

ON READING THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

In holy Scriptures, truth is to be looked for rather than fair phrases. All sacred scriptures should be read in the spirit in which they were written. In them, therefore, we should seek food for our souls rather than subtleties of speech, and we should as readily read simple and devout books as those that are lofty and profound. Do not be influenced by the importance of the writer, and whether his learning be great or small, but let the love of pure truth draw you to read. Do not enquire, 'Who said this?', but pay attention to what is said. Men pass away, but the word of the Lord endures for ever.

God speaks to us in different ways and is no respecter of persons. But curiosity oft hinders us in the reading of the Scriptures, for we try to examine and dispute over matters that we should pass over and accept in simplicity. If you desire to profit, read with humility, simplicity, and faith, and have no concern to appear learned. Ask questions freely and listen in silence to the words of the Saints; hear with patience the parables of the fathers, for they are not told without good cause.

TODAY'S READINGS

The readings for the 22nd Sunday in ordinary time help us think about the order of things in the kingdom of God. In the first reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus, we are encouraged to act with humility for the Lord accepts the homage of the humble. The letter to the Hebrews paints a picture of what is to come: the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels are gathered for a festival, with the whole Church. In the Gospel reading Jesus advises that we should not exalt ourselves but be humble and associate with the poor and the lowly.

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 130**Office: psalter week 2; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: year II, week 22**

Sunday morning Mass is livestreamed and will be available for viewing later on our parish YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish
Sunday 28 th	9:30am		Lil Abram RIP
	6pm		Sean Patten RIP
Monday	9:15am	The Passion of St. John the Baptist	Alan Little RIP
Tuesday	7pm		Sick & housebound Parishioners and their carers
Wednesday	9:15am		M C Cherian RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
Friday	12noon		Ints. of Fr. Andrew
Saturday	10am	ST. GREGORY THE GREAT	Sick & housebound Parishioners and their carers
	6pm (vigil)	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Ints. of Sr. Anne
Sunday 4 th	9:30am		Alan Little RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Sheila Cartmell** and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 11am-12noon and on request.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Thursday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is usually open during the day for private prayer. **Please note** there will not be Adoration between 5pm-6pm on Friday (2nd) this week, instead there will be an evening Holy Hour (see next page).

ROSARY: After 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass on Fridays.

ANNIVERSARIES: Anthony McCambridge, Beatrice Lynch, Robert Thomson, Joe Worden, Leonard Dean, Dunstan Melling.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

SUMMER AT ST CLARE'S: In early September Fr John Mark will be joined by Fr Stephen Talbutt, currently assistant priest at St Kentigern's, Blackpool. Over the summer a supply priest will assist with Masses. Please pray for Fr John Mark as he begins his ministry here, and for Fr Stephen as he prepares to move.

ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR 2022: In September and October the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland and Wales. Individuals and groups are invited to register attendance at their chosen church on the Relic Tour website www.stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour (see notice in the Narthex).

FREE NEWSPAPER: Get the Universe Catholic Weekly free for a four-week trial; see notice in the Narthex for details.

FIRST FRIDAY: Holy Hour this Friday at 7pm in church. An opportunity to spend some time in the company of our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CARE OF CREATION: This Thursday 1st September. A time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through prayer and action for our common home.

FOOD BANK: Next collection: 3rd/4th September. There is currently urgent need of almost all food supplies, particularly tea and coffee, due to very high demand at this present time. The Salvation Army, who distribute the food, have expressed their grateful thanks for the generous donations received from the parishioners of St Clare's.

DIOCESAN EDUCATION MASS 2022: Lancaster Cathedral (LA1 3BT), Friday 7th October 2022 at 6:30pm. All parishioners are invited to join Bishop Paul Swarbrick at the annual Diocese of Lancaster Education Mass. The celebration gives us the opportunity to express our thanks and acknowledge the contribution made by all those in the Diocese involved in the work of education and formation in the faith. Together we ask for God's blessing on the mission of education and formation in our diocese.

ANNUAL CLEATOR PILGRIMAGE: Sunday 11th September at the diocesan shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator, Cumbria. 3pm Mass and blessing of the sick. All members of the diocese are warmly invited. The Bishop will preside and preach.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: This weekend (27th/28th) for the Catholic Trust for England & Wales. The Trust financially supports all legal, monetary, and socially supportive enterprises of the Bishops' Conference and its connected associates.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 364 (73/152/89 NCW 50). Collections: £591.75. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 28 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
Mon-Thurs	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Monday	7pm	Baptism course (2)*	Side chapel
Tuesday	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Wednesday	10am-12	Parish Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Friday	7pm	Holy Hour	Church
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 4 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall

Events marked * are open only to members or those who have booked ahead.

SUNDAY OBLIGATION: Please note that watching an online Mass does not fulfil the Sunday obligation for those who are able to attend in person. The full statement of the Bishops can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

MARCH FOR LIFE 2022: Saturday 3rd September in London, the annual March for Life, promoting the sanctity of human life from conception to natural end. Events begin at the Emmanuel Centre (SW1P 3DW) from 10:30am, Mass at 11am, and the march from 2pm, ending in Parliament Square around 4:30pm. All are welcome to come.

THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY: A six session course will be running at Christ Church, Victoria Road from 13th September – 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING: Please consider supporting this training at Corpus Christi High School, in memory of Mary O’Gara, by sponsoring parishioners walking the ‘Santiago de Compostella’ in September. A ‘just giving’ page has been set up (www.justgiving.com/RitaHunter3), and sponsorship forms are available in the Narthex. Please see Rita Hunter or Anne Metcalf for details.

Fr Andrew’s new postal address:

St Mary’s College, Chester Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B73 5AA. Those wishing to email can contact him using: frandrewallman@hotmail.co.uk