

SAINT CLARE

Is your faith strong enough that you would be willing to walk away from the comforts of your life in order to fully live out that faith? Take a moment to reflect on that question. For St Clare the answer was easy. So easy, that at the young age of 18, she walked away from her life of nobility and all its comforts, descended to the hills below Assisi, and joined Saint Francis in living out his mission.

It was not a hasty move, though. Before she made her way to the plains below Assisi, she would often take food from the family's table to bring it to the needy on the streets of the city. These small acts of mercy provided a gateway to a lifetime of care for others. Even small acts of love convey Christ's message for others. For Clare, Christ was her focus and Saint Francis was her guide to them. Her path, however, was her own. In Clare's own words: "We are to become vessels of God's compassionate love for others."

St Clare's feast day Mass is at 7pm on Thursday 11/08/2022.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In the first reading, from the Book of Wisdom, the people of Israel look back at their history and discover that God has always been faithful. This gives them courage and hope for the future. The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews tells his Hebrew converts that only faith in the Risen Lord can bring them eternal salvation. It speaks of Abraham and Sarah, as models of faith. In today's Gospel reading, from Luke, Jesus calls on his disciples, and on all of us, to be always prepared for his coming, which can be anytime. We should, therefore, learn to be on our guard and prepare our lives spiritually to enter into God's glory whenever the Master calls.

Priest in Charge: Fr John Mark Agulefo **Deacon:** Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 121

Office: psalter week 3; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: year II, week 19

Sunday morning Mass is livestreamed and will be available for viewing later on our parish YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Margaret O’Neil in thanksgiving for 96 years
Sunday 7 th	9:30am		Lawrence Dunnagan RIP
	6pm		Lyndon Cole RIP
Monday	9:15am	St Dominic	Ints of Sue Lawrenson CSU
Tuesday	7pm	ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS	Gerald Topping RIP
Wednesday	9:15am	ST LAWRENCE	Alan Whittle RIP
Thursday	7pm	ST CLARE	People of the Parish
Friday	12noon		Sick & housebound parishioners
Saturday	10am	ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Barbara Walsh RIP
	6pm (vigil)		Mary & Eddie Sinnott RIP
Sunday 14 th	9:30am		Gerald Topping RIP
	6pm		Thanksgiving (PL)

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Patsy Cockburn, Gerald Topping** 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: Margaret Eaton, Francis Parker, David Callon, Maria Fairclough, Lucy Bond, Elizabeth Donavan.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

SUMMER AT ST CLARE'S: In early September Fr John Mark will be joined by Fr Stephen Talbutt, currently assistant priest at St Kentigern's, Blackpool. Over the summer a supply priest will assist with Masses. Please pray for Fr John Mark as he begins his ministry here, and for Fr Stephen as he prepares to move.

FEAST OF ST CLARE: This Thursday is the feast day of our patronal saint. Mass will be at 7pm (no 9.15am Mass), followed by refreshments in the Hall.

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Next Sunday is the feast of the Assumption, a Holy Day of Obligation (transferred from the 15th August).

GOING TO THE HOLY LAND? Due to flight cancellations, the trip will now take place one day later, to run Sunday-Sunday 23rd-30th October. Please remember that the final balance is due to be paid by 22nd August and no reminders will be sent. Fr John Mark will be travelling on the pilgrimage as spiritual director.

FOOD BANK: This weekend: 6th/7th August. There is currently urgent need of almost all food supplies due to very high demand. Thank you for your generosity.

DIOCESAN EDUCATION MASS 2022: Lancaster Cathedral (LA1 3BT), Friday 7th October 2022 at 6:30pm. All parishioners are invited to join Bishop Paul Swarbrick at the annual Diocese of Lancaster Education Mass. This invitation extends in a special way to all those involved in education and faith formation; priests, deacons, catechists, youth ministry, children's liturgy, those in seminary and teachers outside of the Catholic sector. The celebration gives us the opportunity to express our thanks and acknowledge the contribution made by all those in the Diocese involved in the work of education and formation in the faith. Together we ask for God's blessing on the mission of education and formation in our diocese.

ANNUAL CLEATOR PILGRIMAGE: Sunday 11th September at the diocesan shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator, Cumbria. 3pm Mass and blessing of the sick. All members of the diocese are warmly invited. The Bishop will preside and preach.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2022: Saturday 3rd September in London, the annual March for Life, promoting the sanctity of human life from conception to natural end. Events begin at the Emmanuel Centre (SW1P 3DW) from 10:30am, Mass at 11am, and the march from 2pm, ending in Parliament Square around 4:30pm. All are welcome to come.

JOBS AT CASTLERIGG: Vacancies for gap year volunteers and for a Programme Leader - the latter being a 2-year paid post. Anyone interested can contact jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk or visit <http://castleriggmanor.com/join-the-team/>

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 313 (105/130/78). Collections: £622.20. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 7 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Tuesday	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Wednesday	10am-12	Parish Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Thursday	7:30pm	After Mass refreshments	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	Lectio Divina	Side chapel
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 14 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall

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

SUNDAY OBLIGATION: Please note that watching an online Mass does not fulfil the Sunday obligation for those who are able to attend in person. The full statement of the Bishops can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP: Friday 19th August at 3pm in the Church. All are welcome.

THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY: A six session course will be running at Christ Church, Victoria Road from 13th September – 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

FREE NEWSPAPER: Get the Universe Catholic Weekly free for a four-week trial; see notice in the Narthex for details.

COURSE AT CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CENTRE, STONYHURST: the annual course this year is entitled “The search for happiness” and offers a close study of the four pillars of the good life, reflecting on the necessary interior structures for responding justly to the challenges of the contemporary world. Runs 26th to 29th August 2022. For further information and booking: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-search-for-happiness>

Fr Andrew’s new postal address:

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Find out more about the work of the seminary at www.oscott.net