

## Franciscan of the Week: St Angela Merici

Orphaned as a young girl, Angela chose a path of prayerful simplicity and made many pilgrimages in her early life. She joined the secular Franciscans and then devoted herself to teaching the children of her poor neighbours. Having settled in the town of Brescia in northern Italy, she gathered a group of 28 women who were willing, with her, to consecrate themselves to God's service. They chose St Ursula as their patron, and became known as the Company of St Ursula. They were not nuns, but a group of women living in the world a form of consecrated life – something new in the Church at that time.



Today, the Company of St Ursula is still active, and one of our parishioners, Sue Lawrenson, is a member. In time, a religious order (the Ursulines) also grew up from Angela's legacy. They too are still active in the world today, still inspired by Angela's teaching and example. Angela died on this day in 1540 and was canonised in 1807. As well as her great spiritual legacy, she is remembered as a woman who promoted the education of girls, regardless of their financial status.

## FOCUS ON... First Friday Holy Hour

Do you long for a bit of peace and rest? How about seeking some peace and rest in the presence of Jesus? This Friday is our monthly Holy Hour, 7-8pm. We listen to the Word of God and some brief reflections, sing a few hymns and spend much of the time in silent, restful adoration of Jesus, present on the altar in the Blessed Sacrament. It's a beautiful and restful way to end the week. Why not come along this Friday and find peace in the Lord's presence?



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## MASSSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 129

Office: Psalter Week 3; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Year 1, Week 3

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan.	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)
Monday	9:15am	St Thomas Aquinas	Winifred Green RIP
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm		Pr. Int: Richard Cockburn
Wednesday	9:15am		Martin Brown RIP
Thursday	9:15am	St John Bosco	Margaret Morris RIP
Friday	12noon		Ken Penswick RIP
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb.	10am	<b>The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)</b>	Lawrence Culshaw RIP
	6pm (vigil)	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	Catherine Harrison RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb.	9:30am		Frank RIP & Rogerson family
	6pm		People of the Parish

**LATELY DEAD:** Please remember in your prayers **Catherine Harrison** 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:** William Loughran, Vincent Jorge, Hilda Templeman, Jean Davies, John Barbarel, May Walmsley, Agnes Turner, Mary Gregson, Roy Williamson, Guy Horton, Winifred Fowler, Margaret Livingstone, Margaret Prince.

**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.

**FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION (CANDLEMAS):** Next Saturday, Mass at 10am. On this beautiful feast we bless the candles for use in church in the coming year.

**CTS BOOK CLUB:** This Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, at 7pm in the side chapel. All welcome.

**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.

**HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:** The children who made their first confessions in December will begin their preparation for Holy Communion next Sunday. Please keep them and their families in your prayers in the coming weeks.

**VISIT OF THE FRANCISCAN SISTERS:** A provisional timetable for the sisters' visit is on display in the narthex. The sisters, accompanied by a Franciscan friar, will be with us 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> March. Please pray that the Lord may bring many graces from this time. Prayer cards available in the narthex, or see the back of this newsletter.

**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.

**LADY MILENA GRENFELL-BAINES:** Thank you to all who attended the talk a couple of weeks ago. We raised a total of £570, from which a donation is being made to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust; the rest goes to our ACN Iraq appeal.

**OLSE CHARITY DANCE:** In Our Lady and St Edward's parish centre, next Saturday (2<sup>nd</sup> February), 8-11pm. Entry £4 (at the door). Proceeds to Mary's Meals.

**QUIZ NIGHT:** In aid of Francis House children's hospice, at St Anthony's Club, next Friday (1<sup>st</sup> February) at 7:30pm. Tickets £3, payable on the door.

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

**LAST WEEK:** At Mass: 471; Collection: £997.72; Thank you for your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
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
Mon-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7pm	<b>Baptism Preparation (1)</b>	Chapel
	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	<b>Fabric &amp; Finance Committee</b>	Presbytery
Tuesday	6pm	Journey in Faith Group	Chapel
	7:30pm	<b>Marriage Preparation (4)</b>	Parish Hall
Wednesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 3-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Chapel/Narthex
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	7pm	<b>First Friday Holy Hour</b>	Church
Saturday	9am	Pilates	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class	Parish Hall
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb.	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	<b>Holy Communion Preparation (1)</b>	Parish Hall
	4:30pm	<b>Confirmation Preparation (5)</b>	Parish Hall
	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.