

People of the Word: God, the Holy Trinity

Today we begin the 'Year of the Word'. Each weekend on the newsletter we will feature a character of Scripture, and through their stories we'll hear the whole story of the Bible, beginning to end. Today we begin with God, who creates the world.



The very first character to appear in the Bible is God. He is the beginning and the source of all things. He created the whole universe out of nothing: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth". Genesis tells us that God spoke and the world came to be: "God said, 'Let there be light', and there was light" (Genesis 1:3). God's Word is powerful: through the Word, all things were made. This Word later took flesh as Jesus, the Son of God on earth (John 1:14). We are also told that, at creation, "God's Spirit hovered over the water" (Genesis 1:2). So, at the very beginning of the Bible, we see God: the Father who speaks, the Son who is the Word, the Holy Spirit who, as the Creed says, is the Lord and giver of life.



Genesis tells us that God saw all that He had made, and it was very good (1:31). Depicting God's act of creation as taking place over seven 'days', Scripture tells us that God rested on the seventh day. This is the origin of the sabbath: a day of rest and devotion to God.

Questions for reflection:

- Do I recognise God as my Creator and live as His child? Do I know that He looks upon me with love and sees goodness in me?
- Do I keep the Sabbath holy, devoting my time to God, family and rest?

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MASSSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 82

Office: Psalter Week 1; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: Week 1 of Advent, Year 1

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 30 th Nov	6pm (vigil)	The First Sunday of Advent (Year A)	Ints of Frances Bamber – 90 th birthday
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 1 st Dec	9:30am		Sallie Rawlinson RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am		Ints of Prisca Lepcha
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	12:30pm	Requiem	Anne Connolly RIP
	7pm	St Francis Xavier	Neil Byrne RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Frank Machin RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Frances Strickleton RIP
Friday	12noon		Holy Souls
Saturday	10am		Robert Tierney RIP
Saturday 7 th Dec	6pm (vigil)	The Second Sunday of Advent	Ken Penswick RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 8 th Dec	9:30am		Margaret Culshaw RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Anne Connolly**, whose Requiem will take place on Tuesday at 12:30pm, **Bridget McNulty**, whose Requiem will be on Monday 9th December at 10:15am, **Patricia Barnish**, **Edmund Starkie** and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7-8am, Saturday 10:30am-12noon, Sunday 4-5pm during Advent.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: During Advent, we celebrate Morning Prayer Monday-Friday at 7:45am, and sung Vespers and Benediction on Sundays at 4:30pm.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon and on request.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass. These prayers are offered for the protection of human life from conception to natural end.

ST ANTHONY: December wall box donations will go to the Foxton Centre.

ANNIVERSARIES: Ann Thompson, Mary Slater, Frank Machin, Sheila Gahan, James Ryan, Teresa Cunniff, Arthur Beesley, Thomas Calverley, Lucille Flaherty.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS: That every country determine to take necessary steps to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

ADVENT begins today. This is a season of hope, preparing us for the Lord's second coming. There will be morning prayer Monday-Friday, 7:45am and a Holy Hour including sung Vespers (evening prayer) each Sunday, 4-5pm.

WALK WITH ME BOOKS: Advent books available free (one per family) this weekend.

YEAR OF THE WORD: Begins today. Let's use this time well. See front page.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: Today after morning Mass. The fair is a great help for our parish and for our school. Please return any raffle tickets asap. Thanks for your support.

COACH TRIP TO LEEDS: Sign up sheets in the narthex this weekend. See back page.

FIRST CONFESSIONS: Please remember in your prayers the children of our parish who have recently made, or are soon to make, their first confessions.

MORNING CAR PARKING THIS WEEK: On Tuesday the car park will open later, at 7:40am. Apologies for any inconvenience to those attending morning Exposition.

PARISH MAGAZINE: Don't forget to pick up your free copy of 'Portiuncula', our annual parish magazine, and take copies for friends, relations and neighbours!

PARISH MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION: Could you help to deliver some parish magazines to people's homes? A team will be working next Saturday (7th) from 12noon to deliver the magazine to homes in the parish. Please help if you can!

FOOD BANK COLLECTION: The December collection will this weekend (30th/1st). This allows the Food Bank more time to prepare Christmas parcels.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Meeting next Sunday (8th) after evening Mass. The booklet is 'The Hope of Christmas, with Pope Francis'. Copies now available from Fr Andrew.

EMAIL FROM ST CLARE'S? If you receive an unexpected email claiming to be from the parish, please check the sender's address and don't open any attachments unless you're sure it's come from us. There have been some scam emails recently.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Donations in memory of a loved one are welcome. Please put their name(s) in an envelope marked 'Christmas flowers'.

ADVENT VIGIL: Tuesday 3rd December, 6:30pm at Cardinal Newman College.

METANOIA ADVENT TALKS: Thursdays at St Wilfrid's parish centre. 7:30pm. A mini-series for Advent on 'The God who speaks'. See www.metanoiaproject.co.uk

CAKE SALE last weekend raised £55 for Food Bank Christmas appeal. Thank you!

CTFB CAROL SINGING: In the hospital entrance, Saturday 14th December, 2-4pm.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: This Sunday (1st), for the Poor Missions Fund.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 509; Collection: £904.69; Youth Services: £259.47. Thank you.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat / Sun	At Mass	Christmas Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 1 st	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	Christmas Fair	Parish Hall
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	6pm	School Advent Service	Church
	7:30pm	Journey in Faith Group	Chapel
	7:45pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Wednesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	8pm	NCW Advent Announcement	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	Parish Hall
Sat / Sun	At Mass	Cenacolo Collection	House Porch
Sunday 8 th Dec	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	CTS Book Club	Chapel

Diary Dates

Tuesday 19th December: Blessing of your home cribs, 7:30pm

Christmas coach trip to Leeds

Saturday 21st December, leaving at 9am. We will travel to Leeds city centre for a chance to look round and visit the Christmas Market, then on to Corpus Christi church for the live nativity organised by our friends, the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal. The nativity is followed by a social organised by the sisters. Back in Preston roughly 7pm. Cost £10/adult, £5/child. The sign-up sheets are now available in the narthex. Don't miss out!

