

17th March 2019

Franciscan of the Week: Blessed John of Parma

John lived c.1209 to 1289 in northern Italy. He entered the Order of Friars Minor probably around 1233, just seven years after Francis had died. Ordained priest, he was also a notable scholar and taught theology at Bologna and Naples. In 1247 he was elected Minister General of the order, charged with overseeing the entire Franciscan family. He held this role until 1257, and so was in post when St Clare died in 1253. John was determined to stay as close as possible to the way of life proposed by St Francis, but faced much opposition. In 1257 he retired to a hermitage at Greccio, where St Francis had established his famous nativity scene, and there lived out his days in prayer and humble service. He was beatified in 1777 and the friars keep his feast on 20th March.

Our week with the Franciscans

What a blessed week we have had with the Franciscans. The sisters and friars who have spent time with us were so moved by the welcome they received and by the faith they witnessed here at St Clare's. God has done wonderful things through them this week: many people have spoken about how God has touched their lives through the sisters, and without doubt the parish has benefitted a great deal. Let's remember to pray for the sisters; they promise to pray for us too.



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MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 156

Office: Psalter Week 2; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: Year 1, Week 2 of Lent

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details	
Saturday	6pm (vigil)		Tom McAuley Snr RIP	
16 th March	7pm (vigil)	SECOND SUNDAY	NeoCatechumenal Way	
Sunday	Sunday 9:30am OF LENT		Ints Christine Troger	
17 th March	6pm		Trevor Hughes RIP	
Mondo	9:15am		Roy Christopher RIP	
Monday	5:15pm		Mass in hospital chapel	
Tuesday	7pm	ST JOSEPH	Pr. Int. Alan Hugh Cockburn	
Wednesday	9:15am		Special Intention	
Thursday	9:15am		Private Intention (SS)	
Friday	12noon		Gloria Harris RIP & family	
Saturday 23 rd March	10am		Sophia Morris RIP	
	6pm (vigil)		Catherine Harrison RIP	
	7pm (vigil)	THIRD SUNDAY	NeoCatechumenal Way	
Sunday	9:30am	OF LENT	Doris & Jim Mattinson RIP	
24 th March	6pm		Frances Copp RIP	

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon (for vocations).

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon and on request.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Weekdays 7:45am during Lent.

EVENING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Sundays 3:30pm (sung), with Benediction.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sundays 3pm during Lent.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass.

ST ANTHONY: March wall box donations will go to the Medaille Trust.

ANNIVERSARIES: Rita Morris, Angela Holt, Emily Chibulu, Anne Noblet, Robin Day, Douglas Middlemiss, Alice Barker, Wilfred Foy, Richard Atkinson, Florence Hastie.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH: That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

FRANCISCAN VISIT: A heartfelt 'thank you' to all who helped in any way to make the Franciscans' visit such a beautiful, memorable and prayerful time. Special thanks to all who contributed behind the scenes and who brought food for the social.

ST CLARE – LIGHT FROM THE CLOISTER: Four sessions telling the life story of St Clare and discovering her writings. Begins this Tuesday, 7:30pm in the narthex. This week, St Clare's early life and her friendship with St Francis. All welcome.

LENTEN LUNCHES: After midday Mass each remaining Friday of Lent, soup and a bread roll. Donations will go to our ACN Iraq appeal. All welcome.

ALTERNATIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The original Stations of the Cross from our church, which provide an alternative fourteen steps, are being displayed in the narthex window during Lent. Take some time to look at them and pray. Reflections and prayers are available each week, behind the display itself.

LENT READING: Lots of useful new CTS titles for Lent now available in the narthex.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Meeting this Sunday in the chapel after evening Mass. The booklet for this month is "Catholics and our Common Home". All are welcome.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: 2019-2020 envelopes are now available in the narthex for those who use them (please be aware, your number may have changed). If you are a UK taxpayer and haven't signed up for Gift Aid, please consider it. It costs you nothing but helps the parish a great deal. Some Gift Aid forms are available near the envelopes. If you have questions, contact the office or speak to Fr Andrew.

MESSY CHURCH: Saturday 30th March, 1:30pm. A great opportunity for children to explore Lent through art, activities and Bible stories. All ages welcome!

RCIA: During Lent, please pray for all those who will be baptised or received into the Church this Easter. May the Lord bless and guide them on their journey.

COMING TO PRAY IN CHURCH? Don't forget, the church is open all day for private prayer. There are now some Bibles in the narthex, for you to borrow when you come to pray quietly during the day. Please return them as you leave the church.

CATENIAN CHARITY NIGHT: Next Saturday (23rd), 8pm at Preston Grasshoppers. Hot buffet, live music. In aid of our ACN Iraq appeal. See poster in narthex.

GIFT92 is looking for volunteers to help in the office, Wednesdays 9:30am-12:30pm, and Saturday afternoons at the shop in Catterall. If interested, please speak to Fr A.

CARMELITE PRAYER EVENING: At Carmel, this Wednesday 7-8:30pm. See poster.

METANOIA PROJECT: Thursdays during Lent, 7:30pm at St Wilfrid's centre, a chance to explore the book, "Rediscovering Jesus". All welcome.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 490; Collection: £1036.22; Thank you for your generosity.

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

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Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank collection	House Porch
Sunday 17 th	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Holy Communion Preparation (4)	Parish Hall
	11am	Holy Communion Parents' Session	Chapel
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	3:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	CTS Book Club	Chapel
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6:15pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	6pm	Journey in Faith	Chapel
	7:30pm	St Clare: Light from the Cloister	Narthex
		1: Early life and friendship with Francis	
Wednesday	6pm	Seekers (years 4-6)	Parish Hall
Friday	12:30pm	Lenten Lunch	Parish Hall
Saturday	8:45am	Pilates	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Spanish Class	Parish Hall
Sunday 24 th	9:30am	Children's Liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	3:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall

Further ahead and further afield...

DAY OF DISCERNMENT for priesthood in Lancaster Diocese. Saturday 30th March at St Joseph's, Lancaster, 10am-2pm. More information from Fr Daniel Etienne: call 01253 762227 or email frdanieletienne@gmail.com. See poster.

LANCASTER DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: 26^{th} July- 2^{nd} August by air from Manchester. Information and booking forms in the narthex.

DIOCESAN COORIDINATOR OF SCHOOL CHAPLAINS: A new post to help support and form school chaplains in the Diocese. Closing date 18th March. See poster.