



***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 25th March 2018
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Sunday Readings Year B Weekday Readings Cycle 1**

Responsorial Psalm

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Gospel Acclamation

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory:
Christ was humbler yet,
even to accepting death, death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name which is above all names.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.”**

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
Saturday 24th March Vigil Mass for Sunday Palm Sunday of The Passion of the Lord	6. 00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 25th March Palm Sunday of The Passion of the Lord	4.00 pm	8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Michael Riley The Rosary – for peace in the world Phillippa Darby (nee Stokes) Stations of the Cross
Monday 26th March		6. 00 pm	Reception for Lily Emery
Tuesday 27th March		11.30 am 7.00 pm	Requiem Mass for Lily Emery Reconciliation Service with Confessions
Wednesday 28th March	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	12.30 pm	Requiem Mass for Bernard Rudd Adoration Sheila Fawcett
Thursday 29th March Mass of the Lord's Supper		9.15 am 7.30 pm	The Pankhurst family Amelia Chudyk
Friday 30th March Good Friday	7.30 pm	12 Noon 3.00 pm 5.30 pm	Stations of the Cross for Children Solemn Liturgy Ecumenical Walk of Witness starting from Our Lady & St Werburgh's to St Luke's, Clayton Ecumenical Walk of Witness starting at Our Lady & St John the Baptist Catholic Church, Ashley
Saturday 31st March Holy Saturday		10.00 am 8. 00 pm	Morning Prayer Easter Vigil – Jack Baynes
Sunday 1st April Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord	9.30 am	11. 00 am	People of the Parishes Pat and Allen Cattell

Confessions: At Clayton Holy Saturday 10.30 am – 11.30 am.

Please pray for the sick and elderly of our parishes, including: Paul Day, Michael Devaney, Kathleen Rouffet, Marjorie Dray, Neil Beardmore, Private Intention, 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. Reception into Our Lady & St Werburgh's on Monday 26th March at 6.00 pm. Requiem Mass on Tuesday 27th March at 11.30 am.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Bernard Rudd, and keep his family and friends in your prayers. Requiem Mass at Our Lady & St Werburgh's on Wednesday 28th March at 12.30 pm.

St John's C of E Church Ashley – Rehearsal for Choir: On Sunday 25th March 4 pm for the the Ecumenical Good Friday Service.

Last Supper Event for Children: Will be held on Thursday 29th March at 6pm in the Upper Room. Contact Mary Huckfield (07947053154) for details.

Good Friday - Stations of the Cross for Children: At St Werburgh's 12 noon. All very welcome.

Readers Sat:	24.03.18: I. Thompson/V. Thompson	Sun 01.04.18: (9.30 am) M. Hartley/L. Mifflin
Readers at Clayton:	25.03.18: E. Hothersall	R. Gallimore/M. Larkin
Readers at Clayton:	01.04.18: (11 am)	S. Rowe/M. Anderson
Counting at Clayton:	25.03.18: Carter/Waters	
Counting at Clayton:	30.03.18: Hagan/Pover	
Counting at Clayton:	01.04.18: Samarasinha	Second Collection: Hagan/Pover
Counting at Ashley:	24.03.18: Stuart	01.04.18: Easter Offerings
Church Cleaning Clayton:	W/c 25.03.18: Group 5 (for Easter)	W/c 01.04.18: Group 6 & 6b
Church Cleaning at Ashley:	W/C 26.03.18: L. Mifflin/M. Kingston	W/C 02.04.18: S. & A. Sammons
Altar Flowers: 01.04.18:	Ashley: All Helpers	Clayton: All Helpers
Children's Liturgy:	25.03.18: Martin	1st – 15th April: Easter Holiday

Diary Dates

Wed 28 th March	Parent and Toddler Group 10 am – 11.30 am
Sun 22 nd April	St Werburgh Parish AGM after 10 am Mass in the Parish Hall
Wed 25 th April	Parish Committee Meeting 8pm
Sun 29 th April	First Holy Communion Preparation Mass
Thur 17 th May	Third Parents' Meeting for First Holy Communion Children 7pm in the school hall

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

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.

A Date for your Diary - After the Mission - What next? On Thursday 26th April, again following Evening Prayer at 6.30pm 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.

Easter Monday Men's Mass: At Sacred Heart, Tunstall at 10.00 am. All welcome.

North Staffs Area Pastoral Council – Training/Awareness sessions for parish readers: At St Teresa's, Trent Vale on Tuesday 17th April and Tuesday 24th April 8.00 pm – 9.00 pm. **You will only be required to attend one session.**

A St Thomas Aquinas Study Weekend: At St Dominic's Convent, Station Road, Stone. April 13 – 15 2018. Please see poster for further details.

Clayton Tea and Coffee Rota: The updated rota is now available in the porch.

Mass of the Lord's Supper - Lists for Washing of Feet and Watching until Midnight: On Thursday 29th March 7.30 pm at St Werburgh's. Please sign the lists in the porch.

PALM SUNDAY 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate **Palm Sunday**, sometimes known as **Passion Sunday**. It is the beginning of **Holy Week** and it celebrates the triumphant arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem. Holy Week has many events! On Tuesday evening we have our **penitential service**, a chance to re-commit deeply to the life of the church and our faith in Jesus. **Maundy Thursday** begins the **Triduum** (the three event celebration) with the Celebration of the Last Supper (the gift of our Mass), the Washing of Feet and the Birthday of the Priesthood. **Good Friday** marks the death of Jesus when there can be no Masses, no weddings, no funerals in church. The Lord has died and the main event of the day is the **Passion of Our Lord at 3 p.m.** the hour that he died. **On Holy Saturday night** we celebrate the **Vigil of the Easter Resurrection** when we recognise the Rising of Christ and the Church coming back to life. We start with our bonfire outside from which we all take a light and enter into the dark church which we gradually illuminate and celebrate the wonderful day of the Resurrection of the Lord.

To celebrate well we need **as many servers as possible**. The Triduum is the most special time for those who serve and I ask Mums and Dads to do their best to free up their children to serve at as many of these main services as possible. It is a very special witness of our parish community. This is the time that they are most needed.

Almost as a herald to Holy Week last Friday we celebrated the closing of the **Deanery Visitation**. The Archbishop, along with Bishop David and Monsignor Tim Menezes spoke to the assembled after Mass in Holy Trinity Hall and gave thanks for all the work, commitment and support that has been given to the parishes in the area.

If you wake up a little bemused this weekend perhaps it is because you did not realise that the clocks were due to go forward Sat/Sun this weekend. At least it is a sign that summer is on its way – eventually!

May I once more ask your prayers for Lily Emery and Bernard Rudd whose funerals also take place this week! Please keep their family and friends in your prayers as well!

May we all have a blessed and happy Holy Week! May our hearts be filled with joy and happiness that our faith gives us vision, hope and joy!

God bless and care for you all!

Father Anton s.c.j.