



“He would bring everything together under Christ”

Today's second reading is a beautiful canticle – a hymn – in which St Paul speaks of God's plan for our salvation. He tells us that we were chosen by God to be “holy and spotless in His presence” even before the world was made, and that in Christ, the “Beloved”, we are granted freedom and the forgiveness of our sins. God's hidden plan, St Paul says, is to “bring everything together under Christ as Head” – everything on earth and in heaven. So the whole of God's creation will be united under the authority and the loving care of Jesus our Saviour. In any time of uncertainty or worry, or whenever we feel bound or trapped, let us turn to Jesus, the One who grants us forgiveness, freedom, healing and unity with others.

FOCUS ON... St Clare's Birthday

St Clare was born on 16th July, probably in the year 1193 (some sources say 1194), so we celebrate this Monday her 825th Birthday. A good excuse for a parish social! Before her birth, her mother Ortolana, who was anxious about going into labour, heard the Lord promise that a daughter would be safely born to her, “whose rays will illuminate the whole world”. So Ortolana called her daughter Chiara – a name which signifies ‘light’, ‘clarity’. Clare, of course, is the English form of her name. Join us for prayers on Monday at 7pm, followed by a social in the narthex and outside the church, at around 7:30pm.



A plaque by the Cathedral in Assisi marks the location of the house where St Clare was born and spent her early years.

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass Book Page 106

Office: Psalter Week 3; Sundays: Year B; Weekdays: Week 15, Year 2

| Date | Time | Occasion | Intention/Details |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Saturday 14 th | 6pm (vigil) | FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | Gregory and Juliana D'Souza RIP |
| | 7pm | | <i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i> |
| Sunday 15 th July | 9:30am | | Sophia Morris RIP |
| | 6pm | | Michael Foreman RIP |
| Monday | 12noon | Requiem | Ben Hunter RIP |
| | 5:15pm | Our Lady of Mount Carmel | <i>Mass in hospital chapel</i> |
| Tuesday | 7pm | | Marie Waring (sick) |
| Wednesday | 9:15am | | Robert Metcalf RIP |
| | 2pm | | <i>Year 6 Leavers' Mass</i> |
| Thursday | 9:15am | Lancashire Martyrs | Linda Hughes and family |
| Friday | 12noon | | Special Intention (SS) |
| Saturday 21 st | 10am | | Special Intention (LR) |
| | 6pm (vigil) | SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | Mary O'Malley RIP |
| | 7pm (vigil) | | <i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i> |
| Sunday 22 nd July | 9:30am | | People of the Parish |
| | 6pm | Ben Hunter RIP | |

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Ben Hunter**, whose Requiem will be celebrated here at 12noon on Monday, all those who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Sunday 10:30am-9pm this week, excluding during Mass.

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

ROSARY: Mysteries of Light prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass.

ST ANTHONY: money donated in the wall box during July will go to local people in need of financial help.

ANNIVERSARIES: Rita Wright, John Haslam, Russell Sowerby, Catherine Burns, Robert Metcalf, Molly Durrant, Catherine Gallagher, Jerzy Wisniewski, Michael McDermott, Pauline Ashcroft.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY: That priests who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.

40 HOURS: Continues until 9pm this Sunday. Come and spend a few minutes of peace and prayer with the Lord. Full timetable on the back page.

ST CLARE'S BIRTHDAY: This Monday, a chance to celebrate 825 years since St Clare was born! Prayers at 7pm in church, followed by a parish social on the 'piazza' and areas outside the narthex. There will be pizza and Pimms available, but please bring some money for these! You can also bring your own drinks.

ST CLARE STATUE: thanks to those who have already signed up to sponsor Rita on her walk later this year, and to those who have made donations towards the statue. Further donations are welcome; please place in a marked envelope. Sponsor forms for Rita's walk and a picture of the statue are in the narthex.

MONDAY MASS TIMES: Please note, Mass at St Clare's this Monday is at 12noon, a Requiem Mass for Ben Hunter. No 9:15am Mass. Mass will be celebrated in the hospital chapel at 5:15pm as usual.

PARISH ASSISI PILGRIMAGE: 27th May-1st June 2019. More than half the places on the pilgrimage are now taken. This is a great opportunity to visit this beautiful town, home to St Clare and St Francis. For more details please pick up a leaflet from the narthex or speak to Fr Andrew. Booking forms from the parish office.

PHOTOGRAPH APPEAL: Do you have any photos of the consecration of the church (1st June 1994)? These are totally missing from the parish archive; we would be really grateful if you could share your photos of that day with us.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Meeting next Sunday, 22nd July, 7pm. The booklet this month is "Finding God when prayer doesn't work". Copies now available from Fr Andrew.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION this weekend. Please leave items in house porch.

SPIRITUALITY FOR SUMMER: Next Saturday, 10:30am-4pm at Tabor. A time to refresh ourselves by drawing closer to God's love. Cost £20. See poster.

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER: 9th-14th September, run by Tabor. A retreat in daily life, prayer each day and meeting with a prayer guide. See leaflets in narthex.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: next Sunday 22/7 for the Good Shepherd Fund.

ARCH - ABORTION RECOVERY HELPLINE offers **non-judgemental, confidential support** for those struggling in the aftermath of an abortion experience – open each evening, 7pm-10pm – if you are struggling, call 0845 603 8501.

LAST SUNDAY: Attended: 426; Collection: £924.28; Sea Sunday: £360.74. Thanks.

40 Hours Devotion (Quarant'Ore) - Timetable

Sunday – Blessed Sacrament exposed 10:30am-6pm, 7-9pm

9:30am Sunday Mass followed by Exposition

11am Rosary (glorious mysteries)

3pm Holy Hour – prayer for the parish

3:30pm Sung Vespers and Benediction

6pm Sunday Mass followed by Exposition

8:15pm Anointed Youth Group – praise and worship

9pm Blessed Sacrament reposed

Other events this week

| Day | Time | What? | Where? |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sat/Sun | At Mass | Food Bank Collection | House porch |
| Sunday 15 th July | 9:30am | Children's liturgy | At Mass |
| | 10:30am | After-Mass tea and coffee | Parish Hall |
| | 7pm | Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11) | Parish Hall |
| Monday | 6:15pm | Cubs | Parish Hall |
| | 7:30pm | Scouts | Parish Hall |
| | 7pm | St Clare's Birthday: devotions then social | Church Narthex/Piazza |
| Mon-Fri | 9am | Pre-school | Parish Hall |
| | 3:20pm | After-school club | Parish Hall |
| Tuesday | 7:30pm | Prayer Group | Chapel |
| Wednesday | 6pm | Seekers (school years 4-6) | Parish Hall |
| | 7:30pm | NCW Liturgy of the Word | Chapel/Narthex |
| Thursday | 6:15pm | Beavers | Parish Hall |
| Saturday | 10:30am | Spanish Class | Parish Hall |
| Sunday 22 nd July | 10:30am | After-Mass tea and coffee | Parish Hall |
| | 7pm | Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11) | Parish Hall |
| | 7pm | CTS Book Club | Chapel |