

Franciscan of the Week: Dante Alighieri

Dante was an Italian poet, most famous for his celebrated *Divine Comedy*, perhaps the most important literary work of the Middle Ages and widely regarded as the greatest work of Italian literature. He grew up in Florence, a city divided between rival factions, some of whom supported the Church's temporal, as well as spiritual, authority. Dante did not, and was forced into exile. During this time he wrote the *Comedy*, which is a journey through hell, purgatory and heaven. In this, he imagines the afterlife and invites us to use our time on this earth to prepare well for it. Dante was devoted to the teaching of St Francis, who appears as a model of humility and poverty in Dante's depiction of heaven, and the poet may have been a member of the Third Order. He died in exile at Ravenna in 1321, and was buried in the Franciscan church there.



Father Lakeland's Funeral

Father Lakeland's body will be received into church at St Clare's on Monday 5th August at 6pm, followed by Mass. His Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 6th August at 11:30am. All are welcome to attend either or both Masses.

Can you help?

We will need some volunteers to help with refreshments and to act as stewards and welcomers, including on the car park. If you are able to help, please contact the parish office with your details.



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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 114

Office: Psalter week 1; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: year 1, week 17

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details	
Saturday 27 th July	6pm (vigil)	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mary and Eddie Sinnott RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 28 th July	9:30am		Frank Madden RIP	
	6pm		Freda Burgess RIP	
Monday	11am		Requiem	Frank Madden RIP
	5:15pm		St Martha	<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm		Doreen Dilworth RIP	
Wednesday	9:15am	St Ignatius of Loyola	Theresa & John Topping RIP	
Thursday	9:15am	St Alphonsus Liguori	Neil Byrne	
Friday	12noon		Fr Michael Lakeland RIP	
Saturday 3 rd August	10am	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Andrew & Joyce Nimmo RIP	
	6pm (vigil)		Fr Terry Rodgers RIP	
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>	
Sunday 4 th August	9:30am		William Hamilton RIP	
	6pm		Tommy McKenna RIP	

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Frank Madden**, whose Requiem will take place here on Monday at 11am, **Fr Michael Lakeland** (for funeral details see next page) and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon.

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

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass. These prayers are offered for the protection of human life from conception to natural end.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Margaret Fox, Andrew Bhatti, Doreen Dilworth, Cyril Hall, Olive Dunn, Jeff Hodson, Lily Robinson, Jean Laking, Marie Ward, Mary Jordan.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY: That those who administer justice may work with integrity, and that the injustice which prevails in the world may not have the last word.

FATHER LAKELAND'S FUNERAL: See front page for details and a request for help.

MONDAY MASS: Mass this Monday is at 11am, a Requiem for Frank Madden. Please remember Frank and his family in your prayers. No 9:15am Mass that day.

ST CLARE'S DAY: Sunday 11th August. St Clare's feast will be celebrated at all the Sunday Masses. After 9:30am Mass there will be refreshments (tea and cakes). On Friday 9th August at 7pm we will celebrate the Transitus of St Clare, followed by a get-together in the parish hall.

ST THERESE IN SCOTLAND: We are running a coach to Carfin grotto to visit the relics of St Thérèse on Friday 30th August. See back page. Sign-up sheet in narthex. Also, Tuesday 13th August at 7:30pm, a chance to watch the video (45 minutes) of the relics' visit to our cathedral in Lancaster back in 2009.

ACN IRAQ UPDATE: Since we started to support the people of Iraq with ACN last autumn, the parish has raised around £9,500. Thank you for your outstanding generosity. Let's keep up the good work!

CROSS-BAY WALK: Aid to the Church in Need has some places for the walk across Morecambe Bay (Arnside to Kent's Bank) on Saturday 7th September. Walkers would need to be sponsored to support our ACN Iraq appeal. 18+ only; the terrain is varied and challenging. More details: speak to Andrea Sinnott or Fr Andrew.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? Each year there is an opportunity for those who are thinking of becoming Catholic (or those who are just curious!) to discover the Catholic faith. Our 'Journey in Faith' group will begin again in the autumn, and it's not too early to register interest! Contact the parish office or speak to Fr Andrew for more details.

FOLLOW THE PARISH ONLINE: Photos and reports on recent events are always available on our website: www.saintclares.co.uk. You can also follow the parish on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (all @StClareFulwood).

ARCH - ABORTION RECOVERY HELPLINE offers non-judgemental, confidential support for those struggling in the aftermath of an abortion experience – open each evening, 7pm-10pm – if you are struggling, call 0845 603 8501.

CCRS: The diocesan education service offers the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies, especially to those working in Catholic schools. Details are available on a poster and information sheets in the narthex.

DEMENTIA SINGING GROUP: Meets at the Xaverian Spirituality Centre (formerly Tabor) every Tuesday 10am-12noon. Details on the notice board. All welcome.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 448; Collection: £998.38; Good Shepherd Fund: £355.09. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 28 th	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
Wednesday	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Chapel/Narthex
Friday	7pm	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	Parish Hall

ST THERESE IN SCOTLAND 2019

Many of you will remember the visit of the relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux to England and Wales in 2009. It was a time of great grace in the Church and touched many thousands of people. Thérèse (popularly known as the 'Little Flower') is a wonderful saint. St Thérèse's relics are being brought to Scotland in the autumn, and we are organising a parish trip. A coach will go from St Clare's to Carfin grotto (Scotland's national shrine of Our Lady) on Friday 30th August. We will leave at 8:30am and return probably around 8pm. We will be able to visit the shrine, venerate the relics and attend Mass. Cost would be £10 per adult and £5 per child, but if you are struggling to pay this, please talk to Fr Andrew and we can work something out. Sign up this weekend in the narthex to book your place.



Pilgrims venerate the relics at Lancaster Cathedral, September 2009.

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