

People of the Word: Elisha

Last week we met the great prophet **Elijah**, who undertook the work of speaking for God, calling people to repentance and working miracles in God's name. Today we meet his successor, Elisha.



Elisha was a companion and disciple of Elijah. When the time came for Elijah to be taken up to the Lord, he told Elisha to make a request of him. Elisha asked for a double share of Elijah's spirit. This gift was granted. He also took Elijah's cloak (mantle) as a sign that he continued the great prophet's ministry.

Elisha is remembered for several miracles, restoring a boy to life, being instrumental in the healing of leper Naaman and multiplying loaves of bread, prefiguring Jesus' miracles of the loaves and fish.

The handover from Elijah to Elisha shows us an important aspect of faith and of ministry in the Church: that of handing on what we receive. St Paul later writes about this in relation to the Gospel (1 Corinthians 15:3-5) and the Eucharist (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). Elisha received the spirit of Elijah, and also his mission, just as the Apostles at Pentecost the received the Spirit of Jesus and were sent to continue His work on earth.



Questions for reflection:

- What have I received from the Lord? Faith, knowledge, talents... am I grateful for all His gifts to me? What does He ask me to do with them?
- Do I share with others the things I 'inherit' through the Lord's goodness, mindful of His words: "You received without charge, give without charge."?

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter Week 3; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: year 2, week 11

Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel. All information and links at www.saintclares.co.uk

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Sunday 7 th June	10am	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	People of the Parish
Monday	10am		Irene McEvoy RIP
Tuesday	10am		Fr John Donlan RIP
Wednesday	10am		John and Mary Turner RIP
Thursday	10am		Ken Knight RIP
Friday	10am	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Jack Clayton RIP
Saturday	10am	The Immaculate Heart of Mary	Peter Rainford RIP
Sunday 14 th June	10am	Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Special Intention (Steve)

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Mary O’Gara, Irene McEvoy, Ken Hollis, Jack Clayton** and all who have died recently.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: Sung Vespers and Benediction streamed live on our YouTube channel on Sunday at 4:30pm.

ROSARY: Prayed after 10am Mass, Monday-Friday.

ANNIVERSARIES: John Hannan, Helen McDonnell, Wilfred Barker, Ian Gardner, Baby Lily Reynolds, Irena Iavardino, Ella Smith, James Morgan, Doreen Dewhurst, John Calvert, Ana Camina Lopez, Margaret Helm, David Scanlan.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JUNE: That all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

Supporting your parish financially during the lockdown

Many people have asked how they can contribute to the parish financially at a time when almost all parish income has dried up. If you are still earning and able to contribute, you can save up offertory envelopes until the lockdown ends. Some people have asked for details of how to donate by standing order/BACS. Contact us directly for details. If you don’t use online banking, we can send you a mandate which you can fill in and post to your bank. Thank you for thinking of us at this time, but please only contribute if you are able.

Father Andrew's weekly message

Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate the great feast of the Lord's Body and Blood – the gift of the Eucharist. Being deprived of the Eucharist for so long has been a cause of great suffering for so many people; now, at last, there is at least the opportunity to pray again in the Lord's presence. Hopefully it won't be too long before it's possible to receive this great sacrament again. Thanks to the children who contributed so beautifully to our Blessed Sacrament procession on Friday. Their prayerfulness and love for the Lord is a real encouragement to us all.

On Monday we reopen the church for private prayer, initially just for two hours per day; this will be extended as soon as circumstances allow. There are measures in place to keep everyone safe: please visit our website for details, before you visit: <https://www.saintclares.co.uk/index.php/news/1024-back-to-god-s-house>

June is a month of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and on Friday we celebrate this beautiful feast, which reminds us of the love for each of us burning in the Heart of Jesus. Mass will be streamed live at 10am, as always.

We are trying to revive some of the social and catechetical life of the parish too, slowly but surely. Why not come along to our quiz night on Zoom this Friday? It would be lovely to see you, and it will be a lot of fun!

I hope to see you from a safe distance very soon! God bless you all, Fr Andrew.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT: This Friday (19th), 7pm on Zoom (see back page). Just for fun! Please email us to receive the link to the event.

EXPLORING PHILIPPIANS: A new group starting on Tuesday 30th June and running for four weeks on Zoom (see back page). Each week we will explore a chapter of St Paul's letter to the Philippians, with some input from Fr Andrew and opportunities to share. All welcome. Please email us if you'd like to come along.

AFTER-MASS TEA/COFFEE: We have a brief social call on Zoom (see back page) after Sunday morning Mass. If you'd like to come, email us for a link. All welcome!

DEANERY BLESSED SACRAMENT DEVOTIONS: This Sunday, Corpus Christi, the usual deanery procession has been replaced by devotions which will be streamed live on St Walburge's YouTube channel, beginning at 2pm. See back page for link.

MAILING LIST: We can post out the parish newsletter or arrange delivery for those who don't have an internet connection and are also producing a DVD of some of our videos, including a Sunday Mass. If you know anyone who's interested, contact us.

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 14 th	11am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Zoom
	2pm	Deanery Blessed Sacrament Devotions for Corpus Christi	See details below
	4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	YouTube
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	YouTube
Mon-Fri	4:30pm-6:30pm	Church open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	5pm-6pm	Adoration livestreamed	YouTube
Friday	7pm	Parish Quiz Night	Zoom
Saturday	11am-1pm	Church open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	11am-12	Adoration livestreamed	YouTube
Sunday 21 st	11am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Zoom
	2pm-4pm	Church open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4pm	Adoration (livestream only)	YouTube
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	YouTube

Mass is celebrated at 10am every day – see page 2 for full details.

All events marked **'YouTube'** are streamed live on our channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Events marked **'Zoom'** are also online only; please contact us if you want to join.

USING ZOOM: Several parish online events will take place on Zoom, to allow for more interactivity. All you need is a phone/PC/tablet with a webcam. It is very easy to set up and use. You don't need an account and it's free. All you need is a link, which we will send by email if you ask to come to an event. Give it a try!

Deanery Blessed Sacrament Devotions

This Sunday, for Corpus Christi, taking place at St Walburge's. You can participate (online) at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgP4DoEoo8bXwB8mclGvwFg>

A prayer of spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.