

## Franciscans of the Week: St Berard and Companions

In 1220, Berard and his companions Peter, Odo, Accursio and Adjustus, all Franciscan friars, crossed the Mediterranean after being banished from Seville, where they had been preaching to the Moors. Berard spoke good Arabic, so on arrival in Morocco he began preaching in the public squares. Arrested and brought before the sultan in Marrakesh, they refused to leave or remain silent about Jesus, and so the sultan executed them. They became the first martyrs of the Franciscan order – six years before Francis himself died. Their bodies were returned to Italy in a solemn journey. One of those who was deeply moved by this was a young Augustinian canon who, inspired by their example, went on to become a Franciscan. We now know him as St Anthony of Padua. St Berard and his companions were canonised in 1481.



## FOCUS ON... Peace Sunday

Pax Christi, the international Catholic movement for peace, encourages us to mark this Sunday as a special day of prayer for peace. In his message for the World Day of Peace 2019, Pope Francis said, *“One thing is certain: good politics is at the service of peace. It respects and promotes fundamental human rights, which are at the same time mutual obligations, enabling a bond of trust and gratitude to be forged between present and future generations....today more than ever, our societies need “artisans of peace” who can be messengers and authentic witnesses of God the Father, who wills the good and the happiness of the human family.”* This weekend, let us pray that the Lord may promote peace in our world.

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## MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 127

Office: Psalter Week 2; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Year 1, Week 1

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	6pm (vigil)	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	Audrey Dagger RIP
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	9:30am		For a baby girl
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	9:15am	St Agnes	The Kirkby Family
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm		Joe Holmes RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Roger and Florence O'Donnell RIP
Thursday	9:15am	St Francis de Sales	Kathleen O'Flaherty RIP
Friday	12noon	<b>The Conversion of St Paul</b>	Ken Penswick RIP
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	10am	Sts Timothy & Titus	George Oldcorn RIP
	6pm (vigil)	<b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	Joan Burton RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	9:30am		Thanksgiving (Menezes)
	6pm		Ints of Yvonne Talbutt – final vows (CSU)

**LATELY DEAD:** Please remember in your prayers **Ken Penswick**, whose Requiem took place here last week, 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. This prayer is offered for the protection of human life from conception to natural end.

**ST ANTHONY:** January wall box donations go to the crib appeal for local people.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Anne Gray, Gerald Turner, Helena Corbishley, Colin Mullarkey, Hilda Battersby, Phylis Abram, Marie Jackson, Ethel Ray, Gwen Lakeland, Robert Coarey, Theresa Noblett, Katharina Lacey, Ronald Templeman.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY:** That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

**CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK SERVICE:** 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January is the octave of prayer for Christian unity. Services are being held in different churches across the area. This Monday at 7pm we will host an ecumenical prayer service. Please come and support this. A list of all the services for the week is on display in the narthex.

**CTS BOOK CLUB:** Meeting next Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, at 7pm. The booklet for this month is *Lectio Divina* by Jean Khoury. Copies available from Fr Andrew.

**DAY OF RENEWAL:** 'The Power of the Holy Spirit', Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February, led by Sr Maria Natella. The day starts with Mass at 10am. Please bring a packed lunch.

**PRAYER GROUP:** There will be a meeting for those who have been attending Prayer Group this Tuesday after the evening Mass, in the side chapel.

**LOURDES PRIZE BINGO:** Taking place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. If you have any unwanted Christmas presents that you can donate, please hand them in at the presbytery. Money raised will be used to support young people going to Lourdes.

**LANCASTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:** 26<sup>th</sup> July-2<sup>nd</sup> August by air from Manchester. Information and booking forms in the narthex.

**YOUNG PEOPLE - LOURDES:** Any young people interested in going to Lourdes with the diocese this summer, please speak to Fr Andrew asap. Poster in the narthex.

**ASSISI PILGRIMAGE:** We still have a small number of places available for this pilgrimage (27<sup>th</sup> May-1<sup>st</sup> June 2019). Twin/double rooms only. Speak to Fr Andrew.

**NARTHEX CLOSURE:** The narthex may be closed for a couple of days this week, for planned maintenance work. The church will remain open as usual; access will be via the side chapel when the narthex is closed.

**RWANDA CHARITY SHOP:** Volunteers needed to help out, 3 hours per week. Contact Veronica Sanders on 07715077630 if you may be able to help.

**200 CLUB:** January draw today, after the 9:30am Mass. There are still numbers available if you are not already member or would like an extra number!

**FOOD BANK:** A big thank you from the Salvation Army for your help and support with the Annual Christmas Appeal. 291 families were helped with food hampers and 908 bags of food were given out.

**FARMER'S MARKET with FAIRTRADE:** Next Saturday (26<sup>th</sup>), 9:30am-1pm at Fulwood Methodist Church. We support small producers locally & globally.

**OLSE LADIES' GROUP:** meeting in the Parish Centre 8pm this Thursday (24<sup>th</sup>), all welcome. This will be a presentation by David Marsh, on the Holy Land; entry £2.

**COLLECTIONS:** At Mass: 472; Collection: £984.42; SPUC: £283.17. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	<b>Food Bank Collection</b>	House Porch
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	<b>Children's Liturgy leaders' meeting</b>	Parish Hall
	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
	7pm	<b>Christian Unity Week Service</b>	Church
	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
	7:45pm	<b>Social Committee</b>	Presbytery
Tuesday	6pm	Journey in Faith Group	Chapel
	7:30pm	<b>Marriage Preparation (3)</b>	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	<b>Meeting for Prayer Group members</b>	Chapel
Wednesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 3-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Chapel/Narthex
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Saturday	9am	Pilates	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class	Parish Hall
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	7pm	<b>CTS Book Club</b>	Chapel
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

## 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> March: visit of the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal



The sisters, who follow a way of life very similar to that of St Francis, will lead us in a week of prayer to experience God's grace and healing. Keep these dates free! Please pray that this will be a time of real growth and renewal in our parish.

### Prayer in preparation for the visit

St Clare, who chose a life of poverty, prayer and humble service, watch over this parish which bears your name. Bless and protect our community and intercede for us, that we may come closer to Jesus and grow in His likeness, who lived and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.