



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 (click)

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

1st Sunday of Lent
22nd February 2026



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.

Lenten CAFOD Soup Masses every Friday 12.00noon

The first of six Lenten CAFOD Masses took place on Friday, and we got off to a great start with more than 40 in the congregation, and raising a total of £302.25.

The Mass and Soup Lunch offers us a great experience of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving which are the three pillars of Lenten observance.



The shared lunch provides us with a community experience which is good for the soul, and the washing-up rota provides the opportunity to engage in a simple act of humble service!

And of course all this is not an end in itself but is taken up into our prayer that God will open our hearts and fill them with his Holy Spirit during the Lenten season when we are counselled to "Choose life!"

Next Friday, is Family Fast Day, and you will find CAFOD envelopes in church this Sunday.

DAY OF RENEWAL AT ST CLARE'S, PRESTON
SATURDAY, 28th FEBRUARY
(see attached Poster)

If you would like to attend with me, then just let me know, Fr Gerard

YOUTH RETREAT @CASTLERIGG MANOR
Friday 17th– Sunday 19th April
(see attached Poster)

For those in Y7 & above with a connection to the parish. Forms available from Fr Gerard & Monica

Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 23rd February 2026

Monday 23rd Feb	Tuesday 24th Feb	Wednesday 25th Feb	Thursday 26th Feb	Friday 27th Feb	Saturday 28th Feb	Sunday 1st March
NO MASS	MASS C.C. 10.00am	MASS H.S. 7.00pm	MASS C.C. 10.00am Exposition	MASS C.C. 12.00 noon	NO MASS	C.C. 9.30am H.S. 11.15am

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
This Sunday: 22nd February	Emmanuel Dwamena	Gerard Spain
Next Sunday: 1st March	George Winkley	Margaret Borman

Children's Church: C.C. Molly & Hannah **H.S.** Lisa, Joanne, Lorraine

Eucharistic Ministry 4th Sunday (C.C. and H.S.)	
Andrew Thomas	Maureen McDermott
Marie Clark	Julie Taylor
Zechariah Javed	Suzanne Kelly
Marcin Zycinski	Ewa Zycinska
Mendoza Family	Catherine Masih

Michael Taylor, RIP.

This Requiem Mass for Michael will take place at Holy Saviour's at 1.45pm on Friday 27th February.

Peggy Clark, RIP.

The Requiem Mass for Peggy Clark will take place Monday, 9th March at Holy Saviour's, 10.00am.

LENTEN PRAYER TIMES ON ZOOM

Prayer is one of the essential elements of Lent, setting aside extra time to listen more intently to the Lord. During this sacred season, you are warmly invited to deepen your prayer life through our weekly online gatherings.

Following a similar pattern to Advent, Monica will be leading:

- Embodied Prayer – Tuesdays at 7.45pm
- Praying with Scripture – Thursdays at 7.45pm

The prayer sessions will take place via Zoom. If you would like to take part, please give your name and email address to Monica so she can send you the Zoom link for the meetings. Or you can email the parish to receive the link. All are welcome.

CHURCH COLLECTION

Standing Orders: approx: **£765 p/w**
15th Feb 2026: **£389.40**. Many thanks!

MASS INTENTIONS

Patricia Tansey, anniv, 24th Feb (2003)
Albert Shea, anniv, 25th Feb (2022)
Mary Winkley, anniv, 25th Feb (2022)

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Feb 22nd Margaret Brierley (2021)
Robert D Saddler (2022)

Feb 23rd John Sharkey (1978)
Edward Phelan (2022)

Feb 24th Catherine Hardman (2011)
Patricia Maria Tansey (2003)
Patricia Tansey (2003)

Feb 25th Mary Winkley (2022)
Matthias Duffy (1988)
Albert Shea (2022)

Feb 27th Italo DiGiorgio (1984)

Feb 28th Elizabeth Holden (1974)
Edwin Seel (1990)
Mary Leatham (2020)



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

POUND DRAW

Gail Hargraves Day	£10.00
Sean Jennings	£10.00
Marie Clark	£10.00
Ash Ghulam	£10.00



£89.00 towards parish funds.
Many thanks for your participation!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Monday evening during Lent at 7.00pm
at Holy Saviour's

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24)

WHO

All young people
secondary school
age and above

WHERE

Castlerigg Manor Keswick in
the Lake District

WHAT TO EXPECT

An opportunity to explore your faith with other young people, whilst enjoying the awesome beauty of the Lake District, experiencing what it means to belong to the Body of Christ, as part of our parish.

YOUTH RETREAT

CREATED TO BE

WHEN

Friday 17th - Sunday 19th April 2026

WHAT TO BRING

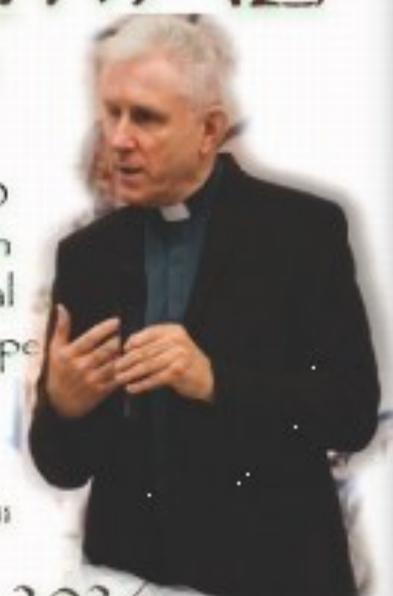
- A sleeping bag or a duvet cover. Pillows, pillowcases and sheets are provided.
 - Comfortable and warm clothing.
 - A towel and toiletries
 - Suitable night wear.
 - Walking boots, thick socks and a waterproof coat if you have them.
- No need to buy boots or waterproof as Castlerigg will lend them out for the walk.*



DAY of RENEWAL

Led by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy

Fr. Eamonn is a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Spiritans) and a priest since 1980. He has extensive experience of deepening the Faith Formation of Adults in the UK and leading spiritual retreats to lay-people, priests and religious in Europe and internationally.



"Unpacking the Paschal Mystery -
to get the best Celebration of Easter"

Saturday 28th February 2026

10am. to 4pm.

the day starts with Mass at 10am.
at St Clare's Church (Parish Hall)
Sharoe Green Lane Fulwood Preston PR2 9HH



Please Bring Packed Lunch, Tea & Coffee Available
For further information Contact, Christine Tel, 07745009694 or Annette Tel, 07954429333

DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Pastoral Letter of the Right Reverend John Arnold Bishop of Salford

To be read and distributed in all Parishes on the weekend of 21st/22nd February 2026

Dear Sisters and Brothers, dear friends in Christ,

With the celebration of Ash Wednesday, we have begun our observance of the Season of Lent and this year we do so as we mark the first anniversary of our diocesan synodal voting day and as we commemorate the eighth centenary of the death of St Francis of Assisi, one of the most celebrated saints of our Church. I believe we can merge these themes together, including the impact of the recent visit of the relic of St Carlo Acutis, as a fitting focus for our Season of Lent. Lent invites us to a time of reflection, when we are asked to consider the life of Christ and his journey and the response in our own lives to his teaching and ministry.

The definitive voting of the Diocesan Synod took place just one year ago next weekend. That time of prayerful discernment presented us with priorities for action in the life and work of our Diocese. We are acting on the decisions and the priorities that were established that day and we will have a Pastoral Plan to share with you later this year. By adopting this synodal way, we are committed to continuing that sense of openness and discernment and it continues to be a reminder to us that our life as Christians is not a matter of just keeping some rules and maintaining some religious routine, but an on-going journey of discovering how we can be like Christ, bringing love and hope and encouragement into our world and into the lives of the people that God places in our lives each day, be they family members, friends, work colleagues or even strangers.

St Paul calls us “ambassadors for Christ” which is both a privilege and an enormous challenge. To be ambassadors, we are called to continue the work of Christ, imitating his actions and ministry in all we do. By the synodal way, we are invited to continue that prayerful listening so that we are constantly considering, and reviewing, how best we may live the Gospel values in our Diocese today. What encouragement might we find in the life of St Francis, as we celebrate this anniversary? Here was a man who lived his convictions, radically. As a young man, he enjoyed wealth and willingly armed himself for conflict against the neighbouring city of Perugia. But when he saw conflict as incompatible with his faith, he worked for peace and for the relief of poverty, witnessed in his own personal poverty and in his providing for the poor. He understood the need for a time of silence in his life, for prayer in the presence of God.

Pope Leo urges us to see that conflict does not provide any lasting solutions and that we can all be peacemakers. He also speaks often of the need to find some silence for prayer in our busy and noisy lives. Once St Francis had come to believe something, he dedicated himself to pursuing it, best seen perhaps in his understanding of the union of our lives and activities with the environment and the need to care for creation and our common home.

It is that same sense of conviction and dedication which we see in the short life of St Carlo Acutis. What a privilege it was to receive the relic in this Diocese, for five days. Thousands of people came to pray, and to hear of St Carlo’s dedication to attending daily Mass, his desire for frequent confession, the praying of the rosary and spending time before the Blessed Sacrament. He found real joy and peace in celebrating his faith in prayer and sacrament, which in turn prompted his generosity to those around him and his simplicity of life. All this was done in the context of our times and the positive and creative use of the internet.

As the family of the Church in the Diocese of Salford, we are people who are so diverse in terms of our experience and gifts. That diversity is our strength so that, working together, with all those gifts and talents and skills, we make present the body of Christ. In these days of the Season of Lent, let us all be courageous in asking ourselves, how might we imitate the energy and enthusiasm and conviction of St Carlo Acutis and St Francis of Assisi and make Christ present through the daily actions of our lives.

And, in these days, let us offer our prayers for Archbishop Richard Moth, as he begins his ministry as Archbishop of Westminster and his shepherding of the Church in England and Wales, guiding us all in our role as “ambassadors for Christ”. And, as the family of the Diocese of Salford, we continue to pray “Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey”.

With my best wishes, prayer and blessing,

+John Arnold Bishop of Salford

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