
Vocations

Today, sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday” is a day of prayer for vocations particularly to the priesthood and the religious life. Each person who is called in this way and responds to that call is not only one who serves; they also become a sign of the importance of giving our lives to Christ. By our baptism, each of us is called to give ourselves completely to the Lord, whatever our state of life. Those who are called to a particular way of life within the Church are called to serve by their ministry and by the sign they give. Have you ever considered if you are called in this way? Are you open to the will of God in your life? Do you pray regularly for vocations, and for those who have already answered this call from the Lord? If you are wondering if the Lord may be calling you in some particular way, pray about it and speak to someone about it. Speak to Fr Andrew in confidence, with no commitment. For enquiries about diocesan priesthood, you can also seek guidance from the Vocations Director, Canon Luiz Ruscillo (call 01228 525632).

Today's Readings

Each year on this Sunday we hear our Lord speak of Himself using the image of the shepherd. This is a sign of His constant and loving care: He watches over us, always mindful of our needs and our eternal wellbeing. However, there is more: it's also a sign of His self-giving: “The Good Shepherd is one who lays down His life for His sheep.” Jesus expresses today His desire to draw us all into deeper unity (“There will be only one flock, and one shepherd”) through His saving death. This flock of Jesus is also a family, as St John teaches us in today's second reading: “Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children.” Through baptism we are adopted as children of God, beginning a journey in which we grow in His likeness, until in heaven “we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He really is.” In the first reading we continue to explore the Acts of the Apostles, hearing today that the Apostles could only work a miracle by the name of Jesus: His is the only name by which we can be saved.

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

Presbytery: Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9HH

Tel: 01772 719604 email: enquiries@saintclares.co.uk

www.saintclares.co.uk Social Media: @StClareFulwood

Lancaster RC Diocesan Trustees Registered – Charity No. 234331

St Clare's Primary School – Headteacher: Mrs A. Charnley

Tel: 01772 787037 Fax: 01772 787016 email: head@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk

MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 4; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: of Eastertide

Morning Mass is livestreamed each day 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	8:30pm (vigil)	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Mary & Eddie Sinnott RIP
Sunday 25 th	9:30am*		People of the Parish
	11:30am*		Mary Gallagher RIP
	6pm		Ints Connell family
Monday	9:30am		Speedy recovery of Mr Mathew KS
Tuesday	9:30am		Brian Hampshire RIP
Wednesday	9:30am	St Louis de Montfort	Special Intention
Thursday	9:30am		Connor & Smith families
Friday	9:30am		PJ and Nuala Gordon
Saturday	9:30am	St Joseph the Worker	Ann Mary Watson RIP
	6pm (vigil)	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Allwin Rodriguez RIP
Sunday 2 nd	9:30am*		People of the Parish
	11:30am*		Monguit Lepcha RIP
	6pm		Virginia Roger RIP

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

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for all who have died recently.

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon, Sunday 3-4pm.

ANNIVERSARIES: Helena Jackson, Susan Harrison, Margaret Smith.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even democracies in crisis.

ATTENDING EVENING MASSES: It is no longer necessary to book for the Saturday or Sunday evening Masses. We will still need to keep a record of those who are attending, including contact details, to assist with track and trace. Records are kept for three weeks, then destroyed, in line with government guidance. Booking remains necessary for both Masses on Sunday morning – please contact us if you would like to attend these.

SEEKERS AND SENT GROUPS: Our youth groups for school years 4-6 (Seekers) and Years 10-11 (Sent) have started again, but numbers are limited due to Covid restrictions. Please contact us (or Ruth or Joe directly) if you'd like to attend.

GIFT AID SCHEME: A Gift Aid tax reclaim will be submitted shortly to HMRC. Please notify us if you are no longer a taxpayer or you paid insufficient tax during 2020/21 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations given under Gift Aid to all charities during the tax year. At the present standard rate of tax of 20%, 25p is reclaimed for every £1 donated. If you have moved house during the tax year please let us have your new address.

DONATING BY STANDING ORDER? If you donate to the parish by standing order and you gift aid your contribution, there should be a set of envelopes for you to cover the special collections which take place through the year. Many of you will be contributing to these collections but we cannot claim Gift Aid from them unless you use an envelope, so please take a set if you can.

200 CLUB APRIL WINNERS: £142 no. 138 Michael Kirwan; £85 no. 67 Mark Hampson; £57 no. 95 Reg Smith. To join the club, please contact the parish office.

VIRTUAL TRIP TO JERUSALEM: On behalf of the whole Metanoia Project team, this is a huge thank you to all those who donated or supported our fundraiser; with your help we exceeded our £5000 target, thank you!

THE RWANDA GROUP TRUST would like to say a big thank you to everyone who responded to our Lenten appeal. We had a fantastic response raising £6,300 - divided between donations for basic necessities and purchase of 100 goats. May God Bless you all for your generosity to the poor people of Rwanda.

CATHOLIC VOICE OF LANCASTER: May edition is now available to download from our website. Take a look at the latest news from around the diocese.

THE CASTLERIGG LOTTERY: In order to support for our diocesan youth service, Castlerigg Manor have started a lottery. It's just £3 a month to join; the winner takes half the pot each month! Register at www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/lottery

SPECIAL COLLECTION this weekend for the Ecclesiastical Education Fund, which pays for the training of priests for our diocese. Please use the buckets at the exits.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 25 th	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	7pm	Sent group (school years 10-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Tuesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
Saturday	11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 2 nd	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	7pm	Sent group (school years 10-11)	Parish Hall

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.

Dates for your diary

Friday 7th May – First Friday Holy Hour, 7pm

Thursday 13th May – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Tuesday 18th May – May Procession (in school; online for parishioners)

Wednesday 9th June – Blessed Sacrament Procession (online only)

“The witnesses report an important detail: the risen Jesus bears the marks of the wounds in his hands, feet and side. These wounds are the everlasting seal of his love for us. All those who experience a painful trial in body or spirit can find refuge in these wounds and, through them, receive the grace of the hope that does not disappoint.”

Pope Francis, Urbi et Orbi, Easter Sunday 2021