

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,

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St John Southworth's Facebook Page
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MASS OF HEALING AND NEW LIFE at CHRIST CHURCH

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Last Saturday's Mass of Healing and New Life was certainly a splendid occasion—a full church and a great atmosphere of friendship and joy. However, even more important than the enjoyment of a moment of celebration, is the continuing effect of graces received in our lives.

When we look to the Gospels to see what sort of effects were brought about by an encounter with Jesus, we find all kinds of wonderful things happening—Zacchaeus was bursting with a desire to give away half his possessions to the poor; the woman caught in adultery went away to sin no more; a leper who was cleansed came back to Jesus to thank him; two blind men whose sight was returned talked about Jesus all over the countryside! These are all occasions of healing, and we notice that in each case, the ones who received the healing touch of Jesus then had a part to play themselves.

The Sacraments of the Church are particular means, instituted by Christ himself, by which he invites us to come to him to receive grace. These graces are absolutely guaranteed, and graces, when received, are always fruitful—which means they have a real effect in our lives. In the Sacrament of Anointing we are invited to come to Jesus with the needs which arise from weakness or sickness in body, mind, or spirit. The Lord does not ignore or turn away any request, but he responds to us in one way or another.

And so, the question in our minds after receiving the Sacrament of Anointing is NOT, "Has the Lord healed me?" but rather, "How has the Lord healed me?"

The effects of grace can be subtle and maybe we have to ask the Lord to show us what he has done for us, or how he is continuing to work with us. Sometimes, the Lord might lift a burden, but at other times he might give us the strength to carry a burden; sometimes the Lord might reduce our anxieties, but we have our part to play by not continuing to rehearse thoughts which stir up those very anxieties. Sometimes, our weakness or sickness is a result of our lifestyle or particular behaviours, and the Lord might be gently nudging us to make some change in our lives. At times, the Lord might intervene in our lives to protect us from a harmful situation. His ways are endlessly creative and mysterious!

Wouldn't it just be great to hear about any stories that might have arisen from our Mass of Healing and New Life! These stories awaken faith, and when shared, they become the seeds of evangelization. "I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips" (Psalm 33). Do you have anything that you might share—even anonymously! Then we would really have a newsletter—a Good News letter!

May we have a blessed week!

Fr Gerard.

Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 23rd October

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|----------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| 23rd Oct | 24th Oct | 25th Oct | 26th Oct | 27th Oct | 28th Oct | 29th Oct |
| NO MASS | MASS C.C. 10.00am | MASS H.S. 7.00pm | MASS & Exposition 10.00am C.C. | FUNERAL SERVICE H.S 11.00am | NO MASS | C.C. 9.30am H.S. 11.15am |

Children's Church: C.C. - Carmel & Molly H.S. - Shannon, Amber, Annika

| Date | Reader 1 | Reader 2 |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| This Week: 22nd October | Joan Penny-Heys | George Winkley |
| Next Week: 29th October | Margaret Needham | Roger Lee |

FUNERAL SEVICES

The funeral service at Holy Saviour's on Friday at 11.00am is for Michael Hargreaves (85) of 123 Manchester Rd. May the Lord take Michael into his merciful care, and give consolation to his family at this time of loss.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Oct 24th Thomas Nolan (1978)

Oct 25th Helen Ashworth (1995)

John M Connelly (2012)

Oct 28th Ellen McGuinness (1989)

Eric Webb (2003)

Margaret Howarth (2012)

Bill Morgan 2019)

We pray for the repose of the souls of all who have died, that the Lord will receive them into the fullness of his resurrection life!

MASS INTENTIONS

Andrea Bell (37) died recently Simon Haralow, died recently Frank Fozard, died recently

CHURCH COLLECTION

15th October: £449.80 Standing Orders: approx: £632 p/w Thank you!

QUIZ EVENT

On Saturday 11th November at 2.00pm at Christ Church we will be hosting a joint

Catholic/Methodist Quiz Afternoon

Tea and cakes will be served.

Please get together in a team of up to six people, or just come along and join a team. £2 per person.

POUND DRAW WINNERS

£10 Sarah Ellison

£10 Sandra Connelly

£10 Sharif Perviaz

£10 Khuram Javed

£ 89.00 towards Parish funds. Thank you!

Looking ahead....

Entries into the Special Christmas Pound Draw, with £100 first prize, will be available from Sunday 12th November. It will be drawn on Friday 15th December at the C.A.F.O.D. Soup kitchen at Christ Church.

The Advent C.A.F.O.D. Soup Kitchen will start on Friday 24th November for four Friday's.

Thank you for your continued support for these events.

Pendle New Neighbours (PNN)

PNN is a community volunteer group that supports the refugees and asylum seekers living in our area.

We urgently need retired teachers to help with teaching English!

If you are interested in devoting two hours/week to support those in need, please contact:
Paul Gauntlett on: 07870 626633. Thank you!

Baptism

This Sunday, we welcome Lola Fielding, daughter of Toby and Jade, into the parish family as she is baptised. May the love of God be always alive in her heart through the gift of the Holy Spirit, and may she always know the security of family and friends.

