

People of the Word: Isaiah

Over the last fortnight we've met the great prophet **Elijah** and his successor **Elisha**. There were many other great prophets to follow, among them **Isaiah**, whose book has been called 'the fifth Gospel'.

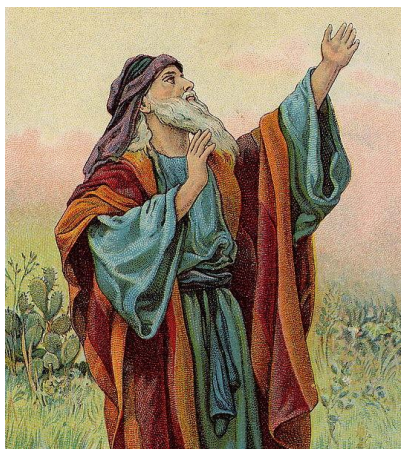
Isaiah was born around 765BC and prophesied for around 40 years. We read of his call in chapter 6 of his book, when he also has the famous vision from which we get the words of the Sanctus: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts".

Of all the prophets, Isaiah is the one who speaks most clearly of Christ and the salvation He will bring. We read great prophecies that God will send the Messiah (Isaiah 11 and 61); we read that a virgin will conceive and bear a Son (7:14) whom they will call 'Emmanuel'. He speaks of how, on a mountain (the hill of Calvary) God will "destroy death for ever" (25:8). The book of Isaiah is so filled with hope that it is often heard in Advent, the great season of Christian hope.

Perhaps the most famous parts of Isaiah speak of Christ as the "suffering servant" of God. These passages powerfully foretell the Passion and death of our Lord: "Ours were the sufferings He bore; ours the sorrows He carried... By His wounds we are healed" (Isaiah 53:4-5).

Questions for reflection:

- What place does hope have in my life? Do I allow my faith in God to give me hope, even when life is hard?
- God makes many promises to us. Where do I see them fulfilled in my life?



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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter Week 4; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: year 2, week 12

Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel. All information and links at www.saintclares.co.uk

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Sunday 14 th June	10am	Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Special Intention (Steve)
Monday	10am	St John Fisher and St Thomas More	Deacon Jim Maguire: Silver Jubilee
Tuesday	10am		Bob Barron RIP
Wednesday	10am	Nativity of St John the Baptist	Mary O'Gara RIP
Thursday	10am	Our Lady of Fernyhalgh	People of the Parish
Friday	10am		Jim Nelson RIP
Saturday	10am		Ann Simpson RIP
Sunday 21 st June	10am	Saints Peter and Paul	People of the Parish

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Mary O'Gara, Irene McEvoy** and all who have died recently.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: Sung Vespers and Benediction streamed live on our YouTube channel on Sunday at 4:30pm.

ROSARY: Prayed after 10am Mass, Monday-Friday.

ANNIVERSARIES: Bill Byrne, Mary Morgan, Monica Sharpe, Patrick Mullen.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JUNE: That all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

Supporting your parish financially during the lockdown

Many people have asked how they can contribute to the parish financially at a time when almost all parish income has dried up. If you are still earning and able to contribute, you can save up offertory envelopes until the lockdown ends. Some people have asked for details of how to donate by standing order/BACS. Contact us directly for details. If you don't use online banking, we can send you a mandate which you can fill in and post to your bank. Thank you for thinking of us at this time, but please only contribute if you are able.

Father Andrew's weekly message

Dear Friends,

It has been such a joy this week to see people back in the church for private prayer in the Lord's presence. There is something very beautiful about being in the company of others who are praying, even if, for the time being, our prayer before the Lord must be individual. I know that many of you have longed just to set foot in the church again, and it's great to see you back where you belong.

In normal circumstances we would be receiving a visit from Bishop Paul today. He was due to come this evening to administer the sacrament of Confirmation to 22 of our young people. We will remember them in prayer at Mass today; please pray for them and their families in the weeks and months ahead.

This Thursday is the feast of Our Lady of Fernyhalgh, whose shrine is at Ladyewell, just a short distance from our church. On Thursday evening we will make a virtual pilgrimage on our YouTube channel at 7pm. Join us in prayer if you are able.

Finally, congratulations to Deacon Jim Maguire from our neighbouring parish, St Gregory's, who celebrates his Silver Jubilee of ordination today. Ad multos annos! I hope you all have a good week. God bless you all, Fr Andrew.

OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER: Please see back page for details of opening times.

VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LADYEWELL: This Thursday at 7pm on our YouTube channel, to mark the feast of Our Lady of Fernyhalgh. Pay a 'visit' to her shrine!

EXPLORING PHILIPPIANS: A new group starting on Tuesday 30th June and running for four weeks on Zoom (see back page). Each week we will explore a chapter of St Paul's letter to the Philippians, with some input from Fr Andrew and opportunities to share. All welcome. Please email us if you'd like to come along.

AFTER-MASS TEA/COFFEE: We have a brief social call on Zoom (see back page) after Sunday morning Mass. If you'd like to come, email us for a link. All welcome!

MAILING LIST: We can post out the parish newsletter or arrange delivery for those who don't have an internet connection and are also producing a DVD of some of our videos, including a Sunday Mass. If you know anyone who's interested, contact us.

NEW ON YOUTUBE: Recent videos include our Blessed Sacrament Procession with school, James' video on the priesthood and the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and a video giving a quick tour of our church, showing the new safety measures in place. Find them all on our YouTube channel (these videos and other 'extras' can be found in the playlist marked 'Some channel highlights').

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 21 st	11am	After-Mass tea/coffee & 200 Club draw	Zoom
	4pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	YouTube
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	YouTube
Mon-Fri	4:30pm-6:30pm	Church open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	5pm-6pm	Adoration livestreamed	YouTube
Tuesday	7:30pm	Parish Council	Zoom
Wednesday	7:30pm	Finance and Fabric Committee	Zoom
Thursday	7pm	Virtual Pilgrimage to Ladyewell	YouTube
Saturday	11am-1pm	Church open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	11am-12	Adoration livestreamed	YouTube
Sunday 28 th	11am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Zoom
	2pm-4pm	Church open for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4pm	Adoration (livestream only)	YouTube
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	YouTube

Mass is celebrated at 10am every day – see page 2 for full details.

All events marked **'YouTube'** are streamed live on our channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Events marked **'Zoom'** are also online only; please contact us if you want to join.

USING ZOOM: Several parish online events will take place on Zoom, to allow for more interactivity. All you need is a phone/PC/tablet with a webcam. It is very easy to set up and use. You don't need an account and it's free. All you need is a link, which we will send by email if you ask to come to an event. Give it a try!

A prayer of spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.