

Franciscan of the Week: Blessed Giles of Assisi

Born around 1190, Giles was the fifth man to join the 'brothers' who followed St Francis in the very early days. Thomas of Celano, Francis' biographer, describes Giles as "a simple and upright man who feared God." Francis referred to him as "the Knight of our Round Table". Known for his humility, compassion, faith and obedience, Giles spent much time in prayer but also travelled to preach the Gospel. Whilst most of the friars would beg for alms, Giles always insisted on working in return for any help he received. He was the longest-surviving of the original friars and witnessed a remarkable expansion of the order. By the time Giles died in 1262, friars were spread all over Europe, including here in Preston, where a community had been founded in 1260.



FOCUS ON... The Ascension of the Lord

This Thursday is Ascension Day, 40 days after Easter, when we celebrate the Lord's entry into heaven. It's a beautiful feast day, and it leaves us with an image of the Lord being taken up whilst blessing the disciples. He continues to watch over and bless us, and makes good on His promise: "I am with you always, yes, to the end of time" (Matthew 28:20). Before He ascended, the Lord entrusted His mission to the Church, and He invites each of us to play our part in the work of sharing His Gospel. Masses for the feast: Wednesday 7pm, Thursday 9:15am and 7pm.

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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 273

Office: Psalter week 2; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Week 6 of Easter

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details	
Saturday 25 th May	6pm	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Hilda & Peter McNeela RIP	
	7pm		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 26 th May	9:30am		People of the Parish	
	6pm		Les Burns RIP	
Monday	10am		St Augustine of Canterbury	Jack Burton RIP
Tuesday	7pm			George Oastler RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Special Intention	
	7pm (vigil)	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (Holy Day of Obligation)	For the Assisi pilgrims	
Thursday	9:15am		Holy Souls	
	7pm		People of the Parish	
Friday	12noon	Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Peter Hampson RIP	
Saturday 1 st June	10am	St Justin	Holy Souls	
	6pm (vigil)	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Rosa Malloy – 90 th birthday	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 2 nd June	9:30am		Lawrence and Lilian Culshaw RIP	
	6pm		People of the Parish	

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Les Burns**, whose Requiem took place last week, and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday 10:30am-12noon; **please note, no Exposition Monday-Friday this week**
During Eastertide: Sunday 4-5pm, ending with Benediction.

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

SUNG VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: Sundays 4:30pm during Eastertide.

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

ST ANTHONY: May wall box donations will go to local people in need of help.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jim Murtagh, Marion Stuart, Mary Josephine O’Neil, Anna Hall, Michael Lapin, Hilda McNeela, Eileen Mundy, Philip Lee, Shaniece Hopkins, Josie Singleton, Mary McCann.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY: That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of her members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent.

ASCENSION OF THE LORD: This Thursday is a Holy Day of Obligation, the feast of the Ascension. Masses Wednesday 7pm, Thursday 9:15am and 7pm. See front page.

ASSISI PILGRIMAGE – TAKE PART FROM HOME: Those who are not travelling, but would like to accompany the pilgrims in prayer, are welcome to take a pilgrimage booklet from the narthex this weekend. See back page of the newsletter.

PETITIONS FOR ASSISI: If you'd like us to take any petitions to Assisi, please hand them in by **Sunday evening**. We will take them to the tombs of St Francis and St Clare, and pray for your intentions whilst at their shrines.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK: Due to the Bank Holiday, Mass on Monday is at 10am, and there is no hospital Mass. Also, no morning Exposition Mon-Fri this week.

NCW CATECHESIS: Continues Monday 7:30pm and Thursday 8pm in the chapel. A great opportunity to hear anew the Gospel and discover new ways to live it.

CTS BOOK CLUB: next meeting on Sunday 9th June, 7pm. The booklet for this month is *Symbols of the Holy Spirit*. Copies available from Fr Andrew.

SUMMER FAIR: Friday 7th June, 5pm. Donations of cash, bottles of wine or spirits, etc. for raffle prizes are welcome. School will collect toys, sweets and bottles.

SUMMER DRAW: Please do your best to sell raffle tickets to help our school and parish. More are available if needed! Thanks for your support.

FLOWER FESTIVAL: 14th-16th June 2019. In aid of ACN Iraq appeal. Please submit sponsor money and inscriptions as soon as possible. Sign up sheets for anyone able to help over the weekend are now in the narthex. Thank you.

FLOWER FESTIVAL PROMOTION: Please do what you can to spread awareness of the flower festival. Flyers are available in the narthex.

IRAQ TALK: Caroline Hull, ACN's North West Manager, recently visited Iraq. She will give an update on the situation there on Tuesday 4th June, 7:30pm in the hall.

SUNG VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: Don't forget, on Sundays during Eastertide we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 4pm, then sung Vespers (Evening Prayer) and Benediction, beginning at 4:30pm. Come and pray with the risen Lord.

CASTLERIGG-50 YEARS: Our diocesan youth centre celebrates its half-century this year. There is a barbecue there on 7th July from 4pm. There is no charge, but let them know if you'll be there: 017687 72711/team@castleriggmanor.co.uk

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE: 7th-9th June at Liverpool Hope University. All welcome. More information in the narthex.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: next weekend (1st/2nd June) for Catholic Media.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 538; Collection: £997.55. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 26 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Monday	7:30pm	NCW Catechesis (6)	Chapel
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
Thursday	8pm	NCW Catechesis (7)	Chapel
Sunday 2 nd June	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	First Communion Preparation (7)	Parish Hall
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Confirmation Preparation (9)	Parish Hall
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church

Diary Dates

Sunday 9th June: Pentecost Sunday, end of the Easter season

Sunday 23rd June: First Holy Communions (Mass at 11am)

Sunday 30th June: Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul. Confirmation at 6pm Mass.

Assisi Pilgrimage – how you can take part from home

Available in the narthex this weekend are booklets for the pilgrimage – please take one if you wish to join in prayerfully each day. Each day has its own prayer intention:

Monday: People of the Parish

Tuesday: The sick and housebound

Wednesday: All who have never heard the Gospel, and all who no longer practice their faith

Thursday: vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Friday: Families, and all our loved ones



There should be regular updates from Assisi on our parish Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages (all @StClareFulwood) and there will be a full report on our parish website soon after the trip. You are also invited to a **post-pilgrimage social on Tuesday 11th June at 7:30pm** in the parish hall, with an opportunity to hear a little about the pilgrimage and see some pictures. Please pray for the pilgrims over the coming days, and be assured that your needs and intentions will be remembered in prayer at the shrines of St Francis and St Clare.