

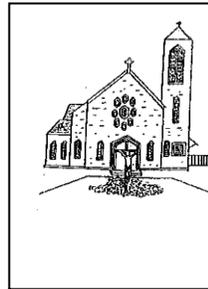


### QUEEN AND MOTHER!

The wonderful feast of the Queenship of Mary, which was celebrated in all Churches this week, on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, exactly eight days after Assumption, was proclaimed by Pope Pius XII, through the Encyclical Letter "Ad Caeli Reginam" on October 11, 1954 (four years after the Assumption).

**"Queen Mother":** The major reason for Mary's queenship is her place as the mother of God. The Holy Father writes: " From early times Christians have believed, and not without reason, that she of whom was born the Son of the Most High received privileges of grace above all other beings created by God. He "will reign in the house of Jacob forever," "the Prince of Peace," the "King of Kings and Lord of Lords." And when Christians reflected upon the intimate connection that obtains between a mother and a son, they readily acknowledged the supreme royal dignity of the Mother of God." (Ad Caeli Reginam; # 8) Through the ages, saints and Church Fathers have acknowledged Mary as queen. St. John Damascene wrote: 'When she became Mother of the Creator, she truly became Queen of every creature' (Ad Caeli Reginam; # 34). Early writers of the Church rightfully called her "Mother of the King". Following the Jewish tradition of "Queen Mother", institutionalized by Solomon who introduced the tradition of enthroning the king's mother beside him (1 Kgs 2:19), Mary is no doubt a queen. Jesus is truly king and son of David (Lk 3:31; Rev. 3:7; Rev. 5:5; Rev. 19:16; Rev. 22:16). And His mother is rightfully queen. But could Mary be called queen for other reasons?

**Queen by Excellence, Election and Heredity:** Legitimate kingship or queenship is attained in one of three ways: by excellence as when we call the rose the queen of all flowers, by election as in the president of a country, or by heredity. Our Blessed Mother qualifies for this title by all three yardsticks. She excels in beauty and virtue, towering in these above all her race by virtue of her Immaculate Conception and subsequent unmitigated purity. Many seers, especially in the apparitions approved by the Church, have attested to the indescribable beauty of this "Lady", a beauty not just physical, but her true nature, "portraying love and beauty to our world of today". She merits the title of queen also by election. Hers is not just human but divine election from among all creation, all her race, and all generations. For this, J.P. Lécot invites us to sing "Holy Virgin, by God's decree, you were named eternally; that he could give his son to our race...." And does she also have the hereditary right to the throne? Yes, and here lies the most beautiful bit. With this "Woman", a new form of generation began, a new genealogy open to us all. A generation, not by flesh and blood or the will of man, but in and through faith in the Word of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, by which we all become kings and queens in the waters and anointing of baptism (John 1:12-13; 1Pt 2:9). Mary is truly us and totally for us, and wholly represents in its perfection our relationship with God. Together let's dare to pray: "Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of mercy...." *Happy feast of the Queenship of Our Lady! Let's all join in a novena from this Wednesday to say to Her: Happy Birthday Mother!!! - Fr Martin.*



## SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH NEWSLETTER



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**TWENTY-SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME**  
28th August 2011, Psalter Week II

### MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August: Confessions 5.00-5.45pm**

6.00 pm: *Mass Special Intention (SB)*

**Second Collection for Salesians Don Bosco Appeal**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August: 9.30 am: Mass; Joy Soffe.**

**Second Collection for Don Bosco Appeal**

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August: Ss Margaret Ward, V. Margaret Clitherow & Ann Line, Mm.**

7.00pm *St Anthony's Devotions & Mass Joy Soffe*

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August. 8.30 Eucharistic Adoration**

9.30 *Mass Tom & Mae McGuire & all relatives*

Half an hour of Shared Prayer in Parish Room after Mass

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Novena mass 7.00pm**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Novena mass 7.00pm**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September St Gregory The Great, Pp. D.. Confessions 5.00-5.45pm**

6.00 pm *Mass Cynthia Sen*

**Sunday 4<sup>h</sup> September. Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

9.30am: *Mass Ann Leach*

**CHURCH CLEANING Group 3**

**Tea/Coffee after Mass provided by CC Guild**

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:** *Guided by the Holy Spirit we are ready to use our talents to support and co-operate with our Parish Priest in all matters liturgical and temporal. We commit ourselves to build a family of Christ at St Clare's and in the local community, based on love, compassion and understanding.*

**BIRTHDAY NOVENA MASS WEDNESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> – THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPT.**

### **BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY!**

As you might have noticed in the program for the week, from Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> Fr Martin will be starting a daily (novena) mass in view of the birthday of Our Lady on the 8th. Our regular masses will be as usual, but on the days we have no regular masses (Thursday, Friday & Monday), there will be evening masses by 7.00pm followed by the rosary. This is **absolutely optional**. We will be praying for parishioners, but other mass intentions are welcome for the intention-free masses of the novena days.

### **GCSE RESULTS: CONGRATULATIONS TO CHS STUDENTS & STAFF!**

Students at The Catholic High School, Chester had 'the best year ever'. Over 77% of the year group had secured more than 5 GCSEs at C grade or above, with 61% of the year including both English and Maths in their total. Nearly fifty students managed 10 passes at C grade or above. 'One of the key features of this year group has been the support we have had from parents' said headteacher John Murray.

**THE PRESBYTERY:** The bishop has arranged another home for Sr Jo. She vacated the presbytery last week, and Fr Martin will soon be moving in. The house is almost empty of furniture and utensils of any kind. So if anyone has any spare items that you might consider donating, please contact Fr Martin. Also, small painting and decorating jobs are underway. Our prayers go with Sr Jo to her new home, as she continues in her services to the diocese.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:** The next Meeting will be on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> August, after Mass. So there will not any Scripture & Catechism study on this night. As usual any matters for discussion may be given to Father or any member of the team

**NEW TRANSLATION LEAFLETS:** So far so good on the use of the new translation, except that the priest once started with the new and ended with the old, in the dismissal! The great day is finally here. Next weekend we take off fully. We hope to have some introduction to the new music. So another short homily from Fr Martin, 'thank God!'

**CATHOLICS FOR RACIAL HARMONY:** Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> September is Racial Justice Sunday and the Diocesan Mass will be celebrated on 11<sup>th</sup> at St Paul's, St Paul's Street, Hyde, SK14 2JU at 2.30pm. Please see the poster on the notice board for further details.

**CHESTER ACROSS JUMBULANCE COLLECTION:** The initial amount received came to £436-30. Sincere gratitude for your generosity. *There will be 5 members of St Clare's Parish accompanying Fr Martin to Lourdes. So, if you have*

*any intentions that you wish to have offered at the Grotto, please put the details in the ring notebook at Our Lady's altar, and be assured that between us we will ensure none are forgotten. And if you want to book any of the masses Fr Martin will be saying for the nine days of the trip, please meet him or slip your mass petition through the presbytery door.*

**NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:** We invite any parishioner who feels called to be a Eucharistic minister to please meet Fr Martin. There will be a short course for intending Eucharistic ministers for St Clare's parish sometime in October.

### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Come and adore the Lord with us on Wednesdays 8.30am - 9.30.am. Write and drop your petitions for the Lord in the box under the altar. He cares and hears.

**SCRIPTURE/EVANGELIZATION:** will **NOT** hold this Tuesday, due to an emergency parish council meeting.

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Please remember in your prayers the souls of Michael Edwards, Jack Walsh, Hilda Evans, John Hughes and Jean Acworth whose anniversaries occur about this time.

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK**

Bernie Ashcroft, Michael Ashcroft, David Brown,, Margaret Borrows Joan Bullough, Brendan Edwards, Emmanuelle, Erica Finn, Mary Frain, Eileen Green, Kath Heffernan, Hanna Jones, , Brian Kearney, Ann Leach, Sandra Lenel, Win Littler, Monica Mannion, Anita Martin, May McAteer, Mary McDonough, Ann O'Gorman, John Parnell, Mark Patavino, Andrew Prendergast, Rosemary Prendergast, Vera Rattigan, Peggy Shone, Eve Stanton, Freda Tyldesley and Martin Walters.

**YOUTH SUNDAY:** The next Youth Sunday will be on 11<sup>th</sup> September

**VISITING PRIEST:** This weekend Fr Joe Brown SDB will be celebrating at our Masses and making an appeal on behalf of the Salesians Don Bosco charity that works to help young people.

### **WEEKDAY MASS READINGS: FOR WEEK 22 IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Mon 29 August.** *Beheading of St John the Baptist.* Jr 1: 17-19; Ps 70; Mk 6: 17-29

**Tue 30 August.** *Ss Margaret Ward, Margaret Clithero, Ann Line* 1 Th 5: 1-6.9-11; Ps 26; Lk 4: 31-37

**Wed 31 August.** Col 1:1-8; Ps 51; Lk 4: 38-44

**Thu 1 September.** Col 1: 9-14; Ps 97; Lk 5: 1-11

**Fri 2 September.** Col 1: 15-20; Ps 99; Lk 5: 33-39

**Sat 3 September** *St Gregory The Great,* 1 Th 2: 2-8; Ps 95; Mt 16: 13-19

**FOR ANTIPHONS FOR TODAY'S MASS SEE MASS BOOK PAGE 60 (yellow books) or Page 66 or thereabouts (brown books).**