

## October: Month of the Holy Rosary

This Thursday is the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary; in fact the whole month of October is one of special devotion to this beautiful prayer. In the Rosary we not only 'say' prayers; we also meditate on the mysteries of the life of Jesus, seen through the eyes of Mary. The Rosary invites us to join with her in pondering the mysteries of the life of Jesus, and treasuring them in our hearts (Luke 2:51). In this way, Mary accompanies us as we grow in knowledge and love of her Son. If you don't already pray the Rosary regularly, why not give it a try this month? You could even just pray one decade per day – it takes only 2-3 minutes – and so spend a little part of your day in the company of Jesus and Mary. If you need a list of the mysteries, do a quick online search or pick up any good general Catholic prayer book, where the mysteries will be listed. We pray the Rosary in church on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays straight after 9:15am Mass, and on Fridays at 11:40am, before the lunchtime Mass begins.



## Today's Readings

The Bible begins with an account of the creation of the world, and then – in Genesis 2 – explores more deeply the creation of human beings. Today's first reading comes from this chapter, and is concerned to show that, as human beings, we are made for communion with one another: "It is not good that the man should be alone." In human terms, this communion is most fully expressed in the faithful love of husband and wife, as Genesis states and as the Lord reiterates in the Gospel. In the second reading, we begin hearing from the letter to the Hebrews, an anonymous text filled with dense teaching about Christ's role as the High Priest of the New Covenant between God and His people.

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## MASSES THIS WEEK

**Office: Psalter week 3; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 27**

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>TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> | Holy Souls                      |
| Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 9:30am      |   | Pauline Wilkinson RIP           |
|                         | 11:30am     |   | People of the Parish            |
|                         | 6pm         |   | John Cairns RIP                 |
| Monday                  | 9:15am      | St Francis of Assisi                          | Holy Souls                      |
| Tuesday                 | 7pm         | <b>Dedication of the Cathedral</b>            | Ilse Brünger RIP                |
| Wednesday               | 9:15am      |   | Holy Souls                      |
| Thursday                | 9:15am      | Our Lady of the Rosary                        | Holy Souls                      |
| Friday                  | 12noon      |   | Holy Souls                      |
| Saturday                | 10am        | <b>St John Henry Newman</b>                   | Special Intention (SS)          |
|                         | 6pm (vigil) | <b>TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>  | Holy Souls                      |
| Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> | 9:30am      |   | Ints Marguerite Spencer         |
|                         | 11:30am     |   | People of the Parish            |
|                         | 6pm         |   | Richard and Eileen Woodhead RIP |

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

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

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is also open Monday-Friday morning-6pm; Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 1-5pm.

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

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Alice Turner, Mary Ryan, Barbara Knowling, Jack Finley, Frank McLaughlin, Lilian Collum, Alice Donlan, Miriam Green, Hannah Walmsley, Ellen Comer.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER:** We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

**PARISH AND SCHOOL – 50 YEARS:** Our parish was founded and our primary school opened in November 1971, some 50 years ago! Various events are taking place in school and we plan to mark the anniversary in the parish, even if celebrations will be necessarily muted because of ongoing Covid concerns. More details soon! If anyone has any ideas for simple and safe ways to celebrate, please speak to Fr Andrew.

**PARISH HISTORY:** In view of the above, if anyone has any old photographs of parish life or any interesting artefacts related to the parish from years gone by, please let us know. Speak to Fr Andrew or contact the parish office.

**HARVEST FAST DAY:** Please return any CAFOD Harvest Fast Day envelopes this weekend if possible. They may be placed in the normal collection baskets. There is also online [petition](#) calling for the Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis, ahead of the COP26 conference in Glasgow next month. Please take a look and sign it if you can: [cafod.org.uk/climate](https://cafod.org.uk/climate).

**11:30am MASS:** Please note that there will be no 11:30am Mass on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October. All other Masses will take place as normal.

**CONFIRMATION 2021-22:** For all young people in school years 6 and up who have not yet had the opportunity to be confirmed. The programme will start January 2022 with Confirmation in May 2022. Full details will be published before Christmas.

**NCW CATECHESIS:** An invitation to hear the Gospel anew, receiving its powerful message of hope and relating it to daily life. Monday and Thursday evenings, 7pm in the narthex. All are very welcome to come along.

**ST CLARE'S SCHOOL OPEN DAY:** This Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October, until 5:30pm. Come and discover our primary school. Please contact the office to book a slot for your visit or for more information. Call 787037 or email [bursar@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk)

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE:** Now taking place in October 2022. In the coming weeks we hope to be able to confirm the exact dates and other details.

**DAY BY DAY BOOKS** contain readings and prayers for daily Mass. If anyone is interested in receiving a copy each month (£1/month) please contact the office.

**METANOIA PROJECT** is looking for volunteers. We have a wide range of ministries including our children/youth work, adult groups, homeless drop in and music ministry. We also have admin/tech tasks. If you could spare a little time, please contact Jen (Community Coordinator) 07957566741 or [jen@metanoiaproject.co.uk](mailto:jen@metanoiaproject.co.uk).

**FOOD BANK:** collection [this weekend](#); next collection is on 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> October.

**LAST SUNDAY:** At Mass: 284 (figures for individual Masses: 59/60/84/59 (NCW 22)) Collection: £744.31. Online giving in September: £2039.00 Thank you.

## 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 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 7pm     | Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)     | Parish Hall |
| Mon-Fri                 | 5-6pm   | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament    | Church      |
| Mon-Fri                 | 3:20pm  | After School Club*                    | Parish Hall |
| Monday                  | 6pm     | Cubs                                  | Parish Hall |
|                         | 7pm     | <b>NCW Catechesis (5)</b>             | Narthex     |
|                         | 7pm     | <b>Baptism Preparation (3)*</b>       | Side chapel |
|                         | 8pm     | Scouts                                | Parish Hall |
| Tuesday                 | 6pm     | Seekers (school years 4-6)            | Parish Hall |
| Wednesday               | Daytime | <b>Open Day in St Clare's School*</b> | School      |
| Thursday                | 6:15pm  | Beavers                               | Parish Hall |
|                         | 7pm     | <b>NCW Catechesis (6)</b>             | Narthex     |
| Saturday                | 8:45am  | Pilates*                              | Parish Hall |
|                         | 10am    | <b>Year 4 Reconciliation Prep (1)</b> | Parish Hall |
| Saturday                | 11am-12 | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament    | Church      |
| Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> | 7pm     | Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)     | Parish Hall |

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

**COVID SAFETY MEASURES IN CHURCH:** You are welcome to sit in groups if you wish, but please be mindful of those who would like to keep a safe distance from others. Face coverings should be worn when you are in church for any service, unless you are exempt. It is no longer necessary to book for any services.

### “Unlocking” the Parish: our plan

The plan below gives some sense of how the parish may move towards normality in the coming months. It is subject to change!

#### This autumn

- Further steps back towards normality at Mass, including an offertory procession and intercessions.
- We hope to resume Children's liturgy sometime in October.
- A full programme of parish social life will take place, if permitted.
- We hope to be able to hold some events to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish and school, in November 2021.

We plan to continue to livestream Mass each day, for the benefit of those who are housebound; everyone who can is strongly encouraged to attend Mass and rebuild our community.