
The Lord is risen!

After the long journey of Lent and our prayerful celebration of Holy Week, we come to the climax of our faith: the resurrection of our Lord. This is the moment in which God fulfils every promise; He has definitively conquered sin, suffering and death, and begins a new creation in which all is perfect. Jesus rises not to the old life, but to the life we will know in heaven. And because He lives, He remains close to us. The Paschal Candle which will burn over these 50 days of Eastertide is the sign of His presence among us.



Today's Readings

At the Easter Vigil we hear a selection of Old Testament readings (slightly curtailed this year!) which take us through the story of salvation. We are invited to hear these passages in the light of the resurrection, seeing how the Lord's victory over death brings meaning to everything that has come before, even creation itself. We also see how God carefully prepared humanity for the day of salvation which came when Jesus rose from the dead. The New Testament reading comes from St Paul's letter to the Romans, and reminds us that, through our baptism, we have died to our old self and risen anew with Christ. We then hear St Mark's account of the discovery of the empty tomb – the first sign of the resurrection of our Lord. On Easter morning we hear St Peter preaching about the resurrection on the day of Pentecost, recorded in Acts of the Apostles, which we read throughout the Easter season. The Gospel is St John's account of the empty tomb, and the invitation to see and believe, just as the Beloved Disciple did.

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter of the Octave; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: of the Easter Octave

Morning Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	8:30pm (vigil)*	THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	Ints Veronica Anderton
Sunday 4 th	10:30am (outdoors)		Winifred Hamilton RIP
Monday	9:30am	EASTER MONDAY	Joseph Thondickal RIP
Tuesday	9:30am	EASTER TUESDAY	Anthony Finnerty RIP
Wednesday	9:30am	EASTER WEDNESDAY	Margaret Rawcliffe RIP
Thursday	9:30am	EASTER THURSDAY	Bert Ainscough RIP
Friday	9:30am	EASTER FRIDAY	Daisy Amose RIP
Saturday	9:30am	EASTER SATURDAY	Ints Veronica Anderton
	6pm (vigil)*	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	Joan Gorman RIP
Sunday 5 th	9:30am*		Kathleen Smith RIP
	11:30am*		Bernie Darwen RIP
	6pm*		People of the Parish

*** These Masses can only be attended by those who have booked in advance.**

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Teresa Nicklin** and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 11am-12noon.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Tuesday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon, Sunday 3-4pm.

ANNIVERSARIES: Bert Ainscough, Bill Hargreaves, Winifred Hamilton, Jim Grant, Krystyna Bartle, Rita Lyons, Hilda Web, Vera Pearson, Graeme Flett, Annie Elizabeth Green, Doreen Lees.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even democracies in crisis.

HOLY WEEK: Sincere thanks to everyone who has helped to make our Holy Week services so prayerful and wonderful. This year it's been particularly complicated and has only been possible thanks to a lot of additional help from stewards, cleaners, volunteers who have helped to set up and put things away, those who have lent us equipment for the outdoor services, and many others. A special mention goes to the children and staff of our primary school for preparing the empty tomb. All these in addition to the usual array of volunteers who work so hard to make the church look so beautiful and who help out so prayerfully in the liturgy itself.

PRIVATE PRAYER: Please note, the church will not be open for private prayer on Monday this week. The normal timetable resumes from Tuesday.

EASTER FLOWERS: Thank you to everyone who donated money, and to those who worked so hard to make such beautiful arrangements. A list of intentions for prayer is displayed near the statue of Our Lady in church.

PARISH/SCHOOL QUIZ NIGHT: Friday 23rd April on Zoom. A joint quiz with our primary school. A good variety of not-too-difficult questions! More details soon.

GIFT AID SCHEME: A Gift Aid tax reclaim will be submitted shortly to HMRC. Please notify us if you are no longer a taxpayer or you paid insufficient tax during 2020/21 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations given under Gift Aid to all charities during the tax year. At the present standard rate of tax of 20%, 25p is reclaimed for every £1 donated. If you have moved house during the tax year please let us have your new address.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The 2021-22 Gift Aid envelopes are now available in the narthex, for use from next weekend. If you use envelopes, please collect yours today. Your number may have changed, but boxes are labelled with your name.

DONATING BY STANDING ORDER? If you donate to the parish by standing order and you gift aid your contribution, there should be a set of envelopes for you to cover the special collections which take place through the year. Many of you will be contributing to these collections but we cannot claim Gift Aid from them unless you use an envelope, so please take a set if you can.

REGISTER INTEREST FOR ST CLARE'S SCHOOL NURSERY: Governors have approved the next stage of the process in establishing pre-school provision at Saint Clare's. We hope to open in September 2021 and there is a questionnaire to complete to register your interest and requirements. Please feel free to pass this on to friends and family too. There will be more information to follow in the summer term. Please visit: <https://forms.gle/B634eBiA334eeJf7>

Many thanks, Mrs Charnley on behalf of the governors of Saint Clare's Catholic Primary School

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 4 th	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Tue-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Saturday	11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 11 th	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church

Events marked 'YouTube' are streamed live on our channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

A prayer of spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Easter Sunday Morning – 10:30am Mass, outdoors

- Booking is not required, as there should be plenty of space
- Please come on foot if you can. If using a car, the school playground will also be open, and reserve parking is available at the Xaverian Centre (Tabor)
- Gates will open 30 minutes before the liturgy starts. No access before then.
- Please wear a face covering when you arrive and leave. When seated, it may be removed for outdoor services if you wish.
- If you have portable chairs, please bring them with you for your own use.
- It looks likely to be cool – please dress accordingly.
- Please do not gather on the street outside. The law specifically allows for us to celebrate services within our grounds, but gatherings not on church property are illegal.

Next weekend there will not be a full newsletter. A list of Mass times and intentions and the week's anniversaries will be posted online and on the church notice board.