

Our first 50 years: 2017-2018

January 2017 brought a change of priests to the parish, as Fr Andrew arrived, taking over the reigns from Fr Loughran and Fr Darren, both of whom moved on to new pastures on the same day. He inherited a parish with plenty going on, including a couple of big projects that were underway: the remodelling of the sanctuary and replacement of the altar, and – on a much bigger scale – the demolition of the old porch and the construction of the new narthex. Work began on this project in



The narthex under construction,
17th October 2017

September 2017 and continued well into the following year. On 1st February 2018 the new narthex was officially opened and blessed, even though exterior work was still incomplete. In other events, we began a new project to support families in Syria with ACN, and Bishop Paul Swarbrick took from Bishop Michael Campbell, becoming the Seventh Bishop of Lancaster. Members of the NeoCatechumenal Way celebrated their 50th anniversary with Pope Francis in Rome, and two coachloads of parishioners travelled to Liverpool in September 2018 to take part in the Blessed Sacrament procession at the end of the national Eucharistic Congress.

Today's Readings

Our run of feast days has come to its close, and we return to the 'ordinary' Sundays of the year, which means a sequential reading of St Luke's Gospel. We pick up the story at a turning point: Jesus 'resolutely' takes the road to Jerusalem, knowing that death and resurrection awaits Him there. Everything from this point in the Gospel is moving towards that climax. There is an emphasis on following Him (something reflected in the first reading too, as Elisha begins to follow the great prophet Elijah), and a reminder from St Paul not to misuse the freedom that God has given us.

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

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 102

Office: psalter week 1; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: year II, week 13

The first Mass each day is livestreamed and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Ronald & Mary Airey RIP
	7pm (NCW)		<i>NCW Mass in parish hall</i>
Sunday 26 th	9:30am		Bernard Harrison RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am	St Cyril of Alexandria	Peter Lowe RIP
Tuesday	7pm (vigil)	SAINTS PETER AND PAUL	Eddie Williams RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Mary Mathai RIP
	7pm		William Mercer RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Francis & Sheila O’Gara (Diamond Wedding)
Friday	12noon		Damian Williams RIP
Saturday	10am		Alan Little RIP
	6pm (vigil)	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Lil Abram RIP
	7pm (NCW)		<i>NCW Mass in parish hall</i>
Sunday 3rd	9:30am		Hayley & Jamie (Wedding)
	6pm		Ints of Sue Lawrenson

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Margaret Irene Moody, Norman Hibbert** and all who have died recently.

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is usually open during the day for private prayer.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Patrick Mullen, Richard Howard Southworth, Christopher Gregory Braithwaite, Alice Wilson, William Mercer, Muriel Osbaldeston, Ben Hunter.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JUNE: We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL: This Wednesday is the feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are 7pm Tuesday, then 9:15am and 7pm on Wednesday. Please note that our primary school will be at the morning Mass.

NEW BEGINNINGS: As announced, Fr Andrew will be moving on to work at the seminary at Oscott – his last weekend will be 16th/17th July. Fr John Mark Agulefo, currently Parish Priest at St Gregory's, will be moving to St Clare's, with responsibility for both churches. He will be joined by another priest (who will also be resident at St Clare's) from September. Over the summer a supply priest will assist with Masses.

FAREWELL MASS AND SOCIAL: Fr Andrew's farewell Mass will be on Thursday 14th July at 7pm, followed by a Jacob's Join in the parish hall. If you can help with food, please sign up on the sheets in the narthex.

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.

CHURCH CLOSURE: The church will be closed from Monday 4th to Friday 8th July to allow for the floor covering to be replaced. During this period Mass will be held in the parish hall. The side chapel will be open during the day for private prayer. **Can you help?** We need people to help move the benches on Sunday 3rd July after evening mass and return them on the morning of Saturday 9th July. If you have battery operated tools to help remove/replace the screws, please bring them too.

GOING TO THE HOLY LAND? Due to flight cancellations, the organisers are looking to move the trip by one day, to run Sunday-Sunday 23rd-30th October. They need to hear back from each person booked on the trip. Please contact them as soon as possible. A decision will be made on Monday about how best to proceed.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Please remember in your prayers the children of our parish who will receive Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time next weekend.

PLATINUM JUBILEE: The afternoon tea celebration was enjoyed by all who attended and raised approximately £314 towards the Ukraine and ACN charities. Thanks to all the volunteers involved.

FOOD BANK: Collection next weekend: 2nd/3rd July. There is currently urgent need of almost all food supplies due to very high demand. Thank you for your generosity.

LADYEWELL PILGRIMAGE: The annual pilgrimage to our local shrine is on Saturday 9th July. 11am Mass at St Mary's, then procession and Benediction. All welcome.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: this Sunday for Peter's Pence for offerings to the Holy Father for the many needs of the universal Church.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 440 (86/215/89 NCW 50). Collection: £687.02. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 26 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	3:20pm	After School Club*	Parish Hall
Monday	2pm	Rosary service	St Mary's
	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	7:45pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Wednesday	10am-12	Parish Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
	7:45pm	Social Committee*	Narthex
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank collection	House Porch
Sunday 3rd	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

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

ROSARY SERVICE to celebrate the feast of Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help, to pray for peace in the world. At St Mary's Fernyhalgh at 2pm on Monday 27th June. Guest speaker Canon Chris Loughran.

VACANCIES AT METANOIA PROJECT: Metanoia are currently looking for a new chaplaincy assistant to work with young adults and also for people to join the 'Metanoia Missionaries' for a year, helping to share the Gospel in the local area. More details on both opportunities can be found at www.metanoiaproject.co.uk

JOBS AT CASTLERIGG: Vacancies for gap year volunteers and for a Programme Leader - the latter being a 2-year paid post. Anyone interested can contact jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk or visit <http://castleriggmanor.com/join-the-team/>

PRISON CHAPLAIN VACANCY: A full-time post for a Catholic chaplain (lay or ordained) at HMP Lancaster Farms. Closing date 1st July. For details [click here](#).

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/>