



**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 4th March 2018

Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday Readings Year B Weekday Readings Cycle 1

Responsorial Psalm

“You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.”

Gospel Acclamation

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,
whoever believes in me will never die.
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 3rd March Vigil Mass for Sunday 3rd Sunday of Lent	6. 00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 4th March 3rd Sunday of Lent		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am 4. 00 pm	Bill Anyon The Rosary – for peace in the world Matthew Whitehurst Stations of the Cross
Tuesday 6th March		7.15 pm	Margaret Gillen
Wednesday 7th March		9.30 am	Donald Alexander Gunn, Mass followed by Adoration until 10.30 am
Thursday 8th March		9.15 am 6.15 pm 7. 00 pm	Pat and Margaret Pankhurst Vespers with Adoration First Forgiveness for First Holy Communion Children
Friday 9th March		10.00 am	Deceased members of the Akers and Sammons families
Saturday 10th March Vigil Mass for Sunday 4th Sunday of Lent	6. 00 pm	10.00 am	No Intention, Mass followed by Adoration until 11 am People of the Parishes
Sunday 11th March 4th Sunday of Lent	4. 00 pm	8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Dennis Austin and deceased of the Austin families The Rosary – for peace in the world Susan Burke 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, Lily Emery, 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 Note at Ashley: There will be no Mass on Wednesday evening.

Mother's Day: Male volunteers are required to serve tea and coffee on Sunday 11th March after 10 am Mass. Please sign the list in the porch if you can help.

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

North Staffs Area Pastoral Council: Evening of training and reflection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. On Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 7.30 pm at Holy Trinity Church, Newcastle.

Lenten Prayer and Reflection Group: At Coolock Pastoral Centre 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm on 5th, 13th and 20th March. For further information contact Phil Mayland on 01782 660229.

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

Readers Sat:	03.03.18: J. Dunlevy/S. Mckenna	10.03.18: M. Hartley/J. Allbutt
Readers Sun:	04.03.18: K. Lycett	J. Somers/M. Hughes
Counting at Clayton:	11.03.18: A. Carter	J. Taylor/M. Taylor
Counting at Clayton:	04.03.18: Myatt	Second Collection: Myatt
Counting at Clayton:	11.03.18: Walker	
Counting at Ashley:	03.03.18: Bernard	10.03.18: Alan
Church Cleaning Clayton:	W/c 04.03.18: Group 2	W/c 12.03.18: Group 3
Church Cleaning at Ashley:	W/C 05.03.18: S. Urquhart/M. Heath	W/C 12.03.18: V. Door/C. Quinlan
Children's Liturgy:	04.03.18: Peter	11.03.18: Francois

Diary Dates

Tue 6 th March	Journey in Faith 8pm
Wed 7 th March	Parent and Toddler Group 10 am – 11.30 am
Thur 8 th March	Over 55's Friendship Club 1pm – 3pm
Sun 22 nd 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 11th at 7pm if you would like to know more about the role and what it involves. Otherwise please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email 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.

North Staffs Deanery 24 hours for the Lord

Friday 9th March - St Gregory's Longton
7.30- 9.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions available

Saturday 10th March St Gregory's Longton
10.00 Until 12noon Exposition Confessions 13-30 - 11.30

Saturday 10th March Holy Trinity Newcastle
10.30 - 1pm Exposition Confessions 11.30-1pm

Saturday 10th March St Joseph's Goldenhill 1pm – 4pm Exposition & Confessions.

After the Mission - What next? Following our recent Parish Mission, the Sion team would like some feedback. On the benches this week you will find an evaluation form. Please take a few minutes to complete this and leave in the box at the back of Church.
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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

Dear Parishioners,

We celebrate the Third Sunday of Lent as we accompany the Lord Jesus in his time of preparation for the Holy Triduum, the three very important celebration days in the life of the Church. We look to Maundy Thursday when Jesus gives us the gift of the Mass at the Last Supper. From there he goes to his crucifixion on Good Friday, offering himself entirely to death as the Son of God to show us the greatness of his love for humanity. Then on Easter Saturday/Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord as he brings us new life, the promise of the gateway to eternal life.

Next weekend it will be Laetare Sunday, the half way mark to Easter. It is a day of rejoicing and refreshment part way through the journey. It is also known as Rose Sunday because of the custom the early Popes had of sending a golden rose to the major rulers of the day. Let us rejoice in the fact that we are approaching the promise of life eternal fulfilled in the loving relationship with our creator.

This week we are encouraged to pray for all those who are seeking their way to the Lord Jesus, those undergoing instruction, those seeking a closer relationship with the Lord Jesus and his Body the Church of Christ on earth. "Let our hearts be broken, not our garments torn!"

We keep the sick and housebound in our thoughts and prayers, especially during this very cold weather. We pray for all hospital staff and social workers who care for them and give thanks for their generosity in service, especially to our most vulnerable in society.

Please keep in your prayers Bernard Rudd, Paul Day and Lily Emery who are very ill at this moment in time! Remember that you can offer additional prayers by attending the Stations of the Cross on Sunday 4 p.m. and also Thursday evening Divine Office and Adoration (at the slightly earlier time of 6.15 p.m.). Children's First Forgiveness follows at 7 p.m. that evening!

God bless and keep you all safe in his care!

Fr Anton s.c.j.