

# People of the Word: St Paul

Last week we looked at St Stephen, the first Christian martyr. As he was stoned to death, the people put down their cloaks at the feet of a young pharisee called Saul, who entirely approved of the murder. He persecuted the followers of Jesus, imprisoning men and women,

GOD WHO SPEAKS

and did all he could to kill the infant Church. But travelling one day on the road to Damascus, Saul encountered the risen Lord. He came to faith, and soon became known as Paul – the Apostle and great missionary of the early Church.

Paul never met the Lord during His earthly life, but his encounter with Jesus on the Damascus road was enough to turn his life around. He travelled extensively around the Mediterranean, founding several Christian communities, for example at Philippi, Thessalonica and Corinth. His missionary journeys were marked by adventure and danger, and many of his endeavours failed, but he kept faith in the Lord he had encountered. He also wrote letters to the various churches he had established, and to others (for example at Rome and Collosae) which were founded by others but which he had visited. Paul's thirteen surviving letters form a large part of the New Testament: Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, Philippians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, Philemon, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus. Paul – the



former persecutor of the Church – became the persecuted. He was imprisoned on more than one occasion and eventually taken to Rome to be tried for his faith. There he was martyred, beheaded outside of the city walls, and buried. A great basilica stands today over his tomb.

## Questions for reflection:

- Are there moments in my life when Jesus has called me to change?
- How do I listen to and respond to the call to conversion in my life today?

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#### **MASSES THIS WEEK**

Office: Psalter Week 3; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: year 2, week 31

Morning Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel. All information and links at <a href="www.saintclares.co.uk">www.saintclares.co.uk</a> See back page for information on attending Mass in the church.

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details	
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov.	6pm (vigil)	ALL SAINTS	People of the Parish	
	9:30am		John Grace RIP	
	11:30am		For Jen and Vivienne	
	6pm		Donor's Intention	
Monday	9:30am	ALL SOULS	Holy Souls	
Monday	7pm		Holy Souls	
Tuesday	9:30am	St Martin de Porres	Theresa & John Topping RIP	
Wednesday	9:30am	St Charles Borromeo	Clare Mulligan RIP	
Thursday	9:30am		For sick person (Covid-19)	
Friday	9:30am		Connor & Casey families	
Saturday	9:30am		Ken Hollis RIP	
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	THIRTY-SECOND		
		SUNDAY	For the War Dead	
		IN ORDINARY TIME		

**LATELY DEAD:** Please pray for **Jack Finley, Johanna Price** and all who have died recently.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** on request. Contact Fr Andrew to arrange.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:30am Mass, Monday-Friday.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Noel Hagan, Wendy Karen Charleson, Molly Earnshaw, Annie Woods, Mary-Ann Murphy, Anne Taylor, James Van Parys, Frank Rogerson.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER:** We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve makind.

## Supporting your parish financially

To avoid use of cash, it is better, if possible, to support the parish using standing order/BACS. Contact us directly for the details. If you don't use online banking, we can send you a mandate which you can fill in and post to your bank. If you have been saving offertory envelopes, these may be pushed through the presbytery letterbox or handed in at the end of Mass. Thank you for supporting our parish.

**NATIONAL LOCKDOWN:** From Thursday England enters a second lockdown, and public celebration of Mass will not be permitted. We will continue to livestream the Mass each morning at 9:30am. At present the rules allow for opening for private prayer, which will continue at the usual times. More info on back page.

**WELCOME:** We offer a warm welcome and many congratulations to Jen Shaw and Vivienne Bramwell, who will be received into full communion with the Church at 11:30am Mass this Sunday. Please keep them in your prayers at this joyful time.

**ALL SAINTS:** This weekend we celebrate All Saints. It is the annual feast of all those who have gone before us and already share the joy of heaven.

**ALL SOULS:** Monday is All Souls' Day, when we remember and pray for all those who have gone before us. There will be an additional Mass at 7pm on Monday evening, as well as the usual 9:30am Mass. There is no need to book for these.

**NOVEMBER LIST:** A box containing all the names submitted for November will be placed in front of the altar throughout this month.

**CAFOD COLLECTION:** Our parish raised £693.55 for CAFOD's coronavirus appeal this Fast Day. Our support will ensure our global family can survive, rebuild and heal. Thank you for your generosity your ongoing prayers for those in need.

**CAN YOU HELP MAIRA?** Aid to the Church in Need are asking the Prime Minister to grant asylum to Maira Shahbaz, a 14-year old Pakistani Christian girl. Maira was raped, forced to marry and convert, and is now threatened with death. Please sign the petition, which can be found online – it only takes a minute. Click here to sign.

**COULD YOU BE A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?** St Augustine's Primary School are looking for practising Catholics who would be willing to give some time to serve as school governors. You need not have previous knowledge or experience. Could you help to support Catholic education in the area? Speak to Fr Andrew to find out more.

**FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS APPEAL:** There is great need especially for tinned meat, potatoes, spaghetti hoops, cordial and treats for children (mince pies with a date past Christmas, tinned sweets/chocolates, selection boxes, tinned biscuits etc). They also hope to provide 500 toys to children whose families use the food bank. Donations are welcome, but must be made by 27<sup>th</sup> November. New toys only please.

**CAFOD Christmas cards**: Because of COVID, the local CAFOD team is offering an ordering and delivery service (within a 2-mile radius of church) for CAFOD Christmas cards and Traidcraft goods. Cards can be viewed online: <a href="https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/christmas/charity-christmas-cards">https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/christmas/charity-christmas-cards</a>. Please order by e-mail to <a href="mailto-fairpreston@gmail.com">fairpreston@gmail.com</a> or by phone to 717376 by Sunday 15 November. Payment on delivery by cash or cheque (Payable to Traidcraft plc).

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 1st	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Monday	6:50pm	Baptism Preparation (2)	Church
Friday	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Saturday	12-1pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	3pm-4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church

All 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.

#### Second National Lockdown

As we enter a second national lockdown, which is expected to be much shorter than the first, let's continue to look out for one another, especially for those who are isolated or have particular needs. If you need help, or know someone who does, please contact us – there are many parishioners who are willing to help out. Don't be stuck and don't suffer in silence!

Public Masses will continue until and including Wednesday; from Thursday onwards Mass will not be open to the public, by order of the government. We will continue to livestream the Mass each morning at 9:30am.

After the lockdown, everyone who currently has a place at Mass will be able to resume coming to the same Mass without rebooking.

As the rules stand, we will still be able to open the church for private prayer, for limited periods each day – these are shown in the table above.

Please keep an eye on our website: <a href="www.saintclares.co.uk">www.saintclares.co.uk</a> for further information and updates.