
£10 Mary Mullarkey  
£10 Mollie Lawrenson  
£60.00 towards Parish Funds, thank you!

### BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

May 2nd, Biago Parente (1997)  
Angela Cairns (2012)  
May 3rd, Chad Gildea (2015)  
May 7th, Alphonsus McGuinness (1988)  
Patrick Moran (1938)  
Monica McGrail (2020) (Choir Leader,  
Holy Trinity)



*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.*

### 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. 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.

### Weekly activities at Christ Church.

Wednesdays:

**Toddlers' Club:** 9:45am - 11:15am. Only 50p per child including drink and snack. All preschool children and their parents/carers are welcome.

**"Talk and Do" Group:** 10:30am till 12:30pm  
£2 per session.

Fridays:

**Exercise Class:** 11am - 12noon, £4.00

### Mass Intentions

Fr John McNamara (Salford), died recently.  
Gertrude de Souza, died recently.  
Fr David Peters (Shrewsbury), died recently.  
Veronica Cowgill, died recently.

### Sacramental Programme

The next meeting for the primary school children on the sacramental programme is this coming Tuesday (3rd May) at 6.00pm.

HE IS RISEN  
*alleluia*