



**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)

If you would like to receive this  
newsletter electronically, then  
please email the parish.

**2nd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**



Click on the moneybox to make a  
secure online donation to the parish!

[St John Southworth's YouTube Channel](#)

Click link for live-streamed and recorded Masses.

**Dear Parishioners and Friends,**

Carlo Acutis, a London-born teenager, was declared a saint on Sunday 7th September 2025. He is the first Saint of the millennial generation. Born in 1991 and growing up in Milan, Italy, Carlo died in 2006 at the age of 15 due to leukaemia. His life, though short, was marked by a profound faith and a passion for technology, which he used to spread the teachings of the Catholic Church.

God is still in the business of making Saints, and the Church is still in the business of recognising them to be such! The Saints remind us that we all have a personal mission to grow towards the fullness of holiness, and Carlo reminds us that God can bring us a long way in a short period of time if our devotion to Jesus and his Church is single minded.

May the Year of the Lord, 2026 be our opportunity to grow in grace and to become ever more the people we are created to be!

May God's blessing be upon our lives. Fr Gerard

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY, 2026**

**Women's Retreat Day, Sabden**  
**Saturday, 9th May.**

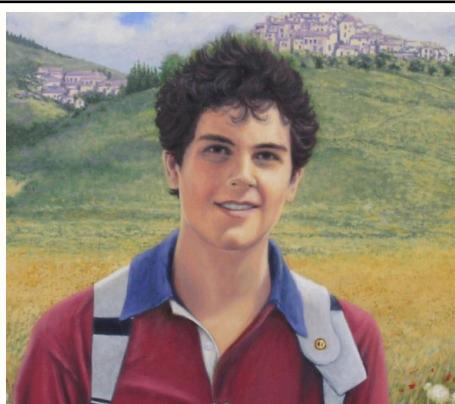
**Men's Retreat Day, Settle.**  
**Saturday, 6th June**

### **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**

We will soon be sending out letters to the schools to collect names of children – Year 3 and above - who would like to participate in this year's preparation for first Confession and Holy Communion.

If there are any children attending non-Catholic schools, who would like to be included then please let me know.

There will be a number of preparation meetings, beginning Tuesday, 3rd March.



### **Relics of St Carlo Acutis to Visit Diocese of Salford - January 2026**

This month, the relics of St Carlo Acutis will be hosted at two churches in our diocese over five days, during which time schools, parishioners, and people from all over will be welcome to come and venerate . Carlo is the first millennial Saint, and is celebrated for his profound faith and his use of the internet to log Eucharistic miracles from around the world. He was passionate about spreading the teachings of the Catholic Church up until his death from leukaemia

at the age of 15. The relics will be presented at St Mary's Church, Burnley from 28-29 January 2026 before they travel to St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst from 30 January to 1 February 2026.

For more information and to view the schedule for the visits, please visit:

[Relics of St Carlo Acutis to Visit Diocesan Churches - Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford](#)

## Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 19th January 2026

Monday 19th Jan	Tuesday 20th Jan	Wednesday 21st Jan	Thursday 22nd Jan	Friday 23rd Jan	Saturday 24th Jan	Sunday 25th Jan
NO MASS	MASS C.C. 10.00 am	MASS H.S. 7.00pm	MASS C.C. 10.00am Exposition	MASS C.C. 10.00am	NO MASS	C.C. 9.30am H.S. 11.15am

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
This Sunday: 18th January	Monica McArdle	Roger Lee
Next Sunday: 25th January	Gerard Spain	George Winkley

**Children's Church: C.C. Molly & Hannah H.S. David A and Venus G / Catherine M and Irene B**

Eucharistic Ministry 3rd Sunday (C.C. and H.S.)	
Dawid Zycinski	Marian Reilly
Joe Gibbons	Lisa Stinchon
Carmel Dempsey	Marcin Zycinski
Helen Keating	James Hargreaves
Linda Goddard	Liz Variyam

### A short story...

On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, 14th December, we had something of an emergency situation after the 11.15am Mass at Holy Saviour's. On a very cold and wet day, Sheila Birchall slipped on the wet pavement outside church, and found herself unable to either move, or to be moved, without terrific pain to her right arm. First on the scene was Doreen Batson... who feared the worst! And then appeared superwoman Monica McArdle who took the situation in hand engaging in a long phone call with the ambulance service, followed by the rustling up of a number of duvet covers from the presbytery.

A long hour passed by before the ambulance arrived to take Sheila to Blackburn hospital where she received the news of a fractured and splintered shoulder which would require surgery.

From then on, it seems that Sheila's fortunes began to change as it was later decided that an operation was not necessary and no further action was needed... beyond that of rest and plenty of painkillers!

Sheila would like to thank all who took her into their prayers as she feels that she received more than a little divine assistance! She is now recovering well and has regained much of the movement of her arm. Praise God!

### MASS INTENTIONS

Kathleen Finlay, died recently.  
Francis Thornton, anniv, 16th Jan (2024)  
Mary Anne Jennings anniv, Jan 7th (2002)  
Jim Jennings, 100th b'day anniv, 17th Jan.

### BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Jan 18th Esther Rourke (1973)

Brian Campy (2006)

Margaret Mallinson (2020)

Bridget Doyle (1989)

Jan 20th Anthony Whittle (2025)

Jan 24th James H Pickin (1968)



*May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. AMEN.*

### POUND DRAW WINNERS

£10.00 Rosanna Peace

£10.00 Linda Goddard

£10.00 Joyce Shea

£10.00 Brenda Hustler

£94.00 towards parish funds. Thank you!

### CHURCH COLLECTION

Standing Orders: approx: £765 p/w

11th Jan 2026: £256.10

Many thanks!

*Many thanks for the increasing number of standing order contributions which makes for much easier accounting and less handling of cash which requires counting, recording, and banking each week.*

