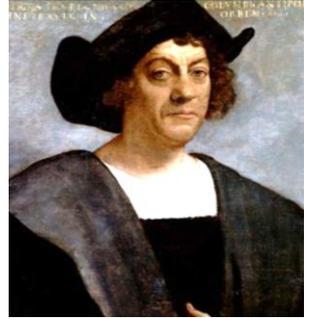

Franciscan of the Week: Christopher Columbus

"In 1492..." We all know the rhyme. Christopher Columbus is famous for having 'discovered' the Americas, but he was also a committed follower of St Francis. Columbus joined the Third Order of St Francis and had close relationships with many Franciscan friars, including those at Palos in Spain, from where he set sail for America. His last full day before departure was 2nd August, the patronal feast of their friary. When he sailed the Atlantic, he left his son in the care of the Franciscans there. Columbus would often wear a Franciscan habit, especially when appearing before nobility, and was known by companions for his devout faith, love for the Eucharist and devotion to Our Lady. Some aspects of Columbus' life and mission are today controversial, but without doubt he was a man who strove to be holy following the example of St Francis, and is certainly one of the best-known Franciscans of all time.



FOCUS ON... Day of Renewal

Next Saturday sees the first Day of Renewal for 2019. Led by Sr Maria Natella OP, the day will give us a chance to reflect on and celebrate 'The Power of the Holy Spirit'. Through talks, prayer and worship songs, we will ask for a renewal of the Holy Spirit's saving power in our lives. The day begins with Mass at 10am in church then continues in the parish centre, finishing with a time of Adoration and opportunities for prayer and reconciliation in the church. If you've never tried a Day of Renewal, maybe this is the one for you.



Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Allman **Deacon:** Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 132

Office: Psalter Week 4; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Year 1, Week 4

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details	
Saturday 2 nd Feb.	6pm (vigil)	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Catherine Harrison RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 3 rd Feb.	9:30am		Frank RIP and the Rogerson family	
	6pm		People of the Parish	
Monday	9:15am		Hellie Meaney (sick)	
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>	
Tuesday	11am		Requiem	Catherine Harrison RIP
	7pm		St Agatha	Pr. Int. Alan Cockburn jnr
Wednesday	9:15am	Sts Paul Miki and companions	Gerard O'Neill RIP	
Thursday	9:15am		Ben Hunter RIP	
Friday	12noon	St Josephine Bakhita	Patricia Helm RIP	
Saturday 9 th Feb.	10am		Thanksgiving	
	6pm (vigil)	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Terry Cairns RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 10 th Feb.	9:30am		People of the Parish	
	6pm		Tom & Doreen Dilworth RIP	

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Catherine Harrison**, whose Requiem will take place here on Tuesday at 11am, **Fr Aelred Grugan**, and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon (for vocations).

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

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass. Mondays: Joyful; Wednesdays: Glorious; Thursdays: Luminous; Fridays: Sorrowful mysteries.

ST ANTHONY: February wall box donations will go to the Medaille Trust.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jean Moizer, Winifred Green, Elizabeth Worden, Margaret Williamson, William Staples, Elizabeth Moore, Bertha Mills, Agnes Noblet, Agnes Allen, Lily Riley, Bronia Kacpererek, Kevin McEvoy, Mary Teresa Ray, Alice Bee, Maureen Pyke, Maureen Chessell, Gerard Regan, Frank Thompson, Brian Winterbottam, Isabel Loughran, Anne Marie Metcalf, Canon Benedict Ruscillo.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY: For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

DAY OF RENEWAL: Next Saturday (9th). See front page.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Next meeting Sunday 17th February. The booklet is on the life of St Francis of Assisi. Very good for those who are coming on the Assisi pilgrimage in May! Copies now available from Fr Andrew.

VISIT OF THE FRANCISCAN SISTERS: A provisional timetable for the sisters' visit is on display in the narthex. The sisters, accompanied by a Franciscan friar, will be with us 9th-14th March. Please pray that the Lord may bring many graces from this time. Prayer cards available in the narthex, or see the back of this newsletter.

FEAST OF ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA: This Friday, Mass at 12noon. Josephine is the patron saint of victims of human trafficking. Please pray for an end to this evil. St Anthony wall box donations this month will go to the Medaille Trust, which works to help victims of modern slavery in our country.

HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: The children begin their preparation for Holy Communion this Sunday. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

LOURDES PRIZE BINGO: Taking place on Friday 15th February. Tickets on sale after Mass. Money raised will be used to support young people going to Lourdes.

CENACOLO COLLECTION: Food etc. for Cenacolo next weekend (9th/10th). Please leave items in house porchway. **FOOD BANK** collection on 16th/17th.

ALL OR NOTHING: A beautiful film telling the incredible story of Sr Clare Crockett. Will be shown here on Monday 18th February at 7:30pm. Well worth watching!

LANCASTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: 26th July-2nd August by air from Manchester. Information and booking forms in the narthex.

YOUNG PEOPLE - LOURDES: Any young people interested in going to Lourdes with the diocese this summer, please speak to Fr Andrew asap. Poster in the narthex.

ASSISI PILGRIMAGE: We still have a small number of places available for this pilgrimage (27th May-1st June 2019). Twin/double rooms only. Speak to Fr Andrew.

OLSE LADIES' GROUP: meeting in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Thursday 14th February at 8pm. All welcome. Presentation by Geoff Wood: 'The History of some well-known products such as Hovis and Bisto'. Entry £2.

HUMAN DIGNITY AT THE HEART OF HEALTHCARE: a one-day conference at Thornycroft Hall, Macclesfield. See flyers/further information in the narthex.

ARCH - ABORTION RECOVERY HELPLINE offers **non-judgemental, confidential support** for those struggling in the aftermath of an abortion experience – open each evening, 7pm-10pm – if you are struggling, call 0845 603 8501.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 413; Collection: £900.39; Thank you for your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 3 rd	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Holy Communion Preparation (1)	Parish Hall
	4:30pm	Confirmation Preparation (5)	Parish Hall
	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
	7pm	Baptism Preparation (2)	Chapel
	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Journey in Faith Group	Chapel
	7:30pm	Marriage Preparation (5)	Parish Hall
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (school years 3-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Chapel/Narthex
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	School
	10:30am	Day of Renewal	Parish Hall
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Cenacolo collection	House porch
Sunday 10 th	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Holy Communion Preparation (2)	Parish Hall
	11am	Holy Communion parents' session	Chapel
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

9th-14th March:

visit of the Franciscan Sisters

The sisters, will lead us in a week of prayer to experience God's peace and healing. Keep these dates free! Please pray that this will be a time of real renewal in our parish.



Prayer in preparation for the visit

St Clare, who chose a life of poverty, prayer and humble service, watch over this parish which bears your name. Bless and protect our community and intercede for us, that we may come closer to Jesus and grow in His likeness, who lived and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.