

Our first 50 years: 1972

We have little information about the parish in the early years, but the school log book provides some interesting insights. On 24th January 1972 the school was used for a dance – perhaps the first parish social event. By the time school reopened after Easter that year, the number on roll had risen to 70 (from 36 at the opening the previous November). By October builders were being engaged to extend the school. In April the school uniform (red and grey) was agreed and the school badge designed. On 21st May 1972 several children made their first Communion and on the following day the first ever May Procession in our parish took place. On 8th July the first sports day and parish fête were held, and one of the governors donated £1 towards prizes for the sports day. The log book makes no reference to the opening of the first church (the 'hut') but it does tell us that children attended Mass there on 14th July, to mark the end of term. This was followed by an 8-week summer holiday, apparently slightly extended to everyone to enjoy the 1972 Preston Guild. In the autumn the school hosted a parish Hallowe'en dance and the Christmas fair, to raise money for parish funds. A raffle at the school nativity play raised "the grand total of £8", with all proceeds going to the school.



The 'hut' (original church) opened in the first half of 1972. The photo here is from 1978.

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Today's Readings

As we draw to the end of the Church's year, our readings remind us of the 'end times'. This universe will one day pass away, but Jesus offers us life that is eternal, never ending, even when the stars cease to exist. Both the first reading (from the prophet Daniel) and the Gospel speak about these turbulent times but encourage us to approach them with faith. The Letter to the Hebrews, meanwhile, reminds us that the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross has been enough to overcome all sin.

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 1; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 33

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)	THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Beryl Jacob RIP
Sunday 14 th	9:30am		For the war dead
	11:30am		Tresamol
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am		Trevor Hughes RIP
Tuesday	10am		Deceased clergy of the deanery
Wednesday	9:15am		Holy Souls
Thursday	9:15am		Anne Connolly RIP
Friday	12noon		Shirley Gilleade RIP
Saturday	10am	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE	Deceased members of the McNulty family RIP
	6pm (vigil)		Anthony Burton RIP
Sunday 21 st	9:30am		Veronica Judge RIP
	11:30am		Roy Rawlinson RIP
	6pm	People of the Parish	

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Margaret Dorgu, Veronica Judge** 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: Catherine Murray, Ann Ashton, Irene Pye, Jeffrey Beswick, Michael Lyons, John Gorton, Mavis Rogerson, Vincent Gray, Joan Battersby, Anne Connolly, Vera Edwards, Bridget Warburton, Shirley Gilleade, Marie Turner, Frank Hall, Jim Whelan, Anthony Ainsworth.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

TUESDAY MASS: Please note, on Tuesday this week the Mass will be celebrated at 10am (not 7pm) and will be a Deanery Mass for deceased clergy. All welcome.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC? Our Journey in Faith group meets on Sundays at 7pm. Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith is very welcome. If you (or someone you know) is interested, please get in touch. Please pray for God's guidance for all who are embarking on this journey.

LECTIO DIVINA – PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURE: A new group meeting on Friday evenings, 7pm in the side chapel. Lectio Divina is a simple, gentle and reflective way of praying with the Bible. We will use a model based on St Clare's own writings. All welcome. No previous experience necessary!

RED WEDNESDAY: ACN's annual day of awareness for those persecuted for their faith takes place on 24th November. As usual, we will light up the narthex in red. Please see back page for a free and easy way in which you can help those in need.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT: A special 50th anniversary quiz! Friday 26th November, 7pm in the parish hall. A fun and safe social event. All welcome. Please bring your own drinks and snacks for this event. Tables will be socially distanced.

ACN CHRISTMAS CARDS: A selection of Christmas cards and small gifts will be on sale in the narthex at each Mass next weekend (20th/21st November), with all proceeds going to support Aid to the Church in Need.

LITTLE SAPLINGS NURSERY has places available for 3 and 4 year olds, starting in January; 15 and 30 hour funding accepted. See poster or call school on 787037.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP: This Friday 3pm in church. Divine Mercy chaplet and readings from St Faustina's diary. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS TOY COLLECTION: New toys for children of all ages are needed for the Food Bank's Christmas appeal. You can drop these off with the food bank collection or leave them in the narthex until Sunday 28th November. Please do not wrap gifts. Thank you for your generosity to this important cause.

THE GIFT OF JESUS: Advent retreat day led by Philip McParland. At Corpus Christi High School, Saturday 27th November 10:30am-4pm. £20 donation. See poster.

DIOCESAN CHORAL DIRECTOR: a new full-time role promoting singing for children in the diocese. See poster in narthex for full details of this job opportunity.

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

FOOD BANK collection next weekend: 13th/14th November.

LAST SUNDAY: At Mass: 360 (figures for individual Masses: 64/106/80/85; NCW 25) Collection: £699.37. Thank you for your presence and your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 14 th	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Journey in Faith Group	Side Chapel
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Mon-Fri	3:20pm	After School Club*	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	3pm	Divine Mercy Prayer Group	Church
	7pm	Lectio Divina	Side Chapel
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates*	Parish Hall
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 21 st	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Journey in Faith Group	Side Chapel

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.

Red Wednesday: a simple and free way to help

SIGN OUR #REDWEDNESDAY PETITION

This year, #RedWednesday is back in the public square with a strong message against Christian persecution and especially against acts of violence aimed at Christian women and girls. We are calling on the UK Government and the UN to take action to stop the abduction, forced conversion and sexual enslavement of Christian women and girls as young as 12.

Please help us get the attention of the government and UN by signing and sharing our Petition today. Please ACT NOW to put an end to this suffering.

For more information and to sign the petition, click [here](https://www.acnuk.org) or visit [acnuk.org](https://www.acnuk.org)