

## **Our first 50 years: 1986-1987**

The diary for these years shows a steady period in parish life, with few exceptional events. But work was going on to further strengthen our community, especially with the building of a new parish hall. Since the church opened in 1979 the former church (the 'hut') had been used as a hall, but Fr



Lakeland was keen to build a new, permanent hall with better facilities. In July 1986 the diocese gave permission for a new hall to be built, at an estimated cost of £100,000. Work continued throughout 1987. It is hard to know from the existing records exactly when the hall opened – it appears to be late 1987 or early 1988. If anyone can help solve this mini mystery, please let us know!

## **Today's Readings**

Each year on the first Sunday of Lent we read an account of our Lord's temptation in the desert. As we're in the year of reading Luke's Gospel, today we hear his version of the events. Luke gives us a full account of the devil's tactics and the Lord's calm, faithful response. There is much for us to learn here, especially about listening carefully to the Lord rather than to the voice of the devil, who has many subtle ways of encouraging us to stray from the path of love. In the first reading we find the Israelites about to enter the Promised Land, looking back over their history and recognising how God has been with them throughout. Meanwhile, St Paul teaches that we are made righteous by Christ, and our duty is to believe in Him and proclaim Him. He also promises that the Lord can help all who call upon Him - a useful reminder to us to rely on God in these weeks of Lent and to entrust our cares to Him.

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## MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass Book page 153

**Office: Psalter week 1; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: of Lent**

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)	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	Alan Little RIP
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am		Margaret Rainford RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am		Susan Allonby RIP
Tuesday	10am	<b>Requiem</b>	Alan Little RIP
	7pm		Peter Sissons RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		George Oldcorn RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Donor's Intention
Friday	12noon		Holy Souls
Saturday	10am	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	Holy Souls
	6pm (vigil)		Ints Dr Betty Hampson
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Alan Little RIP

**LATELY DEAD:** Please pray for **Alan Little, Fr Bernard Walker SJ** and all who have died recently.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 11am-12noon and by appointment.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Sundays 3pm during Lent.

**LITURGY OF THE HOURS:** Evening Prayer Monday-Friday 5:45pm during Lent.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is also open Monday-Thursday: morning-6pm; Friday 12:30pm-6pm; Saturday 11am-6pm and Sunday 12:30pm-6pm.

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

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Winifred Taylor, Bernard Warriner, Jack Farnworth, Elizabeth Duffy, Ted Boulton, Mary Hickson, Joseph Moss, Violet Donnelly, Ron Smith.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH:** We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

**UKRAINE COLLECTION:** There will be an emergency special collection at the end of Mass next Sunday, to help with the relief effort for refugees from the Ukraine war.

**PARISH PETITION BOOK:** This book, in which you can write your own requests for prayer, is now returned to its place near the statue of Our Lady.

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE:** The new itinerary and booking forms are now available in the narthex. The pilgrimage takes place 22<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October this year. Price is £1297 if you book by 31<sup>st</sup> March. Transport to and from the airport will be provided.

**IN THE BEGINNING...** A series of four talks for Lent exploring the beginning of the book of Genesis. Tuesday evenings, 7:30pm. 8<sup>th</sup> March: Creation; 15<sup>th</sup> March: The Fall and its consequences; 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Noah to Babel; 29<sup>th</sup> March: Redemption in Christ.

**DAY OF RENEWAL:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 10am-4pm, here at St Clare's. Sean Booth leads a day with the theme "When anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible". Talks, prayer and praise, adoration, healing. Starts with 10am Mass.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be prayed publicly on Sundays at 3pm during Lent. Following your feedback we have ordered the second hand Stations, which are currently being restored and will be installed in the church when they are ready.

**LENT IN THE PARISH:** Our spiritual programme for Lent 2022 also includes a full reading of St Mark's Gospel (25<sup>th</sup> March) and Lenten lunches (11<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> April). A reconciliation service is planned for later in the season.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH:** During Lent, please remember to pray especially for those who will be baptised or received into full Communion with the Church at Easter.

**CAFOD FAST DAY:** This Friday. Please fast and make a small donation to CAFOD's Lent appeal. Envelopes are available this weekend and can be returned next weekend.

**ACN INDIA PROJECT:** Donations of any size are welcome for our project to build a new church/hall in India. **Gift Aid** envelopes for ACN are now available in the narthex.

**PARISH 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY MEAL:** At Preston North End, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Details and sign up sheets will be available next weekend. Come and celebrate!

**COVID SAFETY MEASURES IN CHURCH:** Please be mindful of those who would like to keep a safe distance from others, and use the hand sanitisers on entry and exit.

**OLSE LADIES' GROUP:** Next meeting this Thursday (10<sup>th</sup>), OLSE Parish Centre at 8pm. A presentation by Dr Bill Shannon, "The Martyrs of Cottam: William and Blessed George Haydock." Admission £2. A lateral flow test before visit is encouraged.

**FOOD BANK:** Collection this weekend: 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> March. Next one: 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> March.

**LAST WEEK:** At Mass: 378 (figures for individual Masses: 80/117/55/81; NCW 45). Collection: £588.50. Online giving in February: £1961.50. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	<b>Food Bank collection</b>	House porch
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10:20am	<b>After-Mass tea/coffee</b>	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Journey in Faith Group	Side chapel
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	5:45pm	<b>Vespers (Evening Prayer)</b>	Church
	3:20pm	After School Club*	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	<b>Marriage Preparation (6)*</b>	Narthex
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	<b>In the Beginning – Talk 1</b> Creation (Genesis 1-2)	Narthex
Wednesday	10am-12	Parish Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	12:30pm	<b>Lenten Lunch</b>	Parish Hall
	7pm	Lectio Divina	Side chapel
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates*	Parish Hall
	10am	<b>Confirmation Preparation 5*</b>	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class*	Parish Hall
	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:20am	<b>After-Mass tea/coffee</b>	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Journey in Faith Group	Side chapel

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

## Using a card to donate to your parish (updated)

*The card reader in the narthex is alternative way to donate to the parish. To use it:*

1. Input the amount you wish to give (either using an amount displayed on screen, or by selecting 'Other amount').
2. Use the card reader (to the right of the screen) to make the donation. You can use contactless payment or insert your card in the top of the reader and use the keypad to enter your PIN.
3. The machine will ask if you wish to Gift Aid your donation. This brings extra money to the parish at no cost to you. If you select this, you will be asked for additional information, which need only be inputted once – all future donations *using the same card* will be Gift Aided unless you tell us otherwise.