

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11th July 2021

A 'thank you' to our schools

This week our schools close for the summer holidays. We wish all our pupils and staff a very happy, safe and restful holiday after another difficult but productive year. Our thanks go to Mrs Charnley and all the staff at St Clare's for their outstanding work through the pandemic. It is amazing to see how well all the children have coped through much change and uncertainty, helped by the love of their families and the reassurance, guidance and support of their teachers and school friends.





We also thank all the staff at Corpus Christi for their excellent work through this time, continuing to provide education,

guidance and formation for life for the young people in their care. We especially thank Mr Hubbard, the headteacher, who is retiring this summer. We wish him a long and happy retirement and thank him for his wonderful contribution and the commitment he has shown over many years to Catholic education in our area. We also thank Emily McDonald-Romero, who is finishing as lay chaplain at Corpus Christi this week. Emily is a parishioner who has done great work at the school.

Today's Readings

In the Gospel Jesus sends out the Twelve for the first time, instructing them to travel lightly so as not to be weighed down in their mission. It is clear that they take forward the work and ministry of Jesus Himself – a sign of their mission after Pentecost – and that they carry with them His authority. The first reading speaks of the call of Amos, a humble shepherd who was called from his work to be a prophet, a shepherd of God's people. Today's second reading is one of the great New Testament canticles (hymns). Here St Paul offers us a rich and dense description of God's plan of salvation. God wants to restore all things in Christ, granting us forgiveness, grace, salvation and the promised inheritance of heaven.

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St Clare's Primary School – Headteacher: Mrs A. Charnley
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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 3; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 15

Morning Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)		Ida Fernandes RIP
Sunday 11 th	9:30am*	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY	Fr Bernard Woods RIP
	11:30am	IN ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish
	6pm		Holy Souls
Monday	9:30am		Dorothy Leary RIP
Tuesday	9:30am		Andrew Walsh RIP
Wednesday	9:30am		Christine Lowe RIP
Thursday	9:30am	St Bonaventure	Thanksgiving for the First
			Communion children
Friday	9:30am	Our Lady	Intentions of Fr Andrew
		of Mount Carmel	
Saturday	9:30am		Fr Michael Lakeland RIP
	6pm (vigil)		Gregory and Juliana
			D'Souza RIP
Sunday 18 th	9:30am*	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY	Robert Metcalf RIP
	11:30am	IN ORDINARY TIME	Frank Madden RIP
	6pm		Mary Frances Connell RIP
			and family

^{*} These Masses can only be attended by those who have booked in advance.

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Christopher Gregory Braithwaite** and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11am-12noon and by appointment.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is also open Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 1-5pm.

ANNIVERSARIES: Chris Walker, Rita Wright, John Haslam, Russell Sowerby, Catherine Burns, Fr Michael Lakeland, Frank Madden.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY: We pray that in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: We will shortly be contacting the families of the young people who were due to be confirmed in 2020, to make arrangements to complete their preparation and set a date for them to be confirmed. Also, any children currently in year 6 or above who have not been confirmed may register interest for this sacrament. Please contact the parish office or speak to Fr Andrew.

WEEKDAY MASSES will return to pre-pandemic times from Monday 19th July. In case you've forgotten... Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9:15am; Tuesday at 7pm; Friday 12noon and Saturday 10am. Sunday Masses are unaffected, including the 11:30am, which will continue in the short term.

OPENING HOURS: The church is normally open for private prayer Saturday 11am-5pm (with Adoration and confessions 11am-12noon) and Sundays 1pm-5pm. Weekdays 5-6pm with Adoration, as usual.

ST CLARE'S PRESCHOOL – LITTLE SAPLINGS: From September our primary school will have its own preschool, able to offer full-time provision for children from 3 years of age. The preschool will be accepting the 15hr and 30hr funding provided to parents. Please call school on 787037 or email bursar@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk to request a place for your child and any further information.

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS: From August we will return to the old system of specific collection times for the Food Bank (rather than the current 'as and when' system). There will be two collections each month, on the first and third Sundays.

COVID NHS-APP IN CHURCH: In the church entrance there are QR codes which you can scan using the NHS Covid-19 app, if you have a suitable mobile device. Scanning this removes the need for the stewards to record your details. If you cannot (or choose not to) scan the stewards will record your attendance as usual.

METANOIA PROJECT are looking for some wonderful young adults to spend a year as 'Metanoia Missionaries', living in community and working alongside the existing team in their ministry. Could it be you or someone you know? All the details are on the website http://metanoiaproject.co.uk/metanoia-missionaries/ or get in touch for an informal chat. Full contact details at metanoiaproject.co.uk

VOCATIONS CAFE: The National Office for Vocation has organised this event on Zoom, this Monday (12th), 7:30-8:30pm. Email vocation.cafe@gmail.com to join.

FAITH AND REASON: A CATHOLIC INTEGRATION is a four-day course (residential or non-residential) at Stoneyhurst Christian Heritage Centre, 5th-8th August. Open to all, especially catechists and teachers. See poster in narthex for more details.

SPECIAL COLLECTION today for the Apostleship of the Sea, which supports seafarers by providing chaplaincy and spiritual support. Next weekend for the Good Shepherd Fund. This fund is used by the bishop in his charitable work.

"Unlocking" the Parish: our plan

The plan below gives some sense of how the parish may move towards normality in the coming months. The plan is subject to national restrictions and guidance we receive from the government and from our bishops.

At Step 4 of the government's national roadmap (planned for 19th July):

- Car park restrictions will come back into force, freeing up space for the parish and for church/school events.
- Restrictions regarding face coverings, singing at Mass, social distancing etc.
 will be reviewed in line with latest guidance from the government and from the Bishops' Conference.

Before the autumn (most dates to be confirmed):

- Weekday Masses will revert to the old Mass times from Monday 19th July.
 The 11:30am Mass on Sundays will continue until social distancing is relaxed and this Mass is no longer needed for additional capacity on Sundays.
- An outdoor parish social event is planned.
- First Holy Communions for the 2019-2020 group take place next weekend.
- Booking requirement for all events will be lifted, if social distancing rules are relaxed by the government and we are confident that it's safe.
- Visits to housebound parishioners and care homes may be possible.
- The church will reopen all day for private prayer.
- CTS booklets and leaflets will be available again in the narthex.

From September

- Children's liturgy and all our youth groups should resume.
- A normal year of sacramental preparation is planned, including for children whose confessions, first Communion and Confirmation have been delayed.
- A full programme of parish social life will take place, if permitted.
- Other parish groups should be able to resume.
- We hope to be able to hold some events to mark the 50th anniversary of our parish and school, in November 2021.
- We hope that the parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land planned for late
 October may be able to go ahead, if the pandemic and the security situation allow. Work is ongoing to assess this.

We plan to continue to livestream Mass each day, for the benefit of those who are housebound; everyone who can is strongly encouraged to attend Mass and rebuild our community. We will also continue with some other online output to assist with catechesis, evangelisation and outreach work in the parish.