



***The Catholic Parishes of
Our Lady & Saint John the Baptist, Ashley
and
Our Lady & Saint Werburgh, Clayton***

The parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216

Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023

[Parishes Office Hours: Wed/ Thur/Fri/Sat 10.00 am – 1 pm]

Chaplain's Office for inpatients at the Royal Stoke: 01782 676400

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**Sunday 10th September 2017
Twenty – Third Sunday of the Year
Sunday Readings Year A Weekday Readings Cycle 1**

Responsorial Psalm

**“O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts”**

Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
Consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!**

	Ashley	Clayton	Intentions
Saturday 9th September Vigil Mass for Sunday 23rd Sunday of the Year	6. 00 pm		Forgotten Holy Souls
Sunday 10th September 23rd Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Sister Rosarii The Rosary – For Peace in the World People of the parishes
Tuesday 12th September Wednesday 13th September		7.15 pm 9.30 am	Raymond and Mary Madej Ellen Mullaly, Mass followed by Adoration until 10.30 am
	6.45 pm 7.15 pm		Adoration James Unsworth
Thursday 14th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross		9.15 am	Ellen Squires
Friday 15th September		10.00 am	Deceased of the Cunningham family
Saturday 16th September Vigil Mass for Sunday 24th Sunday of the Year	6. 00 pm	10.00 am	Pat Gunn, Mass followed by Adoration until 11am People of the parishes
Sunday 17th September 24th Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 9.40 am 10. 00 am	Doctor John Kennedy The Rosary – For Peace in the World Norma Bullock

Confessions: At Clayton Saturday's 10.30 am – 11.30 am. At Ashley Saturday's 5.25pm – 5.45 pm.

Please pray for the sick and elderly of our parishes, including: Marjorie Dray, Neil Beardmore, Private Intention, Beryl Ruth, Bernard Rudd, Bill Doolan, Marie Murphy, Jessie Rowley, Philip Fradley, Barbara Jones, John Cooney, Margaret McGibbon, Vicky Anderson – Mellor, Gabriella Watts, Rita Keogh, Chris Fields, Marjorie Leese, Margaret Boden, Elizabeth Mallow, Jo Manley, Nick Goucher, Pat Merry, Father Charles Lloyd, Jean Ford, Michael Cope, Ian Watts, Bridie Gaffey, Ron Hill, Rose Owen, Joseph Lockington, Stephen Collins, Karen Blaszczyk, John, Linda O'Rourke, John Stevenson, Nell Potter, Michael Somers, Margaret Pankhurst, Tim Gibson, Holly Taylor, Mary Gregory, and all those who have asked for prayers. May the healing touch of the Lord be with them all!

North Staffs Area Pastoral Council - Station Mass: At St Joseph's Goldenhill, High Street, ST6 5RD on Wednesday 13th September at 7 pm. Celebrant Father Julian Green BA, STL. All welcome.

Parish House Group: The next meeting will be on Thursday 14th September 8pm at 29 Stockwood Road, Seabridge. All are welcome. For further information please contact Ann Tierney on 634483

Talk by Doctor Judith Champ on the Secular Priesthood in England and Wales: On Saturday 30th September at Our Lady & St Werburgh's. Starting with Mass at 10 am, with talks throughout the day. The day will end with Benediction at 2.30 pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided.

List to help with serving Tea/Coffee on the day: Please sign the list in the porch if you can help.

Clayton Day of Adoration: On Tuesday 10th October: There is a list for watching (2 people at all times please) and a list to pay for a candle in memory of a loved one. Candles £3.50 each.

Ashley Readers Rota: The updated rota is now available in the porch.

Older Children's Liturgy Group: The updated rota is now available in the porch.

Clayton Reading Rota: The updated rota is now available in the porch.

Confirmation – Friday 17th November 2017: Please can parents of any children living in the parishes who are due to be confirmed this year, and are not attending a Catholic primary school please see Father Anton to fill in the necessary form today.

Readers Sat:	09.09.17: J. Dunlevy/J. Allbutt	16.09.17: I. Thompson/V. Thompson
Readers Sun:	10.09.17: R. Hartley	J. Taylor/M. Taylor
Readers Sun:	17.09.17: K. Lycett	L. Machin/H. Carter
Counting at Clayton:	10.09.17: Tunney	Second Collection: Hagan/Pover
Counting at Clayton:	17.09.17: Myatt	Second Collection: Myatt
Counting at Ashley:	09.09.17: Paul	16.09.17: Alan
Church Cleaning at Clayton:	W/c 10.09.17: Group 1	W/c 17.09.17: Group 2
Church Cleaning at Ashley:	W/c 11.09.17: L. Mifflin/M. Kingston	18.09.17: S. & A. Sammons
Altar Flowers:	Ashley W/C 11.09.17: C. Quinlan 18.09.17: V. Door	Clayton: 17.09.17: J. Goodall 24.09.17: S. Fields
Children's Liturgy:	10.09.17: Francois	17.09.17: Judy

Diary Dates

Wed 13 th Sept	Parent and Toddler Group restarts 10 am – 11.30 am
Wed 13 th Sept	Parish Committee Meeting 8pm
Thur 14 th Sept	Over 55's Friendship Club restarts 1pm – 3pm
Sat 30 th Sept	Talk by Doctor Judith Champ at St Werburgh's
Tue 3 rd Oct	Opening Ceremony for Deanery Visitation at St Joseph's Burslem 7pm
Tue 10 th Oct	Clayton Day of Adoration
Tue 17 th Oct	Journey in Faith Restarts 8pm in the Upper Room
Sat 4 th /Sun 5 th Nov	Ashley/Clayton Deanery Visitation by Bishop David McGough
Fri 17 th Nov	Confirmation Mass at Clayton 7pm

Tea and Coffee Rota at Clayton - Volunteers Urgently Needed: Thank you very much for the response last week. We are still at least one team down. Please speak to Judy Somers or Liz Cooney if you can help. 3 people to each team.

Cleaning Rota at Clayton - Volunteers Urgently Needed: Please ring Rosalind Hartley on 01782 639421 or sign the list in the porch if you can help. The team will only need to clean once every six weeks for around an hour and a half.

St Joseph's College: Year 7 Open evening on Wednesday 13th September at 7.00 pm. See poster for further details or contact the school on 01782 848008.

Journey in Faith: Will start on Tuesday 17th October 8pm in the upper room. All welcome. Please speak to Father Anton if you need any more information.

Red Mission Boxes: Please return the contents of the mission boxes in the brown envelopes provided to Church as soon as possible please.

PARISH MISSION: Father Anton has been putting feelers out about interest in holding a mission in the parish. We are looking now at holding this in Jan / Feb 2018. We therefore need to get an organising committee together, so plan to meet in earnest on Tuesday 12th September at 8pm in the Upper Room. If you are interested in being part of this committee or wish to find out more (with no obligations attached), please do come along and join us, or if you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to be part of the committee (sorry for the short notice!) please speak to Father!

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY YEAR A

Dear Parishioners,

This week has seen a big restart in all our activities. Holiday over and schools reopened means there is a feeling that we are out of the blocks and going ahead full speed.

Only a short while ago I received notification for the Archdiocese that Parish Visitations are to take place in this area. To begin I have been asked to attend the Opening Ceremony October 3rd 7 p.m. at St Joseph's Burslem. I am required to bring a minimum of ten parish representatives along with me. If you represent any of our groups or would simply like to join me as a parish representative then please let me know. I don't want to go as "Billy No Mates." Our visitation date will be the weekend November 4/5th. The Closing Mass will be at Holy Trinity March 23rd 2018 at 7 p.m. I am looking forward to letting the Bishop know what a great bunch you are!

Also prior to the Summer Holidays I have been discussing the possibility of having a Parish Mission in the early New Year, around the end of January into early February. There has been a good deal of interest shown and so this Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Upper Room there is an open meeting, first of all to give people a general idea of what is involved and for anyone interested to join in and to set up a starter committee in regard to the various tasks that might be involved. There is no obligation by attending but we will do our best to outline what jobs will be needed done on our part.

This week September 14th Thursday is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. It is one of the special Feast Days that my Congregation of Priests and Brothers of Betharram. Please include them and their work in your prayers this week!

Finally let us keep in our prayers the people so badly affected by the storms raging in the world, for all those displaced and homes destroyed. Where an opportunity to help occurs then let us take advantage.

God bless and keep you all in his care!

Father Anton s.c.j.