
Mysterious Melchizedek

Melchizedek is a priest who appears briefly in the Book of Genesis (14:17-20). No one knows where he comes from, and he never appears again. He's the first priest mentioned in the Bible. He brings bread and wine; he also blesses the great patriarch Abraham. Today's second reading refers to him, saying that Jesus is a priest of the order of Melchizedek. This makes sense: the Lord too brings bread and wine, which become His Body and Blood; He blesses Abraham and all his descendants in faith; and few at the time knew where He really came from (heaven). Jesus is not the first priest of the Bible, but the eternal High Priest who mediates between God and His people, and offers Himself for our salvation.

FOCUS ON... Journey in Faith

We sometimes speak of our faith being a journey. This is true: it has a beginning, when God first calls us; it has an end, when we see Him face-to-face in eternal life. In the meantime, we do not stay still, but grow in our knowledge, understanding, trust and – most importantly – love. In today's Gospel we hear of Bartimaeus, who, after his cure, "followed Jesus along the road". It's a good



image of what we are about! This week we begin our Journey in Faith group, which meets in the chapel most Tuesday evenings from 6pm (finished in time for 7pm Mass). It's especially for anyone interested in becoming a Catholic, but is also open to others (Catholics and non-Catholics alike) who want to receive a simple introduction to our faith. If you are interested or want to know more, speak to Fr Andrew. Please pray for all those who will take a significant step in their journey of faith in the coming months.

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

Presbytery: Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9HH

Tel: 01772 719604 email: enquiries@saintclares.co.uk

www.saintclares.co.uk

Lancaster RC Diocesan Trustees Registered – Registered Charity No. 234331

St Clare's Primary School – Headteacher: Mrs A. Charnley

Tel: 01772 787037 Fax: 01772 787016 email: head@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk

MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 149

Office: Psalter Week 2; Sundays: Year B; Weekdays: Week 30, Year 2

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 27 th Oct.	6pm (vigil)	THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Golden Wedding: Mike and Kath Holleran
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 28 th Oct.	9:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Frederick Newsham RIP
Monday	9:15am		Sophia Morris RIP
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm	Thanksgiving	
Wednesday	9:15am	Jack Burton RIP	
	7pm (vigil)	Rafael Piñon RIP	
Thursday	9:15am	ALL SAINTS	People of the Parish
	7pm		Sheila Ryan RIP
Friday	12noon	ALL SOULS	Holy Souls
Saturday 3 rd Nov.	10am		Holy Souls
	6pm (vigil)	THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Theresa & John Topping RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
9:30am	People of the Parish		
Sunday 4 th Nov.	6pm		Arockia Samy & Richard

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Barrie Southworth, Sheila Ryan, Fr Gerry Dunn** and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

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

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass. Mondays: Joyful; Wednesdays: Glorious; Thursdays: Luminous; Fridays: Sorrowful mysteries.

ST ANTHONY: October wall box donations go to our ACN Iraq appeal.

ANNIVERSARIES: Frederick Newsham, Dorothy Finch, Moira Butler, Monica Jackson, Kathleen Murphy, Noel Hogan, Wendy Charleson, Mollie Earnshaw, Annie Woods, Mary-Ann Murphy, Dorothy Hall.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: That consecrated religious men and women may bestir themselves, and be present among the poor, the marginalised, and those who have no voice.

ALL SAINTS' DAY: This Thursday, a Holy Day of Obligation. Vigil Mass on Wednesday at 7pm, then Thursday at 9:15am (with school) and 7pm.

ALL SOULS' DAY: This Friday. Mass is celebrated at 12noon. The First Friday Holy Hour (7-8pm) will also be an opportunity to pray for those who have died.

NOVEMBER ENVELOPES: Available in the narthex. Please return your envelopes to the presbytery or in the collection basket. Include names of loved ones to be placed before the altar during November, and any donation for Holy Souls Masses.

REMEMBER THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER! This is the anniversary of the blessing of the church's Foundation Stone, 40 years ago this year. That evening we will bless the new St Clare statue as part of a service of thanksgiving at 6:45pm, followed by the annual barbecue and fireworks display. Be sure to come along!

JOURNEY IN FAITH GROUP begins this Tuesday. More details on front page.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Next meeting on Sunday 11th November. The booklet for the coming month is "Prayer made simple". Copies available from Fr Andrew.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT: Friday 16th November at 7pm in the parish hall. A chance to put your knowledge to the test! Tickets available after Masses this weekend.

ACN IRAQ APPEAL: We gratefully acknowledge an anonymous donation of £500, recently received. Donations in marked envelopes are welcome. Look out for details of fundraising events taking place in the coming months.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: will be sold after all Masses on 24th/25th November, with proceeds going to our Aid to the Church in Need Iraq appeal.

'ONE BODY' TALKS: Exploring the many faces of the Church in Preston, and fostering our unity as the one Body of Christ. Thursdays, 7:30pm at St Wilfrid's Parish Centre. This week: the Carmelites. For more information, see the poster, visit www.metanoiaproject.co.uk or call 07957 566741.

CATHOLIC FAMILY FROM CROATIA: with two small children, coming to Preston early 2019 for six months and looking for accommodation/host family. Can help with jobs, babysitting etc. If you may be able to help, please speak to Fr Andrew.

'PORTIUNCULA' PARISH MAGAZINE: our new, free, annual parish magazine will be published next weekend. Pick up your copy at one of the Masses next Sunday.

LONDON MARATHON: St Wilfrid's parishioner Shirley Russo is running to support Jesuit Missions projects. For details, or to support her, see poster in the narthex.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: this Sunday (28th) Sick and Retired Priests Fund.

LAST SUNDAY: At Mass: 456; Collection: £950.77; World Missions: £460.11. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
Monday	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tue-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Journey in Faith	Chapel
	7:30pm	Visiting Group Meeting	Presbytery
	7:30pm	Prayer Group	Chapel
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
Saturday	8:30am	Pilates	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class	Parish Hall
Sunday	9:30am	Children's Liturgy of the Word	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Reconciliation Preparation (4)	Parish Hall
	11am	Reconciliation: Parents' Session	Chapel
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

Advance Diary Dates

Tuesday 6th November: St Clare's School open afternoon, 2-6pm

Tuesday 13th November: Annual parish Mass for the dead, 7pm

PARISH ASSISI PILGRIMAGE: 27th May – 1st June 2019

Thanks to those who signed up earlier in the year. We still have some places! Are you thinking of coming? Please register your interest soon – if we do not fill all the places from the parish, we will need to offer places to other parishes, but we'd like St Clare's parishioners to have first refusal. Even if you can't commit at this stage, speak to Fr Andrew to register interest or to find out more.



Preston Orpheus Choir

Saturday 3rd November at 7:30pm, a concert at St Saviour's Church, Bamber Bridge (PR5 6EP), with the theme of "Peace & Celebration", commemorating the end of WW1. Music by Britten, Elgar, Parry, Byrd, Ireland, Vaughan Williams and Finzi. Tickets £10 (under 18s free) on the door or from 01772 735197.