



“You have been bought and paid for.”

These striking words of St Paul which we hear today at Mass remind us of the price that Christ paid for our salvation. The word ‘redeemed’ literally means ‘bought back’ – e.g. you ‘redeem’ a voucher at the checkout. Jesus redeemed us – bought us – by His Blood, ransoming us from the power of evil and calling us to a way of love, filled with His light. He bought and paid for us with His life – let’s thank Him, and show our gratitude by trying to offer our lives to Him each day.

FOCUS ON... Ordinary Time – is it boring?

After the beautiful season of Advent and the joy of Christmas, we find ourselves back in what the Church calls “Ordinary Time”. It sounds quite bland – boring even – how are we supposed to use this time that God has given?



Perhaps a clue is to be found in the liturgical colour: green. We use this colour when it is not a special time of year – not penitential (purple, e.g. in Lent), not a feast day (usually white) and not a feast of the Holy Spirit or a martyr (red). But green – the colour of Ordinary Time – is found often nature, in things that grow. Maybe it’s a hint that we are still called to grow – not just in the special seasons and feasts of the year, but all year round.

Perhaps ‘Ordinary Time’ reminds us, too, that God is with us in the everyday things of life. He’s not just interested in the great and wonderful events; He is with us and helps us even in the most boring and basic things. There is never a moment when we are boring to Him!

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass Book Page 127

Office: Psalter week 2; Sundays: Year B; Weekdays: Year 2

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 13 th	6pm (vigil)	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Ronald and Mary Airey RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 14 th	9:30am		Christine Kidman RIP
	6pm		Beryl Connor (sick)
Monday	9:15am		Ints of Betty Dickinson
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm	Arthur Carden RIP	
Wednesday	9:15am	St Antony of Egypt	Susan & Charles Gordon RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Joseph Speight RIP
Friday	12noon		Deacon Bill Wright RIP
Saturday 20 th	10am	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Christine Kidman RIP
	6pm (vigil)		Thanksgiving
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 21 st	9:30am		Theresa Meek RIP
	6pm		Jack Burton RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Catherine Walker** and **Samuel Teehan**, whose funerals have taken place this week, and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon (for vocations).

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon, and on request.

ROSARY: Mysteries of Light prayed after 9:15am Mass, and before 12noon Mass on Fridays. These prayers are offered for the protection of life at all stages.

ANGELUS: said at 12noon on Fridays, at the start of Mass.

ANNIVERSARIES: Gerald Turner, Helena Corbishley, Colin Mullarkey, Phylis Abram, Hilda Battersby, Marie Jackson, William Loughran, Theresa Noblett.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY: That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

NARTHEX BLESSING AND OPENING: The Bishop will come and bless the narthex, marking its formal opening, on **Thursday 1st February at 7pm**. This will be a very important celebration in the life of the parish, so please make every effort to come. After the service there will be a “Jacob’s join” in the parish hall. Please consider making a contribution of food for this celebration.

NARTHEX WORKS UPDATE: This week external work on pathways and steps has begun, and work on the interior (decorating, plumbing and electrics) continues. Work is also taking place to install the doors between the narthex and the church.

ST CLARE’S SCHOOL will join us for 9:15am Mass on Wednesday morning.

DAY OF RENEWAL: Saturday 3rd February, 10am-4pm (with Mass at 10am). Led by Fr Chris Thomas – ‘The happy attitudes’: a reflection on the Beatitudes.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: This weekend the annual White Flower Appeal takes place, in support of SPUC – the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. Please pray for the protection of human life at all stages.

CENACOLO COLLECTION: This weekend (13th/14th). Please leave items in the porchway of the presbytery (house) at Mass times only.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION: Next weekend (20th/21st).

LOURDES PRIZE BINGO: Taking place on 9th February. If you would like to donate a prize, please bring it to the presbytery or drop it into the sacristy after Mass.

ST CLARE’S ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER: Regular parish news and pictures: to keep up-to-date, don’t forget to ‘like’ or ‘follow’ us: Facebook: St Clare’s Catholic Church Fulwood; Twitter: @StClareFulwood

WHAT’S AHEAD IN 2018? In case you missed it on the newsletter, visit our website: www.saintclares.co.uk for a preview of the coming year at St Clare’s.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES for 2018 are available after Mass, cost £3 each.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE begins this week, for couples from this and other local parishes. Please keep in your prayers all who will be married this year.

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: Services during the week are as follows:- **Thursday 18th** 10:30am Christ Church; **Saturday 20th** 10:30am St John's Broughton; **Sunday 21st** 7pm St Cuthbert’s; **Tuesday 23rd** 7:30pm Fulwood Free Methodist; **Wednesday 24th** 10:30am Fulwood Methodist Church; **Thursday 25th** 7:30pm Our Lady and St Edward; Churches Together is celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year. To mark this occasion, there will be a celebratory ‘Service of Prayer and Praise’ on Sunday 28th January at 6:30pm at Christ Church.

LAST SUNDAY: Attended: 493; Collection: £1,153.74. Thank you.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Cenacolo Collection	House porch
Sunday	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	Journey in Faith	Chapel
Tuesday	7:30pm	Prayer Group	Chapel
	7:30pm	Marriage Preparation (1)	Parish Hall
Wednesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Saturday	9am	Pilates	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class	Parish Hall
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank Collection	House porch
Sunday	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

Advance Diary Dates

28th January: Holy Communion Preparation begins

2nd February: Feast of the Presentation of the Lord; Mass at 12noon

3rd February: Confirmation Preparation begins

14th February: Ash Wednesday – the start of Lent

Further ahead and further afield...

"Come and See" – spiritual weekend for women and men in their 20s and 30s: at Hyning Monastery near Carnforth, 26th-28th January 2018. Contact Sister Mary Bernard: hyningbookings@yahoo.co.uk or call 01524 732684.

Retreat Weekend for young adults (20s and 30s) on the theme 'Prayer and Discernment', 26th-28th January in Salford. The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input, prayer, reflection and discussion with other young adults. Cost £40. For more information contact Sr Anouska fcj anouskafcj01@gmail.com