

HOW LITTLE SINS CAN DO GREAT HARM TO OUR SOUL

Living in a fallen world, we will never be free from every influence of sin. Even the saints could not fully escape from their sins while on earth. However, this reality does not mean we should give-up the fight. What we need to do is continually combat against our sinful tendencies in order to prepare our hearts for the eternal bliss that awaits us in Heaven.

While the first priority in any person's life is to root out the bigger mortal sins, it is also important to focus on the little venial sins.

St. Francis de Sales explains: They weaken the mental power, hinder Divine consolations, and open the door to temptations, and although they may not destroy the soul, at least they bring on very serious disease.

St. Francis de Sales then encourages us to do what we can to sweep out these little sins, before they take hold in our hearts: A trifling inaccuracy, a little nastiness in word or action, some small excess in mirth, in dress, in gaiety, may not be very important, if these are forthwith heeded and swept out as spiritual cobwebs; but if they are permitted to linger in the heart, or, worse still, if we take pleasure in them and indulge them, our honey will soon be spoilt, and the hive of our conscience will be cambered and damaged.

The sacrament of confession is a great way to address these little sins, confessing them on a regular basis. In addition to confession, we take concrete steps to avoid the occasion of sin as best as we can.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

In the first reading we hear how God took some of the spirit that He had bestowed on Moses and put it on the seventy elders chosen by Moses. In the second reading James reproves the rich for their pride, vanity and greed, and their pleasure-seeking, warning them that the judgement of God is near at hand. In the Gospel reading Jesus teaches his disciples that whoever is not against him is for him, and should not be stopped.

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Deacon: Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

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Church is open daily from 8am until 6pm for private prayer.

MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book – Sunday page 138.**Office: Psalter week 2; Sundays: Year B; Weekdays Year 2.**

Sunday morning Mass is livestreamed and will be available for viewing later on our parish YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Hilda & Peter McNeela
Sunday 29th Sept	9:30am 6pm		People of the Parish Roddfa Licaycan RIP
Monday	9:15am 5:30pm RPH Chapel	St. Jerome	Patients and staff of the Hospital
	Tuesday		7pm
Wednesday	9:15am	Holy Guardian Angels	Sick & housebound
Thursday	9:15am		
Friday	12:00pm	St. Francis of Assisi	Len & Sandra Hearle RIP
Saturday	10am	DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL	
	6pm (vigil)	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Clare Conway 90 th birthday
Sunday 6th Oct	9:30am 6pm		Mary & David Hurst RIP People of the Parish

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for all who have died recently.**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 10:30am-11:30am, with Adoration.**ROSARY:** Is prayed after the 9:15am Mass, and before the 12noon Mass on Fridays.**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER: For a shared mission**

We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.

MASS INTENTIONS: If you would like Holy Mass to be offered for an intention, please place the intention and offering in an envelope and post through the Presbytery door or hand to one of the priests. There can be no better gift than the gift of offering the Holy Mass for a loved one or special intention. Envelopes are available in the Narthex. There are currently a number of spaces in our diary.

ANNIVERSARIES: Betty Dickinson, Nora Jones, Cicely Brierley, Sharon Livesey, Maureen Masters, Elizabeth Mary Ivison, Alice Turner, Mary Ryan, Barbara Knowling, Jack Finley, Mary Irene Stewart.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: If you have a child who requires the Sacrament of Baptism, please speak to one of the priests for an initial meeting.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: The first session is today 29th September at 4pm in the Parish Hall. Please pray for the children as they prepare to receive this great Sacrament. Next session will be on Sunday 13th October.

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR: Our First Friday Holy Hour takes place at 7pm this Friday with adoration, scripture and reflections. An opportunity to come and spend some time in rest with the Lord. All welcome.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY: CAFOD's Family Fast Day is this Friday 4th October. Please join in by eating simply and giving what you can. You can use the CAFOD envelope, available for collection from the Narthex, to Gift Aid your donation which boosts your donation by 25% if you are a UK taxpayer. Please return the envelopes by next weekend. You can also give online at cafod.org.uk or via the payment terminal in the Narthex. Thank you for all your support, for your generosity and your prayers.

FOOD BANK: Collection this weekend 28th/29th Sept. The Food Bank is in need of biscuits, sugar, long-life milk, coffee, hot chocolate, jam, shampoo & conditioner, and washing machine detergent. Thanks for your generosity.

SCHOOL OPEN DAY: If you have a child/grandchild who is due to start school in September 2025 or would like a pre-school place, then please come along to our open day on Wednesday 2nd October. We are opening our doors to visitors from 9-11am and 2-6pm. All are welcome. If you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 01772 787037. We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful school.

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS: Being offered in the Diocese of Lancaster for the first time. This two-year course offered through collaboration with the Diocese of Southwark is an exciting opportunity to assist those engaged in Catechesis to deepen their understanding of the faith and grow closer in their relationship with Jesus and His Church. See poster in the Narthex for more information.

DAY OF RENEWAL: The next Day of Renewal is on Saturday 5th October between 10am and 4pm. The theme is 'Forgiveness – following the example of Jesus Christ. See poster in the Narthex for more information.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Organ recital on Wednesday 16th October, and race night on Friday 18th October – details in next weekend's newsletter.

CAKE SALE: After Sunday morning Mass today for the Youth Group.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 324 (72/153/99). Collections: £566.67. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 29 th Sept	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	6:45pm	Anointed and Sent groups (Age 11-18)	Parish Hall
Mon -Fri	3:20pm	After School Club	Parish Hall
Monday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	5:30-6:30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	6pm	Seekers (age 8-11)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Parish Hall
Wednesday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	9:45am	Parish Coffee morning	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Domestic Liturgy	In homes
Thursday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <i>Cancelled this week</i>	Church
	7pm	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
Saturday 5 th Oct	10am	Day of Renewal	Parish Hall
	10:30am-11:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation, with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church

Events marked * are open only to members or those who have booked ahead.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Here at St Clare's we are blessed to have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament most mornings and Tuesday evenings. Please make use of this great devotion by coming along and spending some time in quiet prayer with Jesus. **NB** no Adoration this Friday morning.

BRINGING COMMUNITIES ALIVE: Lancaster Diocese Faith & Justice Commission invites you to this event on Saturday 12th October commencing at 10am at the Cathedral Social Centre, Balmoral Road, Lancaster LA1 3BT. Speakers will include Bishop Paul, Sir John Battle, & Clare Dixon from CAFOD. Please contact Sue Grubic on 07791444417 for more information.