



**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

Website: www.ourladyandstwerburgh.co.uk

Email: catholics.clayton@btinternet.com



**Sunday 9th September 2018
Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year
Sunday Readings Year B Weekday Readings Cycle 2**

A Prayer for Priests

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, renew all priests in their service of God

Most sacred Heart of Jesus, grant all priests patience and fortitude.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, guide all priests along the right path.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, teach us compassion and understanding for our priests.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, open our hearts to respond to our own call to your service.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, nurture vocations to the priesthood in our families, parishes and schools.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, bless the priests and the people of our parishes, and fill our hearts with your mercy.

Amen.

	Ashley	Clayton	Intentions
Saturday 8th September Vigil Mass for Sunday 23rd Sunday of the Year	6. 00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 9th September 23rd Sunday of the Year		9.40 am 10.00 am	The Rosary – for peace in the world Patrick Eustace
Tuesday 11th September		7.15 pm	Private Intention
Wednesday 12th September		9.30 am	No Intention, Mass followed by Adoration until 10.30 am
	6.45 pm 7.15 pm		Adoration Patch Davies
Thursday 13th September		9.15 am 6.30 pm	Mary Walsh Divine Office
Friday 14th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross		10.00 am	Private Intention
Saturday 15th September		10.00 am	Raymond and Mary Madej, Mass followed by Adoration until 11 am
Vigil Mass for Sunday 24th Sunday of the Year	6.00 pm		Molly and James Downey
Sunday 16th September Vigil Mass for Sunday 24th Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	People of the Parishes The Rosary – for peace in the world Norma Bullock

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

Please pray for the sick and elderly of our parishes and all those who have asked for prayers. May the healing touch of the Lord be with them all!

Joint Mass and Picnic at St Werburgh's: On Sunday 9th September at St Werburgh's. Mass will be at 10am followed by a picnic in the parish grounds. There will be a BBQ, bouncy castle, rounders and a tug of war competition! The bar will also be open. Please bring a rug and enjoy!

Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Newcastle, invites you to join them for a Prayer Vigil for the Care of Creation followed by the film "Global Healing": On Tuesday 18th September 2018 at 7pm. This event is part of our observance of Creation Time; 1st September to 4th October. For further information contact Phil Mayland on 01782 660229.

Healing Mass: On Tuesday 25th September 2018 at Holy Trinity, Newcastle at 2.00 pm. Refreshments in the parish centre after Mass.

Red Mission Boxes: Please return the contents of the boxes in the brown envelopes provided to Church.

Ashley Readers Rota: The updated rota is now available.

Clayton Readers Rota: The updated rota is now available to collect from the porch.

Piety Stall. 2019 Catholic diaries are now on sale.

Parish Sick List: If your name or the name of a friend or relative of yours is on the parish list of prayers for those who are sick, and you would like that name to remain on the list, would you please contact Mrs Sharon Bunting in the parish office, to fill in a consent form.
The list will be restarted in the next few weeks with the names of all for whom the parish have consent. This is necessary to make sure the church takes proper care of your information and complies with current data protection law.

Readers Sat:	08.09.18: H. Brown/C. Byrne	15.09.18: S. Mckenna/B. Bromfield
Reading at Clayton:	09.09.18: M. Lycett	J. Somers/M. Taylor
Reading at Clayton:	16.09.18: K. Lycett	R. Gallimore/M. Larkin
Counting at Clayton:	09.09.18: Walker	Second Collection: Hagan/Pover
Counting at Clayton:	16.09.18: Carter/Waters	Second Collection: Hagan/Pover
Counting at Ashley	08.09.18: Stuart	15.09.18: Alan
Church Cleaning at Clayton:	W/c 09.09.18: Group 5	W/c 16.09.18: Group 6 & 6b
Church Cleaning at Ashley:	W/c 10.09.18: V. Door/C. Quinlan	W/c 17.09.18: D. Dutton/P. Hartley
Altar Flowers:	Ashley: W/c 10/09.18: S. Urquhart W/c 17/09/18: D. Dutton	Clayton: 16.09.18: J. Goodall Clayton: 23.09.18: R. Hartley
Children's Liturgy	09.09.18: Francois	16.09.18: Judy

Diary Dates

Sun 9 th Sept	Joint Mass and Picnic at St Werburgh's
Wed 12 th Sept	Baby and Toddler Group 9.30am – 11.00 am
Thur 13 th Sept	Over 55's Friendship Club 1pm – 3pm.
Tue 2 nd Oct	First Session of Journey in Faith 8pm in the upper room
Tue 16 th Oct	Clayton Day of Adoration
Wed 17 th Oct	Parish Committee Meeting 8pm

North Staffordshire Vocation Promotions Group – Chalice Programme: During the next two years a specially blessed prayer chalice will travel to each parish within our deanery. We hope this will assist you in your prayers for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life. We will receive the chalice in October 2018 for our two parishes.

Pilgrimage of the Sick to the Diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Hednesford: There will be a Pilgrimage led by Bishop Robert Byrne for all those who are sick, their families and carers, Chaplains and Chaplaincy Volunteers and Healthcare Workers and Volunteers. To take place at 3 pm on Sunday 16th September at the Diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Hednesford.

Directions: Hednesford is near Cannock, a couple of miles off Junction 11 of the M6 and Junction T7 of the Toll Road. Follow signs to Hednesford and Rugeley A460. Train Service from New Street, Birmingham to Hednesford. The Church and Shrine is on Uxbridge Street on the A460, WS12 1DB. For further information contact: Fr Jeremy Howard, 01543 422576 or email lol.hednesford@gmail.com

Our Lady & St Benedict Church, Abbey Hulton: An invitation to any former parishioners, members of staff and pupils of the school to a Mass marking the 80th Anniversary of foundation as a parish community and opening of the school. On Saturday 22nd September 12 noon. Prior to the Mass the rosary will be said in the school hall at 11.30 am. The Mass will also celebrate the 25th anniversary of ordination of Father Adrian MacNamara.

Church Cleaning at Clayton: We urgently need 2 people to join one of the cleaning teams. Your team will only need to clean once every 6 weeks. Please speak to Rosalind Hartley on 01782 639421 or Sharon Bunting in the parish office if you are able to help.

Journey in Faith: The first session for Journey in Faith will be on Tuesday 2nd October at 8pm in the upper room at St Werburgh's. For further information contact the parish office on 01782 613023.

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR B

HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Father Paul McNally at Holy Trinity in Newcastle has given me permission to use part of the statement he made in his newsletter last week. I am using it so that we might have some consistency in regard to the second paragraph, which has some fundamental implications.

“The Catholic Education system in this country is very successful, not just in the academic progress of its pupils but also in the pastoral, spiritual and all round holistic manner in which our children are helped to grow and to flourish. There are those in our country who continue to attack ‘Faith Schools’ claiming that they are divisive and sectarian and so undermine society as a whole. That has never been my experience of Catholic schools, if anything the Catholic ethos is about forming young people to be open and to respect all people, from whatever background and to see how they can serve the Common Good. Please put people right who may say otherwise!”

St Joseph’s College Admissions: *As from September 2019, the admissions process for St Joseph’s is changing, i.e. for those applying during the Academic Year 2018-19. Every Catholic child applying for a place will be asked to produce a ‘Certificate of Catholic Practice’, this their parents will have to obtain from their Parish Priest. The guidelines from the Bishops of England & Wales state that the Certificate can only be given if the child and their family regularly attend Sunday Mass (attendance once a month or once a fortnight is regarded as being insufficient). Please do not ask for such a Certificate if you cannot meet the criteria. God bless you all, Fr Paul”*

I realise that this may come as a surprise to some families, but please understand that it has been agreed at a high level of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. The same principles have to apply to the issuing of all certificates. The requirements of the Church that Catholic families attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days has not changed. I will endeavour to work with any Catholic family in our parish but please understand the responsibility and the authority of the Parish Priest, and the rules by which we are bound.

God bless, ***Father Anton s.c.j.***