



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

Rev Gerard Kelly  
 Tel: 01282 614859

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

## 4th Sunday of Lent



**15th March 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.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The fourth Sunday in Lent – Laetare Sunday! Rejoice! At this half-way point in the Lenten journey, the Church encourages us to take a day's break from our Lenten disciplines. The rose-coloured vestments signify that we can be happy in what we have already achieved, and that we can look ahead with joy, knowing that the celebration of Easter is in sight.

On this day, we celebrate our mothers—whether we still enjoy their presence in our lives or whether they have gone to the Lord, leaving us with cherished memories.

We might make a passing observation that the vocation to motherhood is much undermined by our secular society which can tend to value paid employment and career progression above the development of the precious bonds of family relationships. To celebrate our mothers, therefore, is a real way of expressing our Christian faith.

With every prayer and blessing for a happy day!

Fr Gerard



*Des McGhee Foundation Fund*  
**CHARITY EVENT IN AID OF**  
**N.W. AIR AMBULANCE**  
 Sunday 29th March 2026

Venue: KSC Club, Forest Street, Nelson  
 Admission: £3.00  
 Doors open: 1.00pm  
 Entertainment from 2.00pm with Billy D.

### Many hands make light work!

After many years of David Lambert's solo hard work, the Catholic Community has now taken responsibility for care of the front garden area of Christ Church.

This will involve occasional weeding, pruning, and caring for the flower boxes. The more people who can help, the lighter the task will be for everyone. If you are able to give even an hour of your time every few months, please speak to Monica.

(see pg 3 of newsletter)



### AFTERNOON CONCERT

*In support of St Joseph's Penny  
 Lent Appeal*

*Afternoon tea and musical entertainment at Fisher  
 More High School on Tuesday 31st March from  
 3.30—5.00pm. Suggested donation of £5.00.*



**Congratulations to Jeremiah Javed  
 who celebrated his 18th Birthday  
 this week. We are grateful to him  
 for all he gives to our parish!**

## Mass schedule for week beginning Monday 16th March 2026

Monday 16th March	Tuesday 17th March	Wednesday 18th March	Thursday 19th March	Friday 20th March	Saturday 21st March	Sunday 22nd March
Stations of the Cross H.S. 7.00pm	MASS C.C. 10.00am	MASS H.S. 7.00pm	MASS C.C. 10.00am Exposition	MASS C.C. 12.00 noon	Children's First Confessions 10 –12noon	C.C. 9.30am H.S. 11.15am

Date	Reader 1	Reader 2
<b>This Sunday:</b> 15th March	Roger Lee	Tony Finnan
<b>Next Sunday:</b> 22nd March	Joan Penny-Heys	Margaret Needham

**Children's Church: C.C.** Carmel & Francis **H.S.** Antonio & James / Monica, Teresa, Karen

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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Bernadette Reilly and family, 20th anniv, 18th March  
Bridget Quirke, Mother's Day, 15th March

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE**

March 15th Michael Graham Howarth (2014)  
March 16th Margaret Horner (2016)  
March 17th Norah Moran (1967)  
Rob Wallace (2013)  
March 18th Margaret Trainor (1999)  
Elizabeth Littlefair (1970)  
Bernadette Reilly (2006)  
March 20th Rev M Hannon (1950)



### Ruth Smrt, RIP.

The Requiem Mass for Ruth will take place Monday, 30th March at Holy Saviour's, 10.00am. We pray for the repose of her soul, and we remember her grandson, Adam, and all the family in our prayers in this time of sadness.

### LENTEN PRAYER TIMES ON ZOOM

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  
Please email the parish to receive the link.  
All are welcome.

### POUND DRAW

£10.00 Sheila Cooper  
£10.00 Anne Proctor  
£10.00 Anne Spain  
£10.00 Simon Smart



£90.00 towards parish funds.

*Many thanks for your participation!*

### 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*

### CHURCH COLLECTION

Standing Orders: approx: £765 p/w  
8th March 2026: £269.70. Many thanks!

### DATES FOR THE DIARY, 2026

Women's Retreat Day, Sabden

**Saturday, 9th May.**

Men's Retreat Day, St Mary & St Michael, Settle.

**Saturday, 6th June**

Parish Trip to Southport

**Saturday, 4th July: 10.00am - 6.00pm**

### 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)*

### URDU STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

# 🌿 **MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!** 🌿

## **Help Care for the Christ Church Garden**



After many years of David Lambert's solo hard work, the Catholic Community has now taken responsibility for caring for the front garden area of Christ Church.

### **WHAT HELP IS NEEDED?**

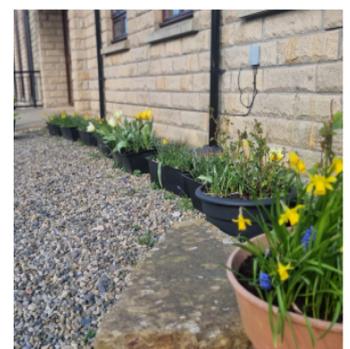
- **Occasional weeding**
- **Light pruning**
- **Looking after the flower boxes and planters**



**Even ONE HOUR every few months would make a real difference. The more people who help, the lighter the work becomes for everyone!**



The flower boxes are already bringing colour and life to the church frontage. With a little shared care, we can keep it looking welcoming for all who pass by.



**Anyone willing to help please speak to MONICA**

**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.*

