

***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 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
The Epiphany of the Lord  
Sunday Readings Year C Weekday Readings Cycle  
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***MISSION PRAYER***

Father, pour your Spirit upon the people of these two 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. Through Christ our Lord, Amen

	Ashley	Clayton	Intentions
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b> <b>Solemnity of the Epiphany</b> <b>of the Lord</b>	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Solemnity of the Epiphany</b> <b>of the Lord</b>		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Frank Brown The Rosary – for peace in the world Edward Gillen
<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b>		7.15 pm	Holy Souls
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	9.30 am	(No intention) Mass followed by Adoration until 10.30 am  Adoration Margaret Bromfield
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January</b>		9.15 am 6.30 pm	Forgotten Holy Souls Divine Office
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January</b>		10.00 am	Rest of the soul of Paul Farrel
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b>		10.00 am	John Grannell, Mass followed by Adoration until 11 am
<b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b> <b>Feast of the Baptism of the</b> <b>Lord</b>	6.00 pm		The Bester family
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b> <b>Feast of the Baptism of the</b> <b>Lord</b>		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Harry Gillard The Rosary – for peace in the world People of the Parishes

**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! Including: Geoff Totten, Margaret Boden, Mary Gregory, Michael Somers and Kathleen Rouffet.

**Epiphany Event for Children at St Werburgh's:** On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 4.30 pm. Crafts and a lantern parade. For more information please contact Mary 07947053154.

**Father Hudson's Care Crib Appeal:** All donations taken at the cribs will be passed on to Father Hudson's Care.

**Counting Rota at Clayton:** The rota for 2019 is now available in the porch. Please can all members of counting teams pick up a rota.

**Revised Reading Rota at Clayton:** Please can all readers collect an amended rota from the back of the Church. **(please disregard the one from last week)**

**Clayton Flower Rota:** The new rota for 2019 is available in the porch.

**First Holy Communion Preparation:** Please can parents of any children due to make their First Holy Communion in June who are not attending a Catholic Primary school, and attend Our Lady and St Werburgh/Our Lady & St John the Baptist parishes contact the parish office to fill in the relevant form.

**Archdiocese of Birmingham Directory 2019:** On sale at the piety stall £2.75.

**Ashley Parish:** Please send your money in an envelope marked with your name with Father Anton if you would like a directory.

**Catholic Diaries:** On sale at the Piety stall.

**North Staffs Deanery Vocations Mass:** On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Trent Vale at 7.00 pm. Principal celebrant Father Michael Glover. All welcome.

<b>Readers Sat:</b>	<b>05.01.19:</b> L. Mifflin/J. Allbutt	<b>12.01.19:</b> J. Dunlevy/M. Hartley
<b>Reading at Clayton:</b>	<b>06.01.19:</b> S. Sammons	R. Gallimore/M. Larkin
<b>Reading at Clayton:</b>	<b>13.01.19:</b> E. Hothersall	L. Machin/H. Carter
<b>Counting at Clayton:</b>	<b>06.01.19:</b> Walker	
<b>Counting at Clayton:</b>	<b>13.01.19:</b> Grannell	
<b>Counting at Ashley</b>	<b>05.01.19:</b> Stuart	<b>12.01.19:</b> Paul
<b>Church Cleaning at Clayton:</b>	<b>W/c 06.01.19:</b> Group 4	<b>W/c 13.01.19:</b> Group 5
<b>Church Cleaning at Ashley:</b>	<b>W/c 07.01.19:</b> B. Bromfield	<b>W/c 14.01.19:</b> S. Urquhart/M. Heath
<b>Altar Flowers:</b>	<b>Ashley:</b> <b>W/C 7.01.19:</b> S. Urquhart <b>14.01.19:</b> D. Dutton	<b>Clayton:</b> <b>13.01.19:</b> S. Walker <b>20.01.19:</b> C. Pover
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	<b>06.01.19:</b> Martin	<b>13.01.19:</b> Sue

### Diary Dates

Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Coffee Served at the Gatehouse Pub after 10 am Mass
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Senior Citizens' Christmas Party 3.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Tue 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Journey in Faith 8pm
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Baby and Toddler Group Restart 9.30am – 11am
Thur 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Over 55's Friendship Club Restart 1 pm – 3pm
Thur 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	First Parents' Meeting for First Holy Communion Children 7pm in the school hall
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Commitment Mass for First Holy Communion Children 10 am
Thur 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Second Parents' Meeting for First Holy Communion Children 7pm in the school hall

**LinkLine Fundraiser:** To all former pupils of St Joseph's College, Trent Vale – Giant pub games evening in aid of North Staffs LinkLine on Saturday 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2019. For details contact either **Gerard Whitehurst 07966 015221 gerard@gmg-associates.co.uk** or **Nick Bridgewater 07702 410687 nick.bridgewater@hotmail.com**

**Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage:** To be celebrated by His Grace, Archbishop Bernard, on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 11am at St Chad's Cathedral. We are encouraging couples who will be celebrating a particular milestone anniversary (10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 45, 50, 60 and every year over 60) to attend as well as those newly married or preparing to marry in 2019.

If you know of any couples celebrating a milestone anniversary please ask them to contact Lianne Pap via email – [lianne.pap@rc-birmingham.org](mailto:lianne.pap@rc-birmingham.org) marking the email 'Marriage Mass'.

I am also trying to find the longest married couple in the Diocese and the Communications Team will be interviewing couples who get in touch to gather testimonies.

To date the longest married couple to get in touch is 62 years.

**Potteries Theological Society:** The next meeting will be on Monday 21st January at 7pm in the Chancellor's Building at Keele. The room we are using is CBA 0.060, which is on the ground floor near the Comus restaurant.  
The Rev Philip Swan is talking to us on the subject "Back to the Future: the Community of St Chad and the new monasticism". This is the first of our meetings on the theme of "New ways of being Church".

## THE EPIPHANY YEAR C

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As this weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, may I wish you all a Blessed, Holy and Happy New Year. As we begin 2019 may it be a time of renewal both in faith and the disciplines of life itself.

May I also take this opportunity to say a big thank you for all the gifts, cards and kindnesses given me over Christmas! Along with that I wish to thank you for all the help and support throughout the year. We rejoice in the family of our parishes and the church throughout the world. May the message of Christ in all its fullness reach deeply into our hearts and minds!

As we celebrate the visit of the Magi, the three wise men, may our minds and hearts become that little bit wiser. Let us try and avoid the pitfalls in life as the Magi avoided the threat of Herod so that good may flourish and the message of our saviour be safely delivered to the world.

A little sad news for this time of the year. The previous Vicar of Ashley, Rev Jonathon Eades passed away earlier this week. He will be remembered as a gentle and devote minister to his flock and to all those who knew him. He was particularly welcoming to me on my arrival and an excellent person to work with. His family are having a quiet service and are planning Memorial Service sometime in the spring at Rugeley. I hope to be able to attend along with anyone else who may be free to go along as well.

For most of us it is time to return to work or see the children off to school again. Let us give thanks for all the good possibilities that we have as people in this country. Let us pray for our country so that the Brexit debate eventually brings the best out of us and not close us off from the needs of the world and those around us. May the love of Christ at Christmas grow in our hearts and give us the joyous energy of love and goodness.

A Very Happy and Blessed New Year to you all!

God bless,

Father Anton s.c.j.