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**FROM THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS**

"Let each one of us, no matter what his walk of life or circumstances, offer to God all that he can on every occasion according to the measure of his capacity, according to the gift bestowed upon him, in order that by displaying virtue in all its forms we may secure all the heavenly abodes, reaping all that we have sown, or rather, storing up in God's silos all that we have garnered. Let one contribute his riches, another his abject poverty; one his zeal, another his appreciation of the zeal of another; one a commendable deed, another a perceptive thought; one a timely remark, another an eloquent silence; one unimpeachable instruction and a way of life to match; another an open and receptive ear; one virginity that is pure and severs all contact with the world; another a marriage that is devout and in no way divorced from God; one fasting that is not tainted with pride; another feast tempered by restraint; one unbroken prayers and spiritual hymns, another the care of the poor; all of us our tears, all of our purification, all of us our upliftment and a straining forward to what lies ahead." St Gregory Nazianzen (4th century, Doctor of the Church).

**TODAY'S READINGS**

In today's first reading we hear from the last chapter of the Book of Isaiah as he tells of a time when foreigners will be at home in God's house. The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews reminds us that the Lord trains the one that he loves, and that suffering is part of our training. Jesus reminds us in the Gospel reading, that we must strive to enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Priest in Charge:** Fr John Mark Agulefo **Deacon:** Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

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**MASSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 127****Office: psalter week 1; Sundays: year C; Weekdays: year II, week 21**

Sunday morning Mass is livestreamed and will be available for viewing later on our parish YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	<b>TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	Rebecca Corda RIP
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:30am		People of the Parish
	6pm		Lil Abram RIP
Monday	9:15am	<b>The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	Joan Walmsley RIP
Tuesday	7pm		Alan Little RIP
Wednesday	9:15am	<b>ST. BARTHOLOMEW</b>	Thanksgiving (MS)
Thursday	9:15am		Jim Gornall RIP
Friday	12noon		Alan Little RIP
Saturday	10am	<b>St. Monica</b>	Sick & housebound Parishioners and their carers
	6pm (vigil)	<b>TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	People of the Parish
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am		Lil Abram RIP
	6pm		Sean Patten RIP

**LATELY DEAD:** Please pray for **Patsy Cockburn, Gerald Topping, Sheila Cartmell** and all who have died recently. The funeral of Sheila Cartmell will take place on Monday 22nd August at 12 noon.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays 11am-12noon and on request.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is usually open during the day for private prayer.

**ROSARY:** After 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass on Fridays.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Janet Eastham, Norah Elizabeth Clarkson, John Battersby, Andrew Lyons, Joyce Wilcox, Richard Singleton, Clare Therese Southworth, Teresa Kirby, Thomas Geoghegan.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST:** We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

**SUMMER AT ST CLARE'S:** In early September Fr John Mark will be joined by Fr Stephen Talbutt, currently assistant priest at St Kentigern's, Blackpool. Over the summer a supply priest will assist with Masses. Please pray for Fr John Mark as he begins his ministry here, and for Fr Stephen as he prepares to move.

**ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR 2022:** In September and October the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland and Wales. Individuals and groups are invited to register attendance at their chosen church on the Relic Tour website [www.stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour](http://www.stbernadette.org.uk/the-tour) (see notice in the Narthex).

**FREE NEWSPAPER:** Get the Universe Catholic Weekly free for a four-week trial; see notice in the Narthex for details.

**GOING TO THE HOLY LAND?** Due to flight cancellations, the trip will now take place one day later, to run Sunday-Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> October. Please remember that the final balance **is due to be paid by 22<sup>nd</sup> August** and no reminders will be sent. Fr John Mark will be travelling on the pilgrimage as spiritual director.

**FOOD BANK:** This weekend: 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> August. There is currently urgent need of almost all food supplies due to very high demand. Thank you for your generosity.

**DIOCESAN EDUCATION MASS 2022:** Lancaster Cathedral (LA1 3BT), Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 6:30pm. All parishioners are invited to join Bishop Paul Swarbrick at the annual Diocese of Lancaster Education Mass. This invitation extends in a special way to all those involved in education and faith formation; priests, deacons, catechists, youth ministry, children's liturgy, those in seminary and teachers outside of the Catholic sector. The celebration gives us the opportunity to express our thanks and acknowledge the contribution made by all those in the Diocese involved in the work of education and formation in the faith. Together we ask for God's blessing on the mission of education and formation in our diocese.

**ANNUAL CLEATOR PILGRIMAGE:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September at the diocesan shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator, Cumbria. 3pm Mass and blessing of the sick. All members of the diocese are warmly invited. The Bishop will preside and preach.

**MARCH FOR LIFE 2022:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September in London, the annual March for Life, promoting the sanctity of human life from conception to natural end. Events begin at the Emmanuel Centre (SW1P 3DW) from 10:30am, Mass at 11am, and the march from 2pm, ending in Parliament Square around 4:30pm. All are welcome to come.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION:** Next weekend (27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>) for the Catholic Trust for England & Wales.

**LAST WEEK:** At Mass: 323 (70/128/81 NCW 44). Collections: £602.90. Thank you for your presence and generosity.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Monday	7pm	<b>Baptism course (1)*</b>	Side chapel
Tuesday	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Wednesday	10am-12	Parish Coffee Morning	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	NCW Liturgy of the Word	Side chapel
Friday	7pm	Lectio Divina	Side chapel
Saturday	11am-12	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall

Events marked \* are open only to members or those who have booked ahead.

**SUNDAY OBLIGATION:** Please note that watching an online Mass does not fulfil the Sunday obligation for those who are able to attend in person. The full statement of the Bishops can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

**NEW PROGRAMME OF DAY RETREATS:** Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella in Lostock Hall has launched a programme of day retreats exploring a range of topics including prayer and scripture. The first retreat will take place on Saturday 10th September 2022, when attendees will be invited to explore John of the Cross' remarkable *Spiritual Canticle*. If you are interested in attending, please register your interest before Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

Visit <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/retreat-programme-2022-2023/> for more information on upcoming retreats and how to register your interest.

**THE BEREAVEMENT JOURNEY:** A six session course will be running at Christ Church, Victoria Road from 13<sup>th</sup> September – 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

**SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING:** Please consider supporting this training at Corpus Christi High School, in memory of Mary O'Gara, by sponsoring parishioners walking the 'Santiago de Compostella' in September. A 'just giving' page has been set up ([www.justgiving.com/RitaHunter3](http://www.justgiving.com/RitaHunter3)), and sponsorship forms are available in the Narthex. Please see Rita Hunter or Anne Metcalf for details.

### Fr Andrew's new postal address:

St Mary's College, Chester Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B73 5AA. Those wishing to email can contact him using: [frandrewallman@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:frandrewallman@hotmail.co.uk)