

People of the Word: From the Old to the New

Today we cross over from the Old Testament to the New, leaving behind the centuries of prophecy and expectation and beginning to see how, in Jesus, God fulfils all His promises.

THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS

In the first part of the New Testament there are some characters who perfectly express this hope and fulfilment. **Elizabeth and Zechariah**, the parents of the John the Baptist, are key characters in the first chapter of St Luke's Gospel. Like every faithful Jew, they lived with great expectation that God would fulfil His promise of a Messiah during their lifetime. Zechariah is blessed with a vision of the angel Gabriel, in which he is told that he will unexpectedly have a son, who will be the forerunner of the Lord.



When Mary, soon after conceiving Jesus, visits her cousin, Elizabeth cries out, "Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?" She understands that the hope of God's people is soon to be fulfilled.

Several months later, **Simeon and Anna** are also perfect examples of faithful Jews who lived in hope and saw their hopes fulfilled. They were present when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple. Anna speaks with joy of the child she has seen, telling everyone she meets. Simeon blesses Mary and Joseph and then tells God, "At last, all-powerful Master, you give leave to Your servant to go in peace... For my eyes have seen your salvation." Like centuries of Jews before him, he has lived in hope of seeing the Saviour. Now his hope is fulfilled: the Saviour is here.

Questions for reflection:

- Do I live with hope that God will fulfil all His promises to me?
- How do I experience in my life the salvation which Jesus offers?

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Allman **Deacon:** Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

Presbytery: Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9HH

Tel: 01772 719604 email: enquiries@saintclares.co.uk

www.saintclares.co.uk Social Media: @StClareFulwood

Lancaster RC Diocesan Trustees Registered – Registered Charity No. 234331

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

Tel: 01772 787037 Fax: 01772 787016 email: head@st-clares.lancs.sch.uk

MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter Week 4; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: year 2, week 20

10am 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

See next page for information on attending Mass in the church.

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Sunday 16 th August	Vigil Mass	THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY	John Bower RIP
	10am		Margaret Harrison RIP
	Evening		People of the Parish
Monday	10am		Wilfrid Francis Skingsley RIP
Tuesday	10am		For Sophie
Wednesday	10am		Joan Baines RIP and family
Thursday	10am	St Bernard	Peter Wilson RIP
Friday	10am	St Pius X	Anne Topping RIP
Saturday	10am	The Queenship of Our Lady	PJ and Nuala Gordon RIP
Sunday 23 rd August	Vigil Mass	Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parish
	10am		Barbara Webb RIP
	Evening		Jean and John Cullerton

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **David McCabe**, and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: on request. Contact Fr Andrew to arrange.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Wilfred Skingsley, Francis McMorro, Patrick Keefe, Edith Rossiter, Mark Walmsley, Dominic Gallagher, Martin O'Malley, Eleanor Pemberton, John Stewart, Sophia Morris, Hilda Helm, John James Barton, Rev. Donald Parsons.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST: We pray for those who live and work from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Supporting your parish financially

To avoid use of cash, it is better, if possible, to support the parish using standing order/BACS. Contact us directly for the details. If you don't use online banking, we can send you a mandate which you can fill in and post to your bank. If you have been saving offertory envelopes, these may be pushed through the presbytery letterbox or handed in at the end of Mass, if you are able to attend at this time. Thank you for your support for our parish.

WEARING FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH is now required by law. If you are attending Mass or visiting for private prayer, please bring a face covering with you. They should cover the mouth and nose and may be made of any cloth; they do not need to be surgical or medical masks.

ATTENDING MASS: Wherever possible, please decide on a **regular day/time** when you would like to attend Mass then contact us to see what's possible. We will get contact you to let you know when you can come. Please only come to Mass if you have received confirmation that we have sufficient space.

To arrange to come to Mass: Please contact us (preferably by email – if you don't use email, please phone us) and let us know the following information:

- Your name (and, if you are not using email, a phone number)
- The day(s) when you would be able to attend. If at the weekend, please let us know morning/evening. Monday-Friday Mass will continue to be at 10am.
- How many people from your household/support bubble will attend (you will sit together at Mass, so it's vital we know how many are in your group).

There is still no obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday at this time.

CONFESSIONS are available by request/appointment. Contact Fr Andrew.

PRIVATE PRAYER: The church is open for one hour each day for private prayer. The full opening times can be found on the back of the newsletter.

SUNG VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: At 4:30pm today, for the feast of the Assumption (online only). This will be the last Vespers for the time being.

FACE COVERINGS AVAILABLE: A parishioner is willing to make washable face coverings for any members of the parish who are in need of these, free of charge. If you are interested, please contact the parish office.

FOOD BANK: Non-perishable items may be left on the presbytery porch at any time. Please do not bring anything frozen or which needs to be kept in the fridge, nor any fresh fruit, vegetables or dairy products. Thank you for your generosity.

SCHOOL UNIFORM BANK: Community Gateway has a stock of second-hand uniforms for local schools. If you know of a family who may benefit, they can refer themselves at <https://www.communitygateway.co.uk/uniformbank>

RWANDA TRUST: Unfortunately the Rwanda Trust shop in town has now closed, but fundraising continues. Michael Donlan is doing a sponsored walk. To donate, visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/rgtmichael-donlan>

MAILING LIST: The newsletter and Sunday homily can be posted out to parishioners who do not have access to the internet. If you know of someone who would appreciate this, please let us know and we will arrange it.

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

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Every day	Anytime	Food Bank Collection	House Porch
Sunday 16 th	3pm-4pm	Church open for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church and YouTube
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	YouTube
Mon-Fri	5-6pm	Church open and livestream: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church and YouTube
Saturday	12noon-1pm	Church open and livestream: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church and YouTube
Sunday 23 rd	3pm-4pm	Church open and livestream: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Church and YouTube

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

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

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.

A prayer for our parish

At this difficult and uncertain time for us all, we are in great need of prayer. Let's ask our parish's patroness, St Clare, to intercede for us and for our whole parish community.

St Clare, who chose a life of poverty,
prayer and humble service,
watch over this parish which bears your name.
Bless and protect our community
and intercede for us,
that we may come closer to Jesus
and grow in His likeness,
who lives and reigns
for ever and ever. Amen.

St Clare, pray for us.

