
ON THE TEACHING OF TRUTH

All perfection in this life is accompanied by a measure of imperfection, and all our knowledge contains an element of obscurity. A humble knowledge of oneself is a sure road to God than a deep searching of the sciences. Yet learning itself is not to be blamed, nor is the simple knowledge of anything whatsoever to be despised, for true learning is good in itself and ordained by God; but a good conscience and a holy life are always to be preferred. But because many are more eager to acquire much learning than to live well, they often go astray, and bear little or no fruit. If only such people were as diligent in uprooting of vices and the planting of virtues as they are in debating of problems, there would not be so many evils and scandals among the people, nor such laxity in communities. At the Day of Judgement, we shall not be asked what we have read, but what we have done; not how eloquently we have spoken, but how holily we have lived. Where are now all those Masters and Doctors whom you knew so well in their lifetime in the full flower of their learning? Other men now sit in their seats, and they are hardly ever called to mind.

Oh, how swiftly the glory of the world passes away! If only the lives of these men had been as admirable as their learning, their study and reading would have been to good purpose. But how many in this world care little for the service of God, and perish in their vain learning. He is truly great, who is great in the love of God.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

In the first reading God promises to make a new covenant with the House Israel the House of and Judah. He will be their God and they shall be his people. In the second reading we hear that Jesus learnt obedience through suffering and became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him. In the Gospel reading Jesus likens his impending death to a grain of wheat which must fall on the ground and die, in order to produce a rich harvest.

Priest in Charge: Fr John Mark Agulefo **Assistant Priest:** Fr Stephen Talbutt
Deacon: Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

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

MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book – Sunday page 169.

Office: Psalter week 1; Sundays: Year B;

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)	FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT	Lena Thompson RIP
Sunday 17 th March	9:30am		People of the parish
	6pm		Holy Souls
Monday	9:15am		Trevor Hughes RIP
	5:30pm	Royal Preston Hospital chapel	Patients and staff of the hospital
Tuesday	7pm	ST JOSEPH	Cicely Ashurst
Wednesday	9:15am		Robin Day RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Jack Ashurst
Friday	12:00pm		Margaret O Neil RIP
Saturday	10am		
	6pm (vigil)	PALM SUNDAY	Special Intention Christopher H
Sunday 17 th March	9:30am		People of the parish
	6pm		

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for all who have died recently, especially Neville Buckley, and Patricia Brown.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11am-12pm, with Adoration.

ROSARY: Is prayed after the 9:15am Mass, and before the 12noon Mass on Fridays.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH: For the new Martyrs.

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

ANNIVERSARIES: Robin Day, Douglas Middlemiss, Alice Barker, Clair Brooks, Wilfred Foy, Richard Atkinson, Ian Gregson, Roseanne Dorning.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Please pray for the sick and housebound of our parish.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Will be prayed every Sunday during Lent in the church at 3pm.

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

LENT MORNING PRAYER: Each morning during Lent we have the opportunity to come together to pray Morning Prayer. There is no better way to start the day as we journey through this Lenten season, to come together and adore Jesus truly

present in the Blessed Sacrament. Following Morning Prayer, the Blessed Sacrament will remain exposed until 8.45am. Everyone is welcome.

CHILDRENS LENT PRAYER TIME: During Lent we will be holding Lent Prayer sessions for children before school. The children can take part in Lenten morning prayer, a chat about the gospel of the week, their own Lenten Promises and to spend some quiet time with Jesus. All welcome. Our next session will be on Wednesday 20th March 8:25-8:45am.

PALM SUNDAY 24TH MARCH: We will meet at the corner of Tower Lane and Singleton Way at 9am, and after a brief service process to the Church for the 9:30am Mass. We encourage everyone who is able to take part.

FOOD BANK: Next collection will be this weekend 16th/17th March.

HOLY WEEK CHOIR PRACTICES: On Tuesday 26th March at 7:30pm in church we will practice our Easter Triduum and Holy Week music. Everyone is most welcome to come and prepare to praise the Lord at this most Holy time in our Church year.

MESSY CHURCH: The next Messy Church will be on Saturday the 23rd March. An afternoon of craft and art for the children in the parish hall from 1:30-3pm. All are invited

PREPARING FOR HOLY WEEK: Day retreat on Saturday 23rd March at Corpus Christi High School – please see notice in the Narthex for further information.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE: On Friday at 7pm we will hold our Lenten reconciliation service in the Church, please join us for the opportunity to receive this great Sacrament of Reconciliation as we prepare to enter Holy Week.

EASTER FLOWERS: Any donations for Easter flowers in memory of a loved one can be posted through the presbytery door in a marked envelope with details of your intention. A list of prayer intentions will be displayed at Easter. All donations gratefully received.

EASTER RAFFLE: We are holding an Easter Raffle to be drawn on Easter Sunday. Tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses, and some weekday Masses. Any donated prizes can be left in the box in the Narthex. Proceeds will be donated to help the family of a young boy, Bobby Morrison, who was critically injured in an accident with an air rifle. See poster in the Narthex for more information.

FULWOOD FARMERS' MARKET: On Saturday 23rd March 9:30am-1pm. See notice in the Narthex for more information.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The envelopes for 2024/25 are available for collection from the Narthex. If you have moved house or are no longer eligible for Gift Aid, please let us know. If you are a taxpayer and would like to join the scheme, please contact the Parish office. Donations that are gift aided enable us to claim £0.25 for each £1 given, at no cost to the donor. Thanks for your continued generosity.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 346 (84/158/104). Collections: £604.90. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 17 th March.	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	6:45pm	Anointed and Sent groups (Age 11-18)	Parish Hall
Mon-Friday	3:20pm	After School Club	Parish Hall
Monday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with morning prayer	Church
	6pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7:00pm	*Journey to Easter Group	Presbytery
	8pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with morning prayer	Church
	6pm	Seekers (age 8-11)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Parish Hall
	7:45pm	*Parish Pastoral Group	Presbytery
Wednesday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Lenten Childrens prayer time	Church
	9:45am	Parish Coffee morning	Parish Hall
	6pm	*Journey to Easter (Real Presence Session)	Presbytery
	7:00pm	*Social Committee	Presbytery
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Parish Hall
Thursday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with morning prayer	Church
	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	8-8:45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with morning prayer	Church
	7pm	Lent Reconciliation Service	Church
Saturday 23 rd March	9:30am	*First Holy Communion programme	Parish Hall
	11am-12pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation, with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	1:30pm – 3pm	Messy Church	Parish Hall

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