

People of the Word: St Matthias

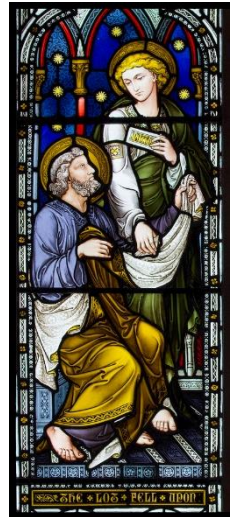
During His earthly life, Jesus gathered around Him a group of disciples, some of whom He called 'apostles' – these men were to be the first leaders of the Church. But amongst them was **Judas Isacariot**, the man who betrayed Him. The Gospel records that, after this betrayal, Judas took his own life. In Acts of the Apostles (1:15-26) we read how St Peter, inspired by the Holy Spirit and guided by Scripture, teaches that they must elect a successor to Judas. The man chosen is **St Matthias**.



THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

We know relatively little about Matthias – in fact, he's only mentioned here in the Bible – but Acts does give us some important information. We know that he accompanied Jesus during His earthly ministry from the time John was baptisibg until the Ascension (1:21-22) – in other words, a constant companion to the Lord. His mission, and the mission of all the Apostles, is made clear: Matthias must act "as a witness to His resurrection."

With the election of Matthias, the Apostles once again numbered twelve; in this way they show themselves as the leaders of the new Israel, the Church: God's people, Israel, was originally formed of twelve tribes descended from the sons of Jacob. This moment in the life of the Church is also important because it was the first time a new leader – a new bishop – was chosen after the Lord's return to heaven. Today, by this same line of succession, all of the world's bishops are successors of the Apostles, called to carry on the work our Lord entrusted to His Church.



Questions for reflection:

- Do I allow myself to be guided by the Holy Spirit when I must make decisions?
- What role has Jesus entrusted to me in His Church?

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter Week 4; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: year 2, week 28

Morning Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel. All information and links at www.saintclares.co.uk

See back page for information on attending Mass in the church.

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Sunday 18 th	6pm (vigil)	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Ken Hollis RIP
	9:30am		Theresa & John Topping RIP
	11:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Sharon Carraher RIP
Monday	9:30am		Thomas Clarkson RIP
Tuesday	9:30am		Kathleen Lord RIP
Wednesday	9:30am		David Leach RIP
Thursday	9:30am	St John Paul II	Helen and Findlay McCormack RIP
Friday	9:30am		Kath Wilding RIP
Saturday	9:30am		Henry Haydock RIP
Sunday 25 th	6pm (vigil)	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Donor's Intention
	9:30am		Joseph Sudell RIP
	11:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Jeff Poole RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Clare Mulligan, Mary Ivson, Joan Clark, Jack Finley** and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: on request. Contact Fr Andrew to arrange.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:30am Mass, Monday-Friday.

ANNIVERSARIES: Winifred Taylor, Thomas Clarkson, Iris Myles, Violet MeEvoy, Ann Teehan, Molly Nixon, Anne Lawson, Mary Winifred Knight, Henry Haydock.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

Supporting your parish financially

To avoid use of cash, it is better, if possible, to support the parish using standing order/BACS. Contact us directly for the details. If you don't use online banking, we can send you a mandate which you can fill in and post to your bank. If you have been saving offertory envelopes, these may be pushed through the presbytery letterbox or handed in at the end of Mass. Thank you for supporting our parish.

CHANGES TO MASS TIMES: We have a little space at most of the weekend Masses now, as we have the additional Mass at 11:30am. Please don't hesitate to ask if you'd like to return to Sunday Mass. More details on the back page.

SCHOOL HARVEST SERVICE: This year our primary school celebrate an online Harvest Service: <https://www.st-clares.lancs.sch.uk/blog/2020-10-16-harvest-2020> It's lovely to see the children giving thanks to God for the gift of the harvest.

CHURCH OPENING THIS WEEK: Please note that the church will not be open for private prayer on Thursday this week. On other days we will be open as normal.

ATTENDING WEEKDAY MASS: Reserving a place for the morning Mass Monday-Saturday is no longer necessary. You can just turn up. A steward will record your name and (if you don't regularly come) will ask you for contact details.

VIRTUAL BINGO: Our primary school will be holding a virtual bingo morning on Friday at 11am, via Zoom. To join, contact the school office on 01772 787037.

CATHOLIC PAPERS: Copies of the Catholic papers are now available for sale in the narthex, as before the lockdown. Please do not handle a paper unless you intend to buy it. Money, as before, can be placed in the wallbox in the narthex.

SPECIAL COLLECTION this weekend for Missio (APF). This supports the work of the Church spreading the Gospel around the world, as part of World Mission Sunday.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: The deadline to apply for a primary school place for September 2021 is 15th January 2021. Applications are made online at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-online-for-a-school-place/>.

To apply for a place at St Clare's Primary School you also need a supplementary form, which must be returned to the school by 15th January 2021. These are on the school website: <https://www.st-clares.lancs.sch.uk/parents/admissions.php>

VIRTUAL SCHOOL TOURS: Our local Catholic schools, St Clare's Primary and Corpus Christi Catholic College, both have virtual school tours on their websites. You can find the sites using the links on our website: www.saintclares.co.uk

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: Prayers and offers of help for women outside an abortion centre on Tulketh Brow, running now and until 1st November. More details can be found on the website: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/preston>

FOOD BANK: Thank you for your continuing donations of non-perishable food for the Food Bank. Donations may be left in the house porch at any time.

TRAIDCRAFT MORNING: Fulwood Methodist Church, Saturday 24th October, 9:30am-1pm. Social distancing will be observed. Free car parking available.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 11 th	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Mon-Wed	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Friday	11am	Virtual Bingo with St Clare's school	Zoom
Friday	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Saturday	12-1pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 18 th	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church

All events marked 'YouTube' are streamed live on our channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

A prayer of spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Attending Mass at St Clare's

Booking is no longer necessary for the morning Mass Monday-Saturday, but **it is essential that you request a place if you wish to come to Sunday Mass (or the Saturday evening vigil)**, as these Masses are extremely busy.

If you wish to attend a Sunday Mass, please decide on a **regular Mass** you wish to attend, then contact us to see what's possible. We will get contact you to let you know when you can come. Please only come to Sunday Mass if you have received confirmation that we have sufficient space. In this way we are able to minimise the risks and keep everyone as safe as possible.

To arrange to come to Sunday Mass: Please contact us (preferably by email – if you don't use email, please phone us) and let us know the following information:

- Your name (and, if you are not using email, a phone number)
- Which of the four Sunday Masses (Saturday 6pm; Sunday 9:30am, 11:30am, 6pm) you wish to attend.
- How many people from your household/support bubble will attend (you will sit together at Mass, so it's vital we know how many are in your group).

There is still no obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday at this time.