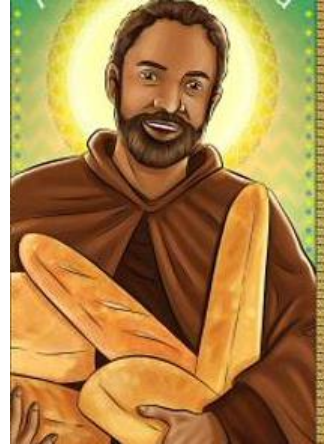




Franciscan of the Week: St Benedict the Moor

Benedict was born of African slaves in Sicily in 1526. His parents were granted freedom before his birth, but they remained poor, and Benedict never learned to read or write. Working as a shepherd, he gave away his earnings to those who were even poorer than him. A victim of racial abuse, he bore the insults patiently, and his dignified manner was noted by some Franciscan hermits in the area. He accepted their invitation to join them, and gave away all he possessed. Later, living at a Franciscan friary, he showed a deep, intuitive, understanding of the faith, despite being uneducated. Against all the odds, he was appointed novice master of the community. Benedict was a man of deep holiness who achieved so much more than others would have thought possible for him. He was canonised in 1807 and his feast day is April 4th.



Christian Living: Humility

The word 'humility' comes from the Latin *humus*, meaning 'ground, earth'. In a sense, it reminds us that we must be rooted here, not seeking to be greater than we are. To live humbly is not to demean ourselves, but to recognise who we truly are, and to find our value in our dignity as God's children. As Christians, our humility is vital, because it expresses our need of God and others. The opposite is pride; when this takes hold, we wrongly believe ourselves to be self-sufficient, we make our own rules, we become more isolated. Humility opens the path to deeper relationships with God and others. In a sense, it is the foundation of our entire spiritual lives: without it, we cannot know God. Today's Gospel has much to say about pride and humility, and the effects they have on our lives.

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

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 172

Office: Psalter Week 4; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Year 1, Week 4 of Lent

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details	
Saturday 30 th March	6pm (vigil)	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT <i>Laetare Sunday</i>	Catherine Harrison RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 31 st March	9:30am		Richard Atkinson RIP	
	6pm		People of the Parish	
Monday	9:15am			Harry and Cath O'Brien RIP
	5:15pm			<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm		TJ Joseph	
Wednesday	9:15am		Julian Togneri RIP	
Thursday	9:15am		Bert Ainscough RIP	
Friday	12noon		Anne Topping RIP	
	2:30pm	Requiem	Winifred Wakeham RIP	
Saturday 6 th April	10am		Jack Burton RIP	
	6pm (vigil)	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	John Cubbin RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 7 th April	9:30am		Teresa Madden RIP	
	6pm		Dr Yve Dias RIP	

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Winifred Wakeham**, whose Requiem will take place here on Friday at 2:30pm, **Dorothy Cavanagh**, whose funeral will take place on Wednesday 10th April at 1:30pm, 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.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Weekdays 7:45am during Lent.

EVENING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Sundays 3:30pm (sung), with Benediction.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sundays 3pm during Lent.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass.

ST ANTHONY: March wall box donations will go to the Medaille Trust.

ANNIVERSARIES: Tom Dickinson, Fr Odram Callan, Carol McCarthy, Olive Halliwell, Luigina Dawson, Bert Ainscough, William Hargreaves, Caroline Terrel, Anne Fisher.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL: For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

FIRST FRIDAY: Holy Hour this Friday, 7-8pm. Quiet prayer with the Lord this Lent.

ST CLARE – LIGHT FROM THE CLOISTER: Four sessions telling the life story of St Clare and discovering her writings. Begins this Tuesday, 7:30pm in the narthex. This week, ‘Servant of the servants’: life at San Damiano. All welcome.

CYCLONE IDAI APPEAL: There will be a special collection at the end of all Masses this weekend. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, please use one of the CAFOD Fast Day envelopes, which are available in the narthex. Thanks for your generosity.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE: We will hold a joint parish Reconciliation Service, with individual confession and absolution, on Friday 12th April, 7pm at Our Lady and St Edward’s. Don’t forget to make time for confession this Lent!

EASTER RAFFLE: Envelopes included with the newsletter this week. Return it with a donation for a chance to win. Donations of prizes are very welcome. Thank you. Money raised will go towards the Lourdes youth fund.

HOLY WEEK MUSIC PRACTICE: This Wednesday at 6:30pm in the church. New singers are always welcome. Come and share your gifts!

LENTEN LUNCHESES: After midday Mass each remaining Friday of Lent, soup and a bread roll. Donations will go to our ACN Iraq appeal. All welcome.

ALTERNATIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The original Stations of the Cross from our church are being displayed in the narthex window during Lent. Take some time to look at them and pray. Reflections and prayers are available each week.

CTS BOOK CLUB: meeting next Sunday (7th April) after evening Mass. The booklet for this month is “Living Fruitfully: Patience”. Copies available from Fr Andrew.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: 2019-2020 envelopes are now available in the narthex for those who use them (please be aware, your number may have changed). If you are a UK taxpayer and haven’t signed up for Gift Aid, please consider it. It costs you nothing but helps the parish a great deal. Some Gift Aid forms are available near the envelopes. If you have questions, contact the office or speak to Fr Andrew.

ROSARY SERVICE: This Tuesday, 2pm at Carmel (St Vincent’s Road), the monthly Rosary Service. Includes a short talk by Fr John Paul Evans. All welcome.

METANOIA PROJECT: Thursdays during Lent, 7:30pm at St Wilfrid’s parish centre, a chance to explore the book, “Rediscovering Jesus”. All welcome.

ECUMENICAL LENT TALKS: Monday evenings at Central Methodist Church on Lune Street, 7:30-9pm. Refreshments are served. All welcome.

PRESTON ORPHEUS CHOIR: ‘Come and Sing’ event: JH Maunder’s *Olivet to Calvary*, St Leonard’s church, Penwortham, 13th April, 2:30-5:30pm. prestonorpheuschoir.org

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 515; Collection: £1332.54; Thank you for your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 31 st	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	3:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6:15pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7pm	Baptism Preparation (2)	Chapel
	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	Social Committee Meeting	Presbytery
Tuesday	7:30pm	St Clare: Light from the Cloister 3: Servant of the servants	Narthex
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	6:30pm	Holy Week Music Practice	Church
	7:30pm	NCW Penitential	Chapel
Friday	12:30pm	Lenten Lunch	Parish Hall
	7pm	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	Parish Hall
Sunday 7 th	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Holy Communion Preparation (5)	Parish Hall
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	3:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	4:30pm	Confirmation Preparation (7)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	CTS Book Club	Chapel

LANCASTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:

26th July-2nd August by air from Manchester. Information and booking forms in the narthex.

FRANCISCANS' VISIT:

There are lots of good photographs of the visit on our website (www.saintclares.co.uk). Why not take a look back and remember some of the highlights of the week?

