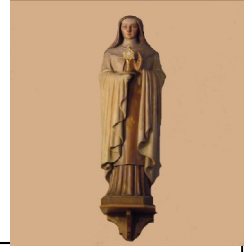




St Clare of Assisi Catholic Church

DOWNSFIELD ROAD, CHESTER CH4 8HH



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Parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/StClaresChester/

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 19th NOVEMBER 2017
Psalter Week I **Diocesan Year for Mission 2017**

DEDICATION: November is dedicated to The Souls in Purgatory



DEEPER MEANING OF PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

The standard reading of this story is that the talents symbolize gifts and abilities that God has given to us and that he expects us to “spend” generously or “invest” wisely.

What the contemporary reader will likely miss, and what the ancient Jewish reader would have caught immediately, is the connection to heaviness: a talent was weighty, and five talents was massively heavy. Heaviness would have brought to mind the heaviest weight of all, which was to be found in the Jerusalem Temple, resting upon the mercy seat within the Holy of Holies. Therefore, what was heaviest of all was the mercy of God, In light of this, we can read Jesus’ parable with fresh eyes.

The talents given to the three servants are not so much monetary gifts or personal capacities; they are a share in the mercy of God, a participation in the weightiness of the divine love. But since mercy is always directed to the other, these “talents” are designed to be shared. In point of fact, they will increase precisely in the measure that they are given away.

The problem with the timid servant who buried his talent is not that he was an ineffective venture capitalist but that he fundamentally misunderstood the nature of what he had been given. The divine mercy—received as a pure gift—is meant to be given to others as a pure gift. Buried in the ground, that is to say, hugged tightly to oneself as one’s own possession, such a talent necessarily evanesces. (dissipates) And this is why the master’s seemingly harsh words should not be read as the punishment of an angry God but as an expression that the divine mercy will grow in you only inasmuch as you give it to others. –Fr. Robert Schoenstene,

LOST TOUCH?

If you have lost touch with your Faith, you might be surprised at how joyful it can be once you have made that difficult first step, **Our Lord is waiting for you with open arms**, just speak to Fr Emeka.



ARE YOU NEW TO ST CLARE’S

Everyone is welcome here. We would like you to feel very much at home with us whether you are Catholic or not. God loves us deeply, and enters our lives in various ways, and invites us to know and love him more. This is His house and His arms are always open to welcome. **Forgive us if we fail to notice a new face in our midst.. PLEASE join us for coffee after Mass**

Weekend Masses:
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 9.30am
11.15am(Latin)

Confessions
see back page

Children’s Liturgy
Sundays 9.30
In Sacristy

For Baptisms, Confirmation,-
Weddings and Funerals
Please call or email Fr Emeka above

Weekday Masses: Please see back page

Date/Time	Feast/Colour	Readings	Offered For
Sat 18/11 Confessions 5.30 -5.45 pm Rosary 5.40 pm Vigil MASS 6 pm	<i>Thirty Third Sunday in</i>	Pr 31: 10-13.19-20.30-31 Ps 127;	Tom Haddock RIP
Sun 19/11 <i>Exposition 8.30am</i> Rosary 9.00am, Benediction 9.15am MASS 9.30am Tridentine LATIN MASS 12.30pm	<i>Ordinary Time Green</i>	1 Th 51-6; Mt 25: 14-30	Joe Littler
Tue 21/11 Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet 3-4pm Rosary 6.40pm St Anthony's devotions & MASS 7pm	<i>Presentation of BVM White</i>	Zc 2: 14-17; Ps Lk 1; Mt 12: 46-50.	Holy Souls Parishioners who have died in the last 3 years
Weds 22/11 <i>Exposition and Rosary 8,30 am.</i> MASS 9.30am .	<i>St Cecilia Red</i>	2 M 7: 1.20-31; Ps 16; Lk 19:11-28	The Brown family (SB)
Thurs 23/11 <i>Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet 3-4pm</i> Rosary 7.10pm MASS 7.30pm	<i>Ferial Green</i>	1 M 2: 15-29; Ps 49; Lk 19: 41-44.	Judy & Henry Kearney (SB)
Fri 24/11 <i>Rosary 9.10am</i> MASS 9.30am	<i>Ss Dung-Lac, P, & Companions Mm Red</i>	1 M 4: 36-37.52-59 Ps 1; 1 Ch; Lk 19: 45-48	Rosemary Prendergast
Sat 25/11 <i>Rosary 5.40pm</i> Vigil MASS 6 pm	<i>The Lord Jesus Christ, King White</i>	Ezk 34: 11-12.15-17; Ps 22;	Brian Jones
Sun 26 /11 <i>Exposition 8.30 am</i> Rosary 9.00am, Benediction 9.15am MASS 9.30am Latin MASS 11.15am	<i>Of The Universe White Special day of</i>	1 Co 15:20-26.28 Mt 25: 31-46 prayer for Young	Harry McGuire Anna Florio

St Clare's Catholic Primary School

This week our hockey players were in action in a tournament in Upton. Thomas, Daniel, Nathan, William, Kinga, Tia and Winnie played lots of matches, winning four and drawing one. Miss Higgins was delighted with the great sportsmanship demonstrated.



Our footballers played Saighton in a very exciting football match which was end to end action. The score was a one all draw and at the end of the match all the spectators gave the teams a great round of applause to acknowledge the skills displayed by all the pupils.

Class Three participated in a very exciting singing project. Nine hundred and eleven pupils arrived at Chester Catholic High on Thursday to be part of a recording of a song which has been composed to raise funds for McMillan Cancer Trust. The work is also going to be submitted to Britain's got Talent. The children had a great time meeting up with other pupils and experiencing the wonderful sounds.



This week I had the privilege of taking Class Four swimming. It was an absolute joy to see how well the children's swimming skills are developing. This year we have doubled the length of the swimming lessons to ensure that the pupils have time to develop techniques and I can see how this is having a very positive impact. Our aim is that all pupils can swim confidently by the time they leave in Year Six.



On Friday our school uniform was pyjamas and funny hair! This was to raise funds for Charity. There was a lot of laughter around school as the children enjoyed the fun.



If you know any families who have school aged children due to start in September 2018, please encourage them to come to visit us. Last year we had some families who were disappointed as they were not able to secure places for their children in St Clare's

PARISH EVENTS

MASS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, Tuesday , 21 November

PARISH COUNCIL. 12th December after evening Mass

REGULAR PARISH EVENTS

PRAYER GROUP. Meets after Wednesday 9.30 am Mass, in the Parish Room. All welcome.

CHOIR. Weekly practice on Thursdays after the evening Mass, in the Parish Room (sometimes in the choir loft. New members needed.

CAFOD. Meets in the Parish Room on the first Tuesday of the month, after the evening Mass.

SVP (Society of St Vincent de Paul). Meets every two weeks on Saturdays. New members welcome; for information contact Steve on 01244671817 and e-mail stevebonsall@outlook.com

CHESTER SPUC GROUP alternate 3rd Wednesdays next meeting November

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CONFIRMATION CLASS NO 9 The next class is on Monday 20 November. Time 6.00pm ,parish room.

ACTA GROUP “ An Astonishing Secret” Saturday 25th November, St Columba’s—see below

CAFOD SUPPORT GROUP COFFEE MORNING. 28th November 71 Liverpool Road 1030-1230

PRESENTAION OF CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION TO PATRISHIONERS, Sunday, 26th Nov. 9.30

CONFIRMATION. Tuesday, 28 November, in St Werburgh’s at 7.00pm

ACTA SHREWSBURY GATHERING IN CHESTER -

“An Astonishing Secret” Saturday 25th November (11m - 3pm) You are warmly invited to this important ACTA (A Call to Action) event at St Columba’s Church Hall, Chester, This will be a wonderful opportunity to find out more about ACTA, to meet others who want to promote dialogue in the Church, and to help take ACTA forward in the Shrewsbury diocese.

Fr Daniel O’Leary, well- known author, teacher and theologian, and longstanding member of ACTA, is our main speaker. His most recent book *“An Astonishing Secret”*

MISSION APPEAL

A group of Nuns living in Liverpool will be visiting our parish for mission appeal during the weekend masses of 25/26th November. Sr. Pinnie Macinnes will be coming for the appeal. As we welcome Sr. Pinnie to our parish, I appeal to parishioners to generously assist the Nuns to carry on with the good work they do.

PRAYERS FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

The Prayer of St. Gertrude, below, is one of the most famous of the prayers for souls in purgatory. St. Gertrude the Great was a Benedictine nun and mystic who lived in the 13th century. According to tradition, our Lord promised her that 1000 souls would be released from purgatory each time it is said devoutly.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

Youth Zone

WAKE UP SLEEPY HEAD!

In today’s Second reading from St Paul to the people of Thessalonica we hear some great advice for life...**stay awake!** Obviously, this doesn’t mean for us to literally stay awake, but it does challenge us in the way that we approach our life.

Are we always ready to show in words and actions who Christ is? Do we shrink away from the Gospel? Like the man in the Gospel reading, do we hide the good things that God has done for us. Really, we should be shouting from the rooftops, we should be eager to tell EVERYONE about the Gospel. St Paul says that we are “sons and daughters of light and of the day” ... we live in the light of Christ. We see because of the light of Christ. We are who we are because of the light of Christ.

So this week shine on and tell the world of what He has done for us. Catherine SYMT





OUR SICK LIST

Our sick, elderly, housebound and those in care homes are important members of our parish community. New names are in Bold Type
Please remember to pray for them each day as they carry their cross ,

Dot Bell, Anna Brennan, Christopher Browne, Gerard Boyle, Joan Bullough, Mary Duffy, Mark Evans, Mary Frain, Michelle Gentile,, Kath Heffernan, Katie Gray, Ewyn Jenkins, V. Jones, Ann Leach, Bob McConnell, Mary McDonough, Belinda Riddell, Bob Sheppard, Phyllis Smith, Jo Stobbs, Gwen Spurn, Eileen Wyatt. Residents of Curzon Park Nursing Home.

FAIRTRADE STALL ON 4/5 NOVEMBER:

Many thanks to all who supported the stall and who together bought £116 worth of goods! We hope to be back in early December with some different items including Christmas stock to tempt you

In the meantime, the full range of goods can be found in the Traidcraft shop in The Wesley Centre, St John's Street, Chester where you can also enjoy a drink in the coffee shop.

CHURCH CLEANERS

The rota for 2018 is now available for collection from the porch.

TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER

There will not be an evening Mass in St Clare's because of the 7pm Confirmation celebration in St Werburgh's. Please come and join us. All are welcome.

NEW FACES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

A call — for three new people to join the Parish Council. Names for this latest need to Fr Emeka please. One name has been put forward but more are needed. Failing sufficient volunteers it will be necessary to ask you, the parishioners of St Clare's, to produce suggestions and then for an election to take place.

TRIDENTINE LATIN MASS

The Tridentine Latin Mass with the Celebrant standing facing the High Altar will, in future, be celebrated on the Third Sunday of each month, with the **next being on THIS Sunday, 19th November.** The last such celebration was attended by some 40 participants some from parishes far from Chester. Time: 12.30pm

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

The next collection for the Food Bank is the weekend 25/26 November.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS NOVEMBER

Evangelisation: That Christians. In Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

SPECIAL MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lady this Tuesday 21st, there will be a special Mass with candlelight and prayers for all deceased members of the parish, especially those who have died within the last 3 yrs, Please try to come and support our bereaved parishioners

"CHESTER CAFOD Support Group

Invite you World Gifts Coffee Morning on Tuesday 28 November. Any time between 10.30am - 12.30pm enjoy a coffee and goodies, friendly company and the opportunity to buy from a great selection of world gifts including for the first time a solar powered lamp and a birth certificate. 71 Liverpool road. Heading out of Chester this is on the left hand side before the Bache roundabout. Plenty of parking in side streets, or Ellesmere Port buses stop almost outside the house. "

CONFIRMATION

Please pray for the following parishioners who are going forward for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, 28th November at 7pm in St Werburgh's:

- Maxi Mc Kay
- Frances Mc Kay
- Thomas Preece
- Adam Preece
- Filip Fidler
- Ben Elphick



LOURDES HOSPITALITY GROUP

The Lourdes Hospitality Group will be celebrating the Immaculate Conception with Mass at 7.30pm on Friday 8th December at St Chad's, Cheadle followed by a social in Parish Centre. preceded at 6.30pm with a meeting for Hospitality members interested

OLD POPPIES

After the week of remembrance, please do not throw away your poppies , but put them in box at back of church. They will be used by the flower arrangers to make a larger wreath for our church next year