

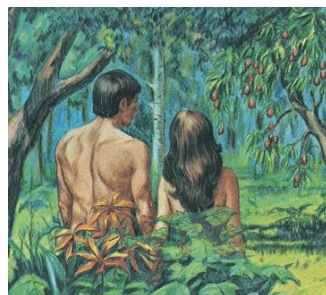
People of the Word: Adam and Eve

Each week on the newsletter we are telling the whole story of the Bible through the characters we meet. Last week we began with God, the Trinity and source of all life. Today we meet the first humans, the man whom we call Adam and his wife, Eve.



The Bible is the story of the relationship between God and humans. It starts well! God creates the first humans in His own image (Genesis 1:26). Our reason, goodness, ability to appreciate beauty, and most of all our capacity to love are all qualities of God which He shares with us. God creates humans, male and female, in His own image, and calls them to union with one another – the two become one body (1:24). We are called to communion with one another, and in this way we reflect God, who is perfect communion, perfect love.

The first humans felt no shame in front of each other, even though they were naked (1:25). Genesis describes the garden of Eden as a place of paradise, where – before sin entered the world – everything was perfect. Adam and Eve enjoyed a relationship of love with one another and were close to God. They were free to live as God called them, without the weaknesses we have. But – as we know – they used their freedom to disobey God and so cut themselves off from the source of life. Next week we hear more about the Fall from grace, as Satan makes his first appearance in the Bible.



Questions for reflection:

- Do I realise that I am created in God's image, and so am beautiful and valuable in the sight of God?
- Do I try to live in His image, reflecting His love and goodness to others?

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MASSSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 85

Office: Psalter Week 2; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: Week 2 of Advent, Year 2

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 7 th Dec	6pm (vigil)	The Second Sunday of Advent	Ken Penswick RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 8 th Dec	9:30am		Margaret Culshaw RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish
Monday	10:15am	Requiem	Bridget McNulty RIP
	5:15pm	The Immaculate Conception	<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
	7pm		Martin Brown RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		George Oldcorn RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Ints Alice McNicholl
Friday	12noon	St Lucy	Christine Lesse (birthday)
Saturday	10am	St John of the Cross	Anne Connolly RIP
Saturday 14 th Dec	6pm (vigil)	The Third Sunday of Advent	Edmund Starkie RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 15 th Dec	9:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Agnes Moktan RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Anne Connolly**, whose Requiem took place last week, **Bridget McNulty**, whose Requiem will be on Monday at 10:15am, **Patricia Barnish**, whose Requiem will be on Monday 16th at 10:45am, **Edmund Starkie**, whose funeral took place in Ireland last week, and all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7-8am, Saturday 10:30am-12noon, Sunday 4-5pm during Advent.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: During Advent, we celebrate Morning Prayer Monday-Friday at 7:45am, and sung Vespers and Benediction on Sundays at 4:30pm.

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: December wall box donations will go to the Foxton Centre.

ANNIVERSARIES: Dorothy Higgins, Ken Penswick, Ken Tuson, Evelyn Spiro, Martin Brown, Muriel Hubbersty, Marie Hughes, Thomas Turberfield, Catherine Bradley, Margaret Magee, Mary Holland, Iqbal Gill, Richard Harvey.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS: That every country determine to take necessary steps to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

ADVENT: During this holy season there will be morning prayer Monday-Friday, 7:45am and a Holy Hour including sung Vespers (evening prayer) each Sunday, 4-5pm.

GENERAL ELECTION: When voting this week, don't exclude your faith from your decision! There are many issues to consider, including protection of life, care for the marginalised, social justice, religious freedom and the future of our Catholic schools. The Bishops have produced a list of issues to consider when deciding how to vote. Copies are available in the narthex this weekend. Please take and read one.

MONDAY MASS: Please note, Mass on Monday is at 10:15am, a Requiem for Bridget McNulty. No 9:15am Mass. Mass for the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated in the hospital chapel at 5:15pm. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fair. We raised £1,556.60 which will be split evenly between our church and primary school.

CHRISTMAS DRAW: A list of prize winners is on the notice board. Prizes can be collected any morning (except Thursday) from the presbytery.

MESSY CHURCH: Next Saturday, 1:30pm in the parish hall. Especially suitable for younger children. Coming to faith through art and Bible stories. All welcome.

HOME CRIB BLESSING: After evening Mass on Tuesday 17th December, bring your crib from home to be blessed for this Christmas. Followed by wine and mince pies.

COACH TRIP TO LEEDS: For details, see back page. Last chance to sign up is this weekend. Please hand in your coach money as soon as possible to confirm your seat.

SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS PARTY: Corpus Christi, 18th December 12--2:30pm. Christmas dinner, music and entertainment, free of charge. Sign up in the narthex.

MONDAY CAR PARKING: On Monday this week the car park will be closed until 7:40am. Sorry for any inconvenience caused to those attending morning Exposition.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Meeting this Sunday (8th) after evening Mass. The booklet is 'The Hope of Christmas, with Pope Francis'. All welcome.

EMAIL FROM ST CLARE'S? If you receive an unexpected email claiming to be from the parish, please check the sender's address and don't open any attachments unless you're sure it's come from us. There have been some scam emails recently.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: Donations in memory of a loved one are welcome. Please put their name(s) in an envelope marked 'Christmas flowers'.

METANOIA ADVENT TALKS: Thursdays at St Wilfrid's parish centre. 7:30pm. A mini-series for Advent on 'The God who speaks'. See www.metanoiaproject.co.uk

CTFB CAROL SINGING: In the hospital entrance, Saturday 14th December 2-4pm.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 422; Collection: £966.10; Poor Missions: £363.07. Thank you.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat / Sun	At Mass	Cenacolo Collection	House Porch
Sunday 8 th	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	CTS Book Club	Chapel
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri (excl. Thurs)	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	6:45pm	Baptism Preparation (2)	Chapel
	7:30pm	Journey in Faith Group	Chapel
	7:45pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Wednesday	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Chapel/Narthex
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	Parish Hall
	1:30pm	Messy Church	Parish Hall
Sunday 15 th	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	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

Christmas Mass times

Vigil: Christmas Eve 6pm

Midnight Mass, with carols from 11:30pm

Christmas morning: 10am

Christmas coach trip to Leeds

Saturday 21st December, leaving at 9am. We will travel to Leeds city centre for a chance to look round and visit the Christmas Market, then on to Corpus Christi church for the live nativity organised by our friends, the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal. The nativity is followed by a social organised by the sisters. Back in Preston roughly 7pm. Cost £10/adult, £5/child. The sign-up sheets are now available in the narthex. Don't miss out!

