

First Reconciliation

The preparation programme for the sacrament of reconciliation began in our parish earlier this weekend – initially for children in school years 4 and over (those in year 3 will start their preparation shortly). As they prepare through their own prayer and learning, let's also keep the children and their families in our prayers in the weeks and months ahead.



May they truly experience the joy of forgiveness and hear the Lord's call to leave behind everything that does not follow His plan of love.

Today's Readings

There's a strong emphasis today on seeing everything as secondary to God. In the Gospel, the Lord asks the man who approaches Him to leave behind everything, including his great wealth, so as to be truly free as a disciple. In the first reading the same idea is present, with a focus on the wisdom which comes from God alone: riches, gold, even health and beauty: all these are as nothing compared with the gift of God's wisdom. His wisdom is clearly expressed in His Word, which we find present in the Scriptures and in the Church's Tradition. Today's second reading reminds us that the Word of God is a living thing with a power of its own. We do not judge it, deciding which parts we will follow and which parts we reject; instead, *it* judges *us* – when we hear the Word of God, it casts a light on our lives and calls us to live more fully for love. Let's pray that we may leave behind all that is holding us back from following the Lord freely, and that we may prize His presence and His gifts above all else.

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 4; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 28

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)	TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Holy Souls
Sunday 10 th	9:30am		Ints Marguerite Spencer
	11:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Richard and Eileen Woodhead RIP
Monday	9:15am		Special Intention (DH)
Tuesday	7pm		Holy Souls
Wednesday	9:15am	St Edward the Confessor	Holy Souls
Thursday	9:15am		Holy Souls
Friday	12noon	St Teresa of Avila	Holy Souls
Saturday	10am		Roger and Florence O'Donnell RIP
	6pm (vigil)	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Liam McArdle RIP
Sunday 17 th	9:30am		Hugh Gilshan RIP
	11:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Holy Souls

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Bernadine Greenhalgh** and 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, Wednesday and Thursday: morning-6pm; Tuesday 9am-4pm; Friday 12:30pm-6pm; Saturday 11am-12noon.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Theresa Heaps, Ann Whittle, Hugh Gilshan, Anne Hall, Winifred Crangle, Bryan Sharrock.

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. If anyone has any ideas for 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.

PARISH SOCIAL? For the 40th anniversary of the parish there was a meal at PNE, and it's suggested that we do something similar for our 50th. Given these uncertain times, we need to gauge interest – please let Fr A know your thoughts!

CHURCH OPENING TIMES: For the next few months we will need to revise the opening times for the church, to allow some heat to be conserved! The new times will be: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday: morning-6pm; Tuesday 9am-4pm; Friday 12:30pm-6pm; Saturday 11am-12noon.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS: A brief session for new servers this Tuesday at 3:30pm. New volunteers welcome! If you can't come but want to serve, speak to Fr A.

CAFOD CLIMATE 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.

11:30am MASS: Please note that there will be no 11:30am Mass on Sunday 24th October, due to a pre-booked wedding. 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 next month.

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.

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.

FOOD BANK: next collection is on 16th/17th October.

LAST SUNDAY: At Mass: 337 (figures for individual Masses: 57/94/66/86 (NCW 34)) Collection: £527.34. Thank you for your presence and your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 10 th	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	NCW Catechesis (7)	Narthex
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	3:30pm	Intro session for new altar servers	Church
	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	Fabric and Finance Committee*	Narthex
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
	7pm	NCW Catechesis (8)	Narthex
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates*	Parish Hall
	10am	Year 4 Reconciliation Prep (2)	Parish Hall
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 17 th	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. They are not needed when you come for silent, private prayer. 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 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.