
Celebrating 50 years of our parish and school

Our primary school opened on 2nd November 1971, and at this time our parish was also founded. In those early days Mass was celebrated in the school hall, then in the 'hut' for several years before the present church opened in 1979. Given the ongoing difficulties with large gatherings, we're planning a "50th Anniversary Year", beginning next month and continuing until the Holy Land pilgrimage next October. Hopefully in the spring we'll be able to hold some big events, including a Mass and a parish meal, but in the meantime we'll have some smaller events to get us on our way. On Thursday 4th November we plan to hold our annual fireworks as a launch event for the year, then on Friday 26th November, all being well, a special 50th anniversary quiz night in the parish hall. Meanwhile, various events are happening in school, including a whole school Mass with some former members of staff and former priests, just after half term. On the newsletter we'll be taking a look back, year by year, at the last half century, with some memories of events in our world, local community and our parish. A little trip down memory lane that also invites us to think about how we can build up our faith and our parish community for future generations.

Today's Readings

On their journey to Jerusalem, Jesus and His disciples have reached Jericho, just 15 miles from the Holy City. Today we hear of Him healing Bartimaeus, a blind man begging by the roadside; he then becomes a follower of Jesus. These events are part of the fulfilment of Jeremiah's prophecy that God will gather "the blind and the lame" and truly be a Father to them, leading them home. The second reading continues to consider Christ the High Priest, an office given Him by His heavenly Father, and unlike all the other high priests, who need to ask forgiveness for their own sins as well as those of the people. Here we see the uniqueness of Jesus as the One who heals and saves, granting forgiveness, and – as we see in the Gospel – healing and salvation.

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 2; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 30

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)	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish
Sunday 24 th	9:30am		Henry and Kathleen Haydock RIP
	6pm		Jeff Poole RIP
Monday	9:15am		Cecelia Henshaw RIP
Tuesday	12noon	Requiem	Irene Stewart RIP
	7pm		Hugh Gilshan RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Bernadine Greenhalgh RIP
Thursday	9:15am	Sts Simon and Jude	Robert Fletcher RIP
Friday	12noon		Holy Souls
Saturday	10am		Veronica Judge RIP
	6pm (vigil)	ALL SAINTS	Alan and Patsy Cockburn 49 th wedding anniversary
Sunday 31 st	9:30am		Fred Newsham RIP
	11:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Donor's Intention

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Irene Stewart, Bernadine Greenhalgh, Iris Bellas, Veronica Judge** and all who have died recently. Irene's body will be received into church on Monday at 6:30pm; her Requiem is on Tuesday at noon. All welcome.

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: Henry Haydock, Mary Winifred Knight, Johanna Price, Norman Booth, Jeff Poole, Robert Gerald Potts, George Jolly, Fred Newsham.

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 FIREWORKS: Thursday 4th November. Barbecue at 7pm then fireworks from 7:45pm, organised by our Scout groups. This event will launch our 50th anniversary year, during which several celebrations are planned. See front page.

PARISH ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP: We are launching an organ scholarship scheme, with free tuition on offer and opportunities to play in public. More information in the narthex and on our website. Deadline for applications: 5th November.

11:30am MASS: Please note that there will be no 11:30am Mass this Sunday, 24th October, due to a pre-booked wedding. All other Masses will take place as normal. The 11:30am Mass will resume as normal from next week.

NOVEMBER LIST ENVELOPES: Available for collection now. Please return them with names of any deceased relatives and friends you wish to pray for. The names will be left in a box by the altar throughout November. Donations for Holy Souls Masses are also welcome – please include these in the envelopes.

PRAYER GROUP MEETING: To explore the possibility of a new Scripture-based prayer/discussion group in the parish. Tuesday 2nd November after evening Mass.

CTS BOOKS: We now have some new CTS booklets on sale in the narthex – the first new batch in 18 months! Why not pick something up to deepen your faith?

NCW CATECHESIS: Continues Monday and Thursday evenings, 7pm in the narthex. All are very welcome to come along.

200 CLUB OCTOBER WINNERS: £143 no. 31 Patsy Cockburn; £86 no. 6 Janet Metcalf; £57 no. 104 D&M Leeming. Congratulations to our winners!

From CAFOD: Please pray for the success of the upcoming COP26 talks. There are prayer cards at the back of church; please pray that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see cafod.org.uk/COP26

ADVENT RETREAT: Open to Year 10 and above and young adults (up to age 25), at Castlerigg Manor, 10-12 December. Details at www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/advent

OLSE LADIES' GROUP: meeting this Thursday for a talk by Steve Molloy, a Preston barber, called "From Behind the Chair." 8pm in OLSE Parish Centre. Admission £2. £5 is due for the hotpot after the Mass for deceased members on Nov. 11th. A £10 deposit is also due for members who are going to the Christmas meal.

FOOD BANK: next collection: 6th/7th November.

SPECIAL COLLECTION today for World Mission Sunday, supporting evangelisation work overseas. Gift aid envelopes are available in the narthex.

LAST SUNDAY: At Mass: 322 (figures for individual Masses: 55/106/55/76 (NCW 30)) Collection: £734.16. Thank you for your presence and your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Monday	7pm	NCW Catechesis (11)	Narthex
Thursday	7pm	NCW Catechesis (12)	Narthex
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates*	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class*	Parish Hall
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church

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.

Marriage Care: Certificate in Relationship Counselling

Marriage Care have just launched a Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) recruitment route. This is an exciting moment for those who would like to be a part of what we do as this route will enable those who do not hold any previous counselling qualifications to train with us and join our counsellor teams. The CRC course, which has received funding from the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal Fund, will train and equip selected volunteers to safely and effectively counsel couples. They will then be able to join one of our local centres and support our mission to provide donation-based counselling services to those in need – volunteering just two sessions a week and helping make a huge difference to couples and families.

There will be an online CRC Open Event for anyone who would like to know more about this role, the training and Marriage Care. The event will be held on Monday 25th October (1-2pm) via Zoom. Anyone interested in joining the open event can contact Rachael Obrien at rachaelo@marriagecare.org.uk

Job opportunity in the Diocese

St John Henry Newman School in Carlisle are advertising for a new lay chaplain. For more details, see the poster in the narthex.