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## Continuing to support ACN

In recent years our parish community has done a huge amount to support people suffering in Syria and Iraq, through our partnership with Aid to the Church in Need (ACN). Although fundraising events are not currently possible, we continue to receive donations, which are sent on to ACN to help those in need. We can also help by remembering in our prayers all those who are suffering and those who seek to help



**A C N**

them, and by supporting ACN campaigns, which aim to alleviate suffering by encouraging governments to act. You can find out more about those who are suffering for their faith in an ACN video, available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IgmL2Rie9g&feature=youtu.be>) and read about the case of Sonia Bibi, a young woman who was killed in Pakistan for refusing to convert and marry (click here: <https://acnuk.org/news/pakistan-christian-woman-murdered-for-refusing-to-convert-and-marry/>)

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## Today's Readings

In today's second reading, St Paul tells us that preaching the Gospel is not an option but a duty for him. God has called him to preach, and so he devotes himself heart and soul to spreading the Gospel. The same duty is placed on each of us! In the Gospel the Lord says that He has come to earth to preach, and our work of evangelisation is always a sharing in His mission. The Gospel gives us several scenes: the healing of Peter's mother-in-law, the cure of many who were sick or possessed, and a quiet time of prayer for our Lord. It's a mixture of activity and peaceful prayer: a combination which is vital in all our lives.

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## MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 1; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 5

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](http://www.saintclares.co.uk)

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)*	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	Les Thornton RIP
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am*		Donor's Intention (JW)
	11:30am*		People of the Parish
	6pm*		Sharon Carraher RIP
Monday	9:30am	St Josephine Bakhita	Teresa Madden RIP
Tuesday	9:30am		Peter Wilson RIP
Wednesday	9:30am	St Scholastica	Gerry Martland RIP
Thursday	9:30am	<b>Our Lady of Lourdes</b>	Thanksgiving to Our Lady
Friday	9:30am		Mabel Jayasingue RIP
Saturday	9:30am	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	William and family
	6pm (vigil)*		Special Intention
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am*		Sarah Ann Cottam RIP
	11:30am*		Patrick Gallagher RIP
	6pm*	People of the Parish	

\* These Masses can only be attended by those who have booked in advance.

**LATELY DEAD:** Please pray for **Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue** and all who have died recently.

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

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

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Teresa Madden, Isabel Loughran, Anne Marie Metcalf, Canon Benedict Ruscillo, Iris Jackson, Len Stevens, Ann Cobley, Pearline Simpson, Pauline Southworth, Peter Whelan, Veronica Jolly, Anne Dias, Margaret Davies, Jim McCallion, Dorothy Hayes, Maureen Rooney.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY:** We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR LENT?** Lent begins in 10 days' time: Ash Wednesday is 17<sup>th</sup> February this year. What will you do to make this holy season fruitful? Three things to mark the season are additional prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES:** Patronal feast of our Diocese and World Day of Prayer for the Sick. This Thursday. Mass at 9:30am as usual, in church and online.

**CHURCH OPENING:** Under the current lockdown, the church remains open. Please do not mix with others when visiting, including outside after Mass.

**SCHOOL NURSERY PROVISION: Mrs Charnley, headteacher, writes:** We at Saint Clare's Catholic Primary School are constantly striving to ensure that we are meeting the ever-changing needs of children and families within this community. With this in mind, we would welcome your opinion and feedback on what nursery provision your child used or what you would be thinking of using. Please use the link here to access the questionnaire: <https://forms.gle/Lby2AVu2qSTcP1RV8>  
Can I take the opportunity to thank you for finding the time to complete this questionnaire as this will help us plan for the future. The questionnaire closes today, Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

**YOUNG PEOPLE:** Contact us for details of online events for young people, and see the back page for details of some of the online work of our diocesan youth service.

**CAFOD BIG WALK FOR WATER:** Water is the theme of this year's Lent Fast Day. In addition to the normal Fast Day collection, CAFOD asks us all to do a "Big Walk for Water" on 20 February, individually or in COVID bubbles, seeking sponsors and/or making personal donations. Any parishioner who would like to pledge to do 10,000 COVID-secure steps every day during Lent is invited to contact [stephen.garsed@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.garsed@gmail.com) or ring 717376 for further details.

**FOOD BANK:** Donations may be left in the house porchway at any time. Demand is increasing, with over 200 food parcels being distributed each week. There is currently need for: toilet rolls, tinned potatoes, tinned fruit, coffee and soap powder. They also collect used stamps.

**CTS 2021 SUNDAY MISSAL:** Now available for just £1.99, direct from CTS. Click here for details: <https://www.ctsbooks.org/product/cts-sunday-missal-2021/>

**CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS:** We are no longer supplying the Universe/Catholic Times in the parish. These are available to order directly from the publisher ([www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com) or 0161 820 5722).

**THE DRAMA DISPLAYED:** A free series of online talks examining the key moments of salvation history, with the aid of great works of art. At 7:30pm every second Thursday, to 25<sup>th</sup> March. For info and registration: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-drama-displayed/>

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Saturday	11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church

### **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.

### **Lancaster Diocese Youth Service during lockdown**

Our diocesan youth service, based at Castlerigg Manor, is organising various online during the lockdown Please pass the details on to anyone who may benefit.

**RISE // Online Youth Group** - Our first online Youth Group launches on March 11th. It's free of charge and open to anyone in Years 7 to 9. Every other Thursday from 7pm to 8pm. [www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/riseonline](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/riseonline)

**Online Study Days for Adults** - Our first study day will be on Saturday March 13th. Father Michael Docherty will be talking to us about Salvation History. Tickets £5. 1pm to 5pm. [www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/study](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/study)

**Overflow (Online Group for 18-30s) // Connecting young adults.** [Sign up...](#)

**Youth Mental Health First Aid (online) //** We are offering a HUGE reduction on our normal price. Tickets are just £95, for this two day course accredited by MHFA England. Your chance to learn how to spot the warning signs of poor mental health and how you can help. The Mental Health equivalent of learning CPR! [Book...](#)

**ENGAGE // Online Youth Ministry Course** - The second run of the ENGAGE course starts on March 16th. The course is aimed at people starting out in Youth Ministry or people who've been around a while and want to learn a little more. Earlybird price £48 until February 10th. [www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/engage](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/engage)