



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

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**If you would like
to receive this news-
letter electronically,
then please email me.**

**3rd Sunday
in Ordinary Time**



21st January, 2024



Click on the moneybox 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,

We sometimes see clips from talent shows which show us the worst performances of those who never made it to the show, but who were rejected at their first audition! It's not really wholesome entertainment to make fun of somebody who is so much lacking in awareness of themselves and their abilities that they think they might be successful singers even though they can't sing in tune! Our attitude towards these unfortunate souls should be one of sympathy and understanding.

As Christians, we have a deeper reason to identify ourselves with the wanna-be stars when we realise that in our own lives we too might be suffering from a similar lack of awareness. We can think that we are doing pretty well - just need to work on the patience and say a few more prayers and all will be well! However, Jesus brings us up short and says to us "Repent, and believe the Good News." The word 'repent' is a strong word. It doesn't mean, "Go away and brush up your performance and better luck next time round!"

To repent means to radically change our understanding of ourselves and realise that, according to God's standards, we are failures, and our attempt at living the Christian life is hopeless. "You are indeed holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness." To the world of holiness, we have no contribution to make!

It's only when we come to an awareness that we are in absolute dire need of God's grace that we can hear the gospel as the good news that it is. Jesus, himself, is going to give us everything that we need. He will sing in our hearts so that we can sing the tune that we can't find for ourselves!

Without God's grace, nobody is going through to the next round!

With prayers and best wishes,
Fr Gerard

On Sunday Evening (21st Jan) at 6.00pm, I will be preaching at the Evening Service in the Methodist Circuit at Greenbrook Methodist Church, 4 Greenbrook Rd, Burnley, BB12 6NZ. It's always beneficial to experience our faith in a new context, and I am looking forward to this new opportunity and a new challenge! Everyone is invited and, I'm sure, will be made very welcome! Come, Holy Spirit! Fr Gerard

I will be away next week from Monday to Friday. Eucharistic Services will take place according to the usual daily Mass schedule, and Monica will be available on the parish contact details above to help with any enquiries. Fr Gerard

We welcome, this weekend, members of the Knights of St Columba to our 11.15am Mass at Holy Saviour's as they celebrate the 90th anniversary of their local Council. Ad multos annos!

Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 22nd January, 2024

Monday 22nd Jan	Tuesday 23rd Jan	Wednesday 24th Jan	Thursday 25th Jan	Friday 26th Jan	Saturday 27th Jan	Sunday 28th Jan
NO MASS	Eucharistic Service C.C 10.00am	Eucharistic Service H.S. 7.00pm	Eucharistic Service C.C 10.00am	Eucharistic Service C.C 10.00am	NO MASS	C.C. 9.30am H.S. 11.15am

Children's Church: C.C. - Siobhan & Barbara H **H.S.** - Lisa S, Rose, Joanne T, Lorraine J

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
This Sunday: 21st Jan	George Winkley	Joan Penny-Heys
Next Sunday: 28th Jan	Luke Mendoza	Tony Finnan

POUND DRAW

£10.00 Ann Lang
 £10.00 Marie Clark
 £10.00 Gerald Haworth
 £10.00 Eileen Spillane



£107.00 towards Parish Funds, thank you!

CHURCH COLLECTION

14th January: £323.40
 Standing Orders: approx: £607 p/w
 Thank you!

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

Our Sacramental Programme begins in Lent as we prepare children in Years 3 and above to, first of all, make their first Confession, and then, during the Easter season, to receive their first Holy Communion.

Letters will be going out through the Catholic schools, but if you, or somebody you know is Catholic, has a child in a non-Catholic school, then please register interest with me by email, and I will send a form asking for more details.

TODDLERS' CLUB

The Toddlers' Club meets every Wednesday at Christ Church in the upstairs room: 9.45—11.15am. All ages from babies to pre-school are welcome. The children find friendship; the adults find support and understanding!

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Jan 23rd Rev John Aspinall (1957)
 Jan 24th James H Picken (1968)
 Jan 25th Cameron Barnes (1996)
 Sarah Howarth (1986)
 Jan 26th Eddie Collingwood (1996)
 Jan 28th Frank Brierley (1995)



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

Sarah Pamela Haworth, anniv.

FUNERAL

Alex Loughran

The Funeral Service for Alex Loughran, a former resident at Brierfield House Care Home, will take place at Holy Saviour's church, on Tuesday 30th Jan at 10.00am. We pray that the Lord will receive him into his heavenly home, and we hold his wife, Barbara, in our prayers at this sad time for all the family.

Francis Thornton, RIP.

Today, I must share the sad news with you that Francis Thornton, husband of Esme, and father of Lucina and Aidan, died peacefully, last Tuesday, at Brierfield House Care Home. We pray for the repose of Francis's soul, and a blessing of peace and consolation for his family. Funeral arrangements will be announced when available.