

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are now a good ten days into Lent! How is it going? There is always time to get under way even if you have made a false start or not had time to think. It will soon be Easter and the joy of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. We eagerly await that day!

Last Thursday we celebrated a solemn by also joyous moment when children came to church for their first forgiveness, going to confession along with their parents, their family members. It was a joy to behold, families sharing in the practice of their faith. There was great excitement when all the sins were burnt in the mini-bonfire outside the church door. It added a little fun to the chilly but fortunately calm night.

Thank you to date for all the contributions that have been made towards the roof fund. We have nearly reached £20,000 which is a little over half way. I am still waiting for the gutters to be replaced on the house which is part of this contract. I must say the church roof does look good with its new hair-cut! Every tile is clipped down in order to make sure that the swirling winds that we get around the building are less likely to lift and move tiles in the future – something that was causing constant problems and led to the wooden batons beginning to rot. Thank you again.

Please remember that for the sign of peace we will no longer shake hands, but rather replace it with a smile and the words, “Peace be with you”, and the reply “And with your spirit!” It is simple common sense following the advice generally given. The ministers of communion will use cleansing gel before distributing communion and the chalice for the time being will no longer be shared. Please help one another in feeling secure in one another’s behaviour.

Remember in your prayers all the sick and housebound and also those in hospital. We pray also for Monica Gillard and her family and friends. Monica’s Reception into church is on Thursday 12th at 6 p.m. and her Requiem the next day at 11.45 a.m. May she rest in peace!

May the Lord keep you safe in his care and let us care for one another!

Father Anton s.c.j.

**Our Lady & Saint John the Baptist, Ashley
and**

Our Lady & Saint Werburgh, Clayton

The parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216

Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023

[Parishes Office Hours: Wed/ Thur/Fri/Sat 10.00 am – 1 pm]

Chaplain’s Office for inpatients at the Royal Stoke: 01782 676400

Website: www.ourladyandstwerburgh.org.uk Email: catholics.clayton@btinternet.com



Sunday 8th March 2020 Second Sunday of Lent Sunday Readings Year A, Weekday Readings Cycle Two	
The Angelus	
V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with Thee; Blessed art thou among women, And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death. Amen V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary. . .	And the Word was made flesh. R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary. . . V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen

	Ashley	Clayton	Intentions
Saturday 7th March Vigil Mass for Sunday Second Sunday of Lent	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 8th March Second Sunday of Lent	4.00pm	8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Dennis Austin The Rosary – for peace in the world Mrs Val Wood Stations of the Cross
Tuesday 10th March		7.15 pm	Hugh and Natalie Barton
Wednesday 11th March	11.30am	9.30 am	In Thanksgiving (No Adoration) Holy Souls
Thursday 12th March		9.15 am 6.00 pm 7.00 pm	Raymond Collard Reception for Monica Gillard Divine Office
Friday 13th March		11.45 am	Requiem Mass for Monica Gillard
Saturday 14th March Vigil Mass for Sunday Third Sunday of Lent	6.00 pm	9.30 am	Thomas and Teresa Gibbon (No Adoration) People of the Parishes
Sunday 15th March Third Sunday of Lent		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am 4.00 pm	Michael Brennan The Rosary – for peace in the world John Goodwin Stations of the Cross

Confessions: At Clayton Saturday's 10.30 – 11.30 am. At Ashley Saturday's 5.25 pm – 5.45 pm.

Please Note: No Confessions on Saturday 14th March at Clayton.

Please pray for the sick and elderly of our parishes and all those who have asked for prayers. May the healing touch of the Lord be with them all! Including: Margaret Boden, Mary Gregory, Michael Somers, Kathleen Rouffet, Louise and Dee Dutton.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Monica Gillard, and remember her family and friends in your prayers. Reception into Our Lady and St Werburgh Church at 6.00 pm on Thursday 12th March. Requiem Mass on Friday 13th March at 11.45 am.

Please keep Edward in your prayers; he is to be baptised on Sunday.

Our Lady & St Werburgh Roof Fund: The total cost will be £36,180. If you are able to make a donation please hand it to Father Anton. GiftAid envelopes are available in the porch. **Total raised so far £19,165.56 - thank you!**

Lent Appeal – WaterAid Jars of Change: This year we will be supporting the charity WaterAid. Please collect your loose change throughout Lent and fill an empty jar. Please pick a label from the porch to put in your jar.

CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day: Friday 6 March is the 60th anniversary of the first Family Fast Day. CAFOD Lent Fast Day collection will be on 7th/8th March.

BISHOP DAVID McGOUGH – GOLDEN JUBILEE: On Saturday 14th March, our area bishop, Bishop David will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. There will be a special Mass at 2pm at Sacred Heart, Tunstall on that day. All welcome to attend and to join with Bishop David on this special occasion

Dementia Prayer Week – 12th – 19th March: Please keep all those suffering from dementia in your prayers, and especially all those who care for them.

Diary Dates

Tue 10 th March	Journey in Faith 8pm
Wed 11 th March	Baby and Toddler Group 9.30am – 11am
Wed 11 th March	Parish Committee Meeting 8.15 pm Upper Room
Thur 12 th March	Over 55's Friendship Club 12.45pm – 2.50 pm
Sun 26 th April	Parish AGM after 10am Mass
Sat 27 th June	Parish/PTA Summer Fayre 12 Noon – 2pm

Through Lent With St Matthew - The Year of the Word: An Opportunity to enter deeply into the Gospel of St Matthew with Father Julian Green, Father Michael Glover, and Deacon Sean Gough. On 13th March, and 20th March from 7.00 pm – 9.00pm. Sessions to take place at St Catherine's Room (Parish Room) Our Lady and St Peter in Chains, 106 Hartshill Road, ST4 7LL. (Please collect a leaflet from the back of Church)

Lent 2020 Reflections with Laudato Si: Sessions to take place at Coolock, Newcastle from 7.15 -8.45 pm Wednesday 11th March, Wednesday 18th March, Wednesday 25th March and Tuesday 31st March.

At the Heart - Three evenings of prayer, reflection and music living out our faith and raising a family in a modern world: The evenings will be led by Catherine McLoughlin an international speaker. On 16th March 7.00 pm – Marriage, 17th March 7.00pm – Pregnancy, 18th March 7.00pm - Family. To take place at St Teresa of the Child Jesus, Stone Road, Trent Vale ST4 6SP. (Leaflets available in the porch)

Safeguarding: If you would like to speak to someone about safeguarding, please contact either The Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator: 0121 230 6240 or the Parishes Safeguarding Representative: Mrs Kate Hagan 07930 658080. Protecting children and vulnerable adults from harm is our priority.

Volunteers Needed to Serve Tea/Coffee after 10 am Mass on Mothering Sunday – Sunday 22nd March: List in the porch if a few gentlemen can sign up to help please.