
Our first 50 years: 2004-2007

These were the last years of Fr Lakeland's long tenure as Parish Priest of St Clare's. Over a 26-year period he nurtured the life of the parish with great love and devotion, building up the already strong community spirit and helping us to grow in faith. The ongoing strength of our parish owes much to his ministry, both in the community life of the parish and in the great spirit of volunteering which he nurtured here. The parish has always been blessed with many willing and capable volunteers who give generously of their time; long may it continue! The diaries for these years also reveal a developing and changing community, not least in the growing presence of parishioners from overseas, in particular from India. In May 2004 there was an 'Indian Mass' (presumably Syro-Malabar rite) at St Clare's, a sign of the already established and growing Keralan community in Preston. Over the years we have been blessed with parishioners from many parts of the world, each one bringing new life to our parish. Most of the diary entries for 2004-2007 reveal a fairly stable pattern of parish life, but with some eye-catching events. For example, on Holy Saturday 2004 parishioners gathered to sing 'Easter Carols' at Booths, an example of the ways in which we try to reach out beyond our boundaries, being a visible sign of the presence of Jesus in Fulwood. This work, of course, continues today. On the global scene, in 2005 the whole world watched as Pope St John Paul II died at the Vatican after more than 26 years as the successor of St Peter. An estimated four million people descended on Rome for what was described as "history's largest funeral". A couple of weeks later, Pope Benedict XVI, who (as Cardinal Ratzinger) has presided at the funeral, was elected the new pope.

Today's Readings

The Gospel this Sunday takes us back to the Last Supper, just after Judas has left the gathering to betray Jesus. We hear the Lord give us the new commandment. We also hear today of the missionary journeys of Paul and Barnabas, and the new creation – the final fulfilment of all God's promises – in today's second reading.

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

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: psalter week 1; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: of the Easter season

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)	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	People of the Parish
Sunday 15 th	9:30am		Doris & James Mattinson RIP
	6pm		Alan Little RIP
Monday	9:15am		Neil Byrne RIP
Tuesday	7pm		Alan Little RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Holy Souls
Thursday	9:15am		Brian Dagger RIP
Friday	12noon		Intentions of Sr Anne
Saturday	10am		Thanksgiving
	6pm (vigil)	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Lil Abram RIP
Sunday 22 nd	9:30am		Fr Bernard Woods RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Fr Tom Shufflebotham SJ, Deacon Frank Cole, Bob Snape**, and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 11am-12noon and on request.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is usually open during the day for private prayer.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Patrick Cahill, Rosalia Zimny, Jean McCombe, Florence Swift, Martin Elliott, Mary Bernie, Mark Hutchinson, Kathleen Painter, Irene McEvoy.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY: We pray for young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Please remember in your prayers the young people of our parish who will be confirmed here by Bishop Paul this weekend. We ask for a generous outpouring of the Holy Spirit to help them grow in their faith.

ACN INDIA PROJECT UPDATE: We have received the following message from Fr Stanislas about the project we have undertaken to build a new church/parish centre in India: *“Little Flower Mission would never forget your generosity. We are overwhelmed by your gracious help. We have begun the construction work. On 21st March 2022, our bishop visited the mission station and laid the foundation stone, with the blessing prayer, for which some of our faithful were present. Work has begun and is in progress.”* Donations of any size are welcome to continue the work.

Gift Aid envelopes for ACN are now available in the narthex, and you can now also use the ‘Digital Collection Plate’ to make donations. We will soon also share some images of the community and the early progress of the building work.

QUEEN’S JUBILEE AFTERNOON TEA: Wednesday 1st June, 2-4pm in the parish hall. Please sign up in the narthex if you would like to attend this joyful occasion. Donations will be welcome to go to Ukraine and our ACN India project.

YOUTH PILGRIMAGES: The diocesan Youth Service has published details for the Lourdes Pilgrimage and also for World Youth Day 2023 in Portugal. There are also gap year opportunities. All info available at www.castleriggmanor.com The parish may be able to help sponsor young parishioners to make the pilgrimages – speak to Fr A.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE: The pilgrimage takes place 22nd-29th October this year. Please contact All Saints Travel directly to make a booking or for further information.

FOOD BANK: Collection this weekend: 14th/15th May. There is currently urgent need of almost all food supplies due to very high demand. Thank you for your generosity.

MARY O’GARA FOUNDATION: The foundation aims to increase awareness of mental health and suicide prevention. A friend of Mary’s is running 30 miles in her memory, to mark her upcoming 30th birthday. There is then a fun day at the Sherwood Pub. Saturday 28th May from 10:30am. See poster or www.marysstory.org.uk

FINDING JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST, THE POOR AND CREATION: Saturday 4th June, 10:30am-3pm including Mass. Organised by the diocesan Faith and Justice commission and led by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy. Book via Eventbrite. See poster.

23 LRGS SIXTH FORMERS, including Ben O’Brien from our parish, are fundraising for the DEC Ukraine appeal. They are each running, rowing or swimming 100km to total the distance from Lancaster to Kyiv! Info/to support: <https://2300tokyiv.org>

SPECIAL COLLECTION next Sunday for World Communications Day.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 443 (88/220/85 NCW 50). Collection: £672.02. Thank you for your presence and 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 15 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	3:20pm	After School Club*	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	3:30pm	Y3 First Holy Communion Prep (4)*	Parish Hall
	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
Wednesday	10am-12	Parish Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	Lectio Divina	Side chapel
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates*	Parish Hall
	10am	Y4+ First Holy Communion Prep (4)*	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class*	Parish Hall
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 22 nd	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Metanoia's Homeless Drop-In runs 6:30-8pm every Wednesday evening in St Wilfrid's Church. The volunteers assist in setting up and tidying away the space, providing refreshments, assigning the needed clothing or toiletries, as well as spending time listening and talking with the people, so they are reminded of and have an experience of God's love and mercy. If this sounds like a role you would like to give your time to or you would like any more information, please ring Jen 07957566741 or email jen@metanoiaproject.co.uk.

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP FORMATION PROGRAMME at Stonyhurst is currently open to applications from students in Lower Sixth. The application deadline is Friday 3rd June 2022, although references will still be accepted after that date for applications that have already been submitted. For more details, see poster, speak to Fr Andrew or visit <https://christianheritagecentre.com/clf/>

FIX THE FOOD SYSTEM

CAFOD's new campaign is called Fix the Food System. See www.cafod.org.uk/food for more information, including an invitation for parish groups to learn about the impact of our food with our *Fix the Food System: a 7-station journey* resource.