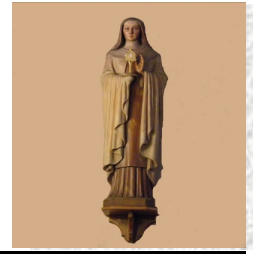




St Clare of Assisi Catholic Church

DOWNSFIELD ROAD, CHESTER CH4 8HH



Priest: Fr Emeka Nwachukwu, mobile: 07404178816
Parish email st.clareschester@sky.com Tel 01244 671015,
Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025.
Parish Website: www.stclareschester.org
Parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/StClaresChester/

Psalter Week II

**19th JANUARY 2020
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Year of The Word

DEDICATION:

January is dedicated to The Holy Name of Jesus



BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD

In today's Gospel (Jn 1:29-34) John the Baptist proclaims: "Behold the Lamb of God," and we turn our eyes to Christ, the real lamb of God, the incarnation of God's desire and power to free us from the slavery of selfishness, vanity, lust, and greed, and lead us to the promised land of joyful friendship with him.

So apt is this title that the Church repeats it every time Mass is celebrated: "Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us." You are the Saviour of all people.

You are the light of the world. You are the Lamb of God. I don't want these words to become meaningless phrases in my heart. Keep my faith fresh, Lord. Just because I sometimes get tired or fall into routine, that doesn't mean that you have changed. You are still God, the Lord, the Teacher. Open my eyes to see all the wonders of your love...

I think of all the people in my life: family, friends, colleagues, acquaintances. You have a mission for each one of them. You are calling each one of them to be saints. And I can either help them discover and fulfil that mission, or hinder them. I want to help them. I want to encourage them in whatever way I can to hear and heed Your call in their life. With the zeal of your heart, set my heart on fire...

Thank You for coming into my life, Lord. Before You came I was like an unlit candle. Jesus, never let me be separated from you. O Lord, what would I do without faith in You? How vulnerable I would be to the lies and destructive seductions all around me! Keep me faithful to Your will, Lord, and make me an instrument of your peace -extract Fr. John Bartunek 'Catholic Exchange'

THE YEAR OF THE WORD

Bishop Mark writes "We join the Dioceses of England and Wales in celebrating a Year of the Word as we seek to listen to the God who speaks. I hope you may be able to take advantage of the many opportunities presented in our 2020 programme which aims to help us deepen our love and knowledge of Scripture.

May this year be for us a renewed invitation to encounter Christ Himself in the Word of the Father

Please take a leaflet at the back of the Church which gives some of the programme as well as ideas and resources to make the most of this time. .



Weekend Masses:

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 9.30am

Sunday 11.15 am (Latin)

Weekday Masses Please see back page

Confessions

Saturday 5.30 -5.45pm

or on request

Children's Liturgy

Takes place Sundays 9.30am

In Sacristy

For Baptisms, Confirmation, Weddings & Funerals

Please call or email Fr Emeka
above



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, Veronica Creaney, W. Downes, Mike Edwards, Mary Frain, David Gardiner, Michelle Gentile, Katie Gray, Gwyn Harris, Lorna Jarvis, Judy Kearney, Ann Leach, Peter Lloyd, Rosemary McCabe, Kevin McCarthy, Alex Shone, Gwen Spurr, Krysia Wesalak, Eileen Wyatt.

ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME

Christopher Gentle, Concetta Gretton Watson.

Joan Bullough, Margaret Cuffley, Margaret Jones, Ptr Walsh, Frances Whelan, Mary Price, John Spencer, Sarah Foxall, Joseph Whellan, Esther Shaw, Michael Ashcroft, Kathleen Saunders, Joseph Ash, Tom Penlington, Jane Flynn, Charles Carson, Teresa Davies

IMPORTANT

Will all key holders please ensure that the heating is on auto (or off) before locking the sacristy– thank you

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE:

A Mass will be held for couples married within the last year, or celebrating significant anniversaries during 2020, on **Saturday 8th February** St Joseph's Church, North Road, Birkenhead, CH42 7JY Please would any recently married couples, or those celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or 70 years of marriage, who would like to attend the Mass, let the Bishop's Office (curia@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) know so that an invitation can be issued.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Collection will be the weekend of 25/26th January

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

This week the duty falls on **Team 4**

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

. Sunday 2nd Feb. Venue "The Mill" Chester at 1pm Sunday 2nd Feb . Contact Steve on O1244 671817

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Preparation lessons for Children who are not in St. Clare's school will begin after the Mass of enrolment, on Sunday 2nd February 2020. Please register the children by calling Parish office or Fr. Emeka.

ST CLARE'S DIAMOND JUBILEE COMMITTEE

An inaugural meeting for members of St Clare's diamond Jubilee committee will be held this Tuesday 21st January after the 7pm evening Mass. Everyone appointed to that committee is expected to attend. All correspondence to be directed to Pat Riddle (patriddle31@aol.com) and Jenny Szczyglowska (jenny.szczyglowska@gmail.com)

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND - SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend the annual Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund will be held. With your help, we can build up the Fund to help meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

Special Envelopes are available for you to use. A Leaflet about the Fund is also available which explains how to make a regular donation to the Fund by Standing Order, or how you can make your donation by cheque. It also explains how to take advantage of Gift Aid for your donations to the Fund. I ask that you give as generously as you can to this very worthy cause and would also like to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support.

With every blessing,

+ Mark

Bishop of Shrewsbury

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

That Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.



ST CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE

The Winter 2019 Vincentian Concern which was received recently contains an article about the work of the SVP in Paris where Frederic Ozanam started the St Vincent De Paul Society in 1833. It now has 2 million members worldwide. Those walking in the footsteps of St Vincent visited many places where he had been including a suburb of Paris called Clichy where St Vincent saw first-hand the needs of people who were suffering and organised a collaborative effort to offer support.

We here in St Clare's and in the wider Chester & Ellesmere Port district carry on that work today in our area always knowing that we have the backing of you. Thank you all. Steve.

REGULAR PARISH EVENTS

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

CHOIR Thursdays after the 7.30 pm Mass, in the Parish Room . 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) St Clare's SVP Conference meets every fortnight in the Parish Room on Mondays usually at 7pm. Contact Steve on 01244 671817 or stevebonsall@outlook.com

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB (St Clare's SVP Conference) Meets at 1pm on the first Sunday of the Month. Venue notified elsewhere in the newsletter. Contact Steve Bonsall on 01244 671817

or stevebonsall@outlook.com

CHESTER SPUC GROUP 3rd Wednesday every other month next meeting contact Kevin 01244 681816 or e mail: kevprend@gmail.com for details

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CATHEDRAL SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 19th January –see front page

DIAMOND JUBILEE COMMITTEE MEETING Tues 21st January after 7 pm Mass -see over

SVP MUSIC NIGHT Friday 31st Jan with the CHS Orchestra and Singers. To raise money for the Holiday Home. 7.30pm St Columba's Church Hall. Tickets available after Mass from SVP members .

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB. Sunday 2nd Feb "The Mill" Chester

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE Saturday 8th February

CHESTER ACROSS GROUP

Chester Across Group is off to **Lourdes** again from Thu 7th to Sat 16th May. Travel is overland by Jumbulance, literally a Jumbo-Ambulance, with seven beds on board. Franciscan Brother John Cavanagh is Chaplain. Cost including a kitty and insurance is £950. Nurses, who pay half price, and helpers needed.

For further information, visit <http://www.across.org.uk> or Facebook Liverpool & Chester Across or contact Tony Murphy 07881-656-974 or email tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins this Saturday, 18th January and ends on January 25th, The Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul.

There will be a Service in the Cathedral on Sunday, 19th January, at 3.30 p.m., **at which the Speaker will be Lord David Alton**, A Catholic he has advanced pro-life causes. Lord Alton is also known for his human rights work including the co-founding Jubilee Action, the children's charity and serves as chair, patron or trustee of several charities and voluntary organisations.

YOUTH ZONE

ALTAR SERVERS' DAY

Calling all altar servers! Join SYMT for a day of activities, reflection and fellowship, ending with the celebration of Mass with Bishop Mark Davies.

Saturday 7th March 2020, 10:30am-3pm

St John Henry Newman Church, Warrington

Email the team to let us know if you're coming! youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org



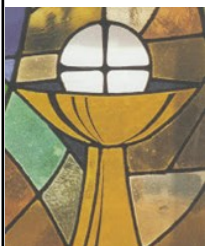
ROSARY CORNER

"If our age in its pride laughs at and rejects Our Lady's Rosary, a countless legion of the most saintly men of every age and of every condition have not only held it most dear and have most piously recited it but have also used it at all times as a most powerful weapon to overcome the devil, to preserve the purity of their lives, to acquire virtue more zealously, in a word, to promote peace among men."

-Pope Pius XI

Date/Time	Feast/Colour	Readings	Offered For
Sat 18/01 Rosary 5.40pm Vigil MASS 6pm	Second Sunday	Is 49: 3,5-6; Ps 39	Carmel and Jim
Sun 19/01 Exposition 8.45 am Rosary and Benediction 9 am MASS 9.30am Tridentine MASS 12.30 pm <i>Day of Special Prayer for World Peace</i>	In Ordinary Time Green	1 Co 1: 1-3; Jn 1:29-34	Catherine Maher
Tue 21/01 Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet 3-4pm St Anthony Devotions followed by MASS 7pm	St Agnes, V,M Red	1Co 1: 26-31; Ps 22; Mt 13: 44-46	Christine Andrews,
Wed 22/01 Exposition 8.30 am Rosary and Benediction MASS 9.30 am	Ferial Green	1 S 17:12-33,17, 40-51;Fs 14; Mk 3: 1-6	William Prendergast RIP
Thu 23/01 Exposition and Divine Mercy Chaplet 3-4pm NO MASS			
Fri 24/01 NO MASS			
Sat 25/01 Rosary 5.40pm Vigil MASS 6pm	Third Sunday	Is 8: 23-9: 3; Ps 26:;	Joseph Russell
Sun 26/01 EXPOSITION 8.45 am Rosary and Benediction 9 am MASS 9.30am Collection for Priests Retirement Fund	In Ordinary Time Green	1 Co 10: 13-17; Mt 4: 12-23	Hiroshi Yamamoto

St Clare's Catholic Primary School



This week we were very excited as we started the programme of preparation with pupils who are going to receive the sacraments of First Forgiveness and Holy Communion later this year. We also met with parents/carers to share details about the work we are going to be doing. Please remember the children in your prayers.



After school clubs started this week so there was a busy buzz around school as the children were very excited about their new activities. All the new sports equipment bought with funds from our sponsored jog arrived. Mr Wright introduced the new resources to the children before it all went outside to make our playtimes more active. Pupils in North America (Year Three) loved their first ever

school swimming lesson! There were a few nerves beforehand.....but everyone loved the experience and even want to go again next week!



Pupils in Asia (Year Five and Six) are heading off to London next week to the Natural History Museum to participate in workshops linked to their topic. A lot of the children have never been to London, so a journey around the main attractions will be

included in the visit.

Eight pupils from Years Three and Four are attending a more able writers' course next week. They are going to working with author G P Taylor, learning lots of new writing skills.

