



***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](http://www.ourladyandstwerburgh.co.uk)

Email: [catholics.clayton@btinternet.com](mailto:catholics.clayton@btinternet.com)



**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
(Mothering Sunday)  
Sunday Readings Year B Weekday Readings Cycle 1**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**“O let my tongue cleave to my mouth  
if I remember you not!”**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ!  
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son;  
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

***Mission Prayer***

***Father, pour your Spirit upon the people of these parishes. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new consecration to your service, so that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

|   | Ashley             | Clayton                                   | Intentions  |
|---|--------------------|---|---|
| <b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b><br><b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b> | 6. 00 pm           |   | People of the Parishes  |
| <b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b><br><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>                                   | 4. 00 pm           | 8.15 am<br>9.40 am<br>10.00 am            | Dennis Austin and deceased of the Austin families<br>The Rosary – for peace in the world<br>Susan Burke<br>Stations of the Cross                |
| <b>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | 6.45 pm<br>7.15 pm | 9.30 am                                   | No Intention, Mass followed by Adoration until 10.30 am<br>Adoration<br>Nicholas Heath  |
| <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>   |                    | 9.15 am<br><b>6.30 pm</b>                 | Holy Souls<br>Vespers with Adoration  |
| <b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March</b>   |                    | 10.00 am                                  | Bob Hedges  |
| <b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b><br><b>Feast of St Patrick</b>   |                    | 10.00 am                                  | The Myatt and Gillard Families, Mass followed by Adoration until 11 am  |
| <b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b><br><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>  | 6. 00 pm           |   | Vincent and Caroline Capper   |
| <b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b><br><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>                                   |                    | 8.15 am<br>9.40 am<br>10.00 am<br>4.00 pm | People of the Parishes<br>The Rosary – for peace in the world<br>Intentions of the Members of the Catenian Association<br>Stations of the Cross |

**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: Paul Day, Michael Devaney, Kathleen Rouffet, Marjorie Dray, Neil Beardmore, Private Intention, Bernard Rudd, Bill Doolan, Marie Murphy, Jessie Rowley, Philip Fradley, Barbara Jones, John Cooney, 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, John, Linda O'Rourke, John Stevenson, 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!

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lily Emery, and remember her family and friends in your prayers.

Please pray for Chardia and Chaddie Topping; they are to be baptised on Sunday.

**Dementia Prayer Week – 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March:** Please keep in your prayers those who are suffering with dementia, and especially for all those who care for them. For more information [www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk](http://www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk)

**Taize:** A Talk by Brother John from Taize, France and DVD presentation at Saint Teresa of the Child Jesus Trent Vale this Sunday 11th March at 7.30pm.  
Tea and coffee available after in the meeting room. Everyone welcome.

**Lenten Appeal – WaterAid:** Please collect your loose change throughout Lent and donate to WaterAid.

**Ecumenical Lent Course at St John the Baptist Anglican Church Ashley:** On Tuesday's at 2pm during Lent. For further information contact Reverend Roger Legge on 01630 672766.

**Workshops for Catechists, Children's Liturgy leaders, and anyone who is interested:**

You are invited to the first of a series of practical workshops which will be held on **Tuesday 13th March**, in St. Thomas More Catholic Academy, Longton Hall Road, ST3 2NJ from 7pm -9pm. The first workshop will look at **Children's Liturgy of the Word**. Guaranteed ideas and resources!! For further details and dates of other events see poster in Church and/or contact Sr Gillian [parishesMV@maryvale.ac.uk](mailto:parishesMV@maryvale.ac.uk)

|                                   |   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Readers Sat:</b>               | <b>10.03.18:</b> M. Hartley/J. Allbutt  | <b>17.03.18:</b> C. Byrne/E. Mifflin      |
| <b>Readers at Clayton:</b>        | <b>11.03.18:</b> A. Carter              | J. Taylor/M. Taylor                       |
| <b>Readers at Clayton:</b>        | <b>18.03.18:</b> S. Sammons             | L. Machin/H.Carter                        |
| <b>Counting at Clayton:</b>       | <b>11.03.18:</b> Walker                 |   |
| <b>Counting at Clayton:</b>       | <b>18.03.18:</b> Tunney                 | <b>Second Collection:</b> Hagan/Pover     |
| <b>Counting at Ashley:</b>        | <b>10.03.18:</b> Alan                   | <b>17.03.18:</b> Peter                    |
| <b>Church Cleaning Clayton:</b>   | <b>W/c 11.03.18:</b> Group 3            | <b>W/c 18.03.18:</b> Group 4              |
| <b>Church Cleaning at Ashley:</b> | <b>W/C 12.03.18:</b> V. Door/C. Quinlan | <b>W/C 19.03.18:</b> D. Dutton/P. Hartley |
| <b>Children's Liturgy:</b>        | <b>11.03.18:</b> Francois               | <b>18.03.18:</b> Judy                     |

### Diary Dates

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> March  | Journey in Faith 8pm                                       |
| Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> March  | Parent and Toddler Group 10 am – 11.30 am                  |
| Thur 15 <sup>th</sup> March | Over 55's Friendship Club 1pm – 3pm                        |
| Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> March  | Parish Committee Meeting 8pm                               |
| Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> March  | Lenten Reconciliation Service at Clayton 7.00 pm           |
| Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> April  | St Werburgh Parish AGM after 10 am Mass in the Parish Hall |

**DEANERY VISITATION CLOSING MASS:** On FRIDAY 23rd MARCH 7pm at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Newcastle-under-Lyme. All welcome.

**Marriage Care:** Marriage Care in North Staffordshire is looking for volunteers to train as marriage preparation facilitators locally. We are holding an information evening at St Gregory's Meeting Room, Longton on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm if you would like to know more about the role and what it involves. Otherwise please visit: [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk)

**Red Mission Boxes:** Please return the contents of the red boxes in the brown envelopes provided back to Church during March.

**Gift Aid Envelopes at Clayton:** Envelopes for the coming year are now available in the porch. If you do not already Gift Aid your weekly donation, but would like to do so please contact the parish office for a form.

**Lenten Prayer and Reflection Group:** At Coolock Pastoral Centre 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm on 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March. For further information contact Phil Mayland on 01782 660229.

**After the Mission - What next?** On Thursday 26th April, again following Evening Prayer, Karen from Sion, will be leading a Post Mission session to help us to consolidate what the Mission meant for us as a Parish and where it might lead us to next. - All very welcome.

**Potteries Theological Society:** The next meeting will be at 7pm on **Monday 12th March** in Room CM 0.12 in the Moser Building, Keele University. The **Revd Cathy Dakin**, the Regional Chaplaincy Advisor of Methodist Homes, will be speaking to us on the subject of the pastoral and theological challenges posed by dementia.

**Mass of the Lord's Supper - Lists for Washing of Feet and Watching until Midnight:** On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 pm at St Werburgh's. Lists available in the porch.

# LAETARE

(FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we celebrate the Mid-Point of the Season of Lent. It is considered a time when we take a short break from Lenten practices and open the Mass today with the words, "Rejoice Jerusalem.....be joyful all who were in mourning" Isaiah Chapter 66. Laetare Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, takes its name from the Latin word which begins the entrance antiphon (introit) for that day. *Laetare* means *rejoice*, and this Sunday is marked by a relaxation of the penitential character of the Lenten season. In church, flowers may be used to adorn the altar on this day, and the organ may be played more fully.

Of course it is also Mothering Sunday, so we offer our Congratulations and Prayers for all our mothers, those here with us today and also those who have gone to the Lord and live in eternal life! I am sure all gentlemen here today will have made their preparations and of course do the coffee and washing up after the 10 a.m. Mass at Clayton.

This week we also offer our Congratulations to Year Three in Saint Werburgh's School; on Thursday they made their First Confession and received the First Sacramental Forgiveness. As a finale all the sins committed privately to paper were placed on a small fire and set alight to symbolise the complete and utter forgiveness that God practices on those who are truly repentant. Thank you also to School Staff who gave up their evening to ensure a joyful and fulfilling celebration of the Sacrament.

During the week the Diocesan Office along with the Kenelm Youth Trust offered an invitation to young adults between the ages of 16 and 29 to join them for a think tank at St Teresa's at Trent Vale, Thursday evening March 15<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m. They wish your thoughts in preparation of the October Synod on the family. Why not go and make your voice heard as the Holy Father wishes the church to listen to your opinions!?

Please keep in your prayers Bernard Rudd and Paul Day who are very poorly at this moment in time. Remember also Lily Emery who died last week, also keep her family in your prayers.

May the journey through Lent be joyful as we rest this  
Laetare Sunday!

God bless and keep you in his care!

**Father Anton s.c.j.**

