

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A special welcome to all year three children, parents and children of our parish who are preparing for that wonderful moment when they first receive Holy Communion. Holy Communion is a public declaration of our faith as Catholics and a personal encounter with Jesus, the Son of God. It is a constant reminder that Christ gave his life for love of us. Let us all treasure the gift of Jesus in our lives. May we value the Eucharist as a treasure in the wheat field, something we give all for.

This Thursday is also the Solemn Feast of the Ascension, when Jesus returns to heaven to his heavenly Father. He promises to send his disciples an extra advocate, that of the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the arrival of that Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, which marks the end of the Easter Season.

Ascension Day is also the Feast of the founder of the Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers of Betharram, St Michael Garicoits. Please remember to pray for our members as they endeavour to fulfil the will of God in the world.

Please keep in your prayers Will Simpson. Will was a nineteen-year-old trainee school chaplain. He passed away suddenly last week in his sleep. Please pray for the repose of his soul, also remembering his family in their special time of need.

A reminder to the parish committee of the meeting on Thursday evening following the evening Mass! Evening Mass is at 7.15 p.m., and the meeting follows at 8.15 p.m. approx.

God bless you and keep you safe in his care!

**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*

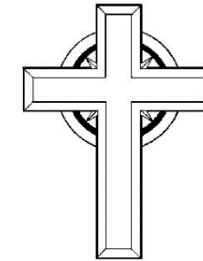
**Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ**

**Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023**

**Email: [olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk)**

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

**Chaplain's Office for inpatients at the Royal Stoke: 01782 67640**



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Sunday Readings Year A  
Weekday Readings Year 2**

***THE ANGELUS***

C The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.  
R And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.  
C Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
R Be it done unto me according to thy word.  
C And the Word was made flesh.  
R And dwelt among us.

|  | Ashley             | Clayton             |   |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| <b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May<br/>Vigil Mass<br/>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>       | 6.00 pm            |                     | People of the Parishes  |
| <b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May<br/>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>                       |                    | 8.15 am<br>10.00 am | Mary Richards RIP<br>Jose Mathew RIP<br>(First Holy Communion Preparation Mass) |
| <b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>   |                    | 10.00am             | Holy Mass   |
| <b>Vigil Mass for<br/>Ascension</b>  | 6.45 pm<br>7.15 pm |                     | Adoration<br>Holy Mass  |
| <b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May<br/>Solemnity of the<br/>Ascension of the Lord</b> |                    | 9.15 am<br>7.15 pm  | Holy Mass with the school<br>Deceased of the Cunningham family                  |
| <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>  |                    | 10.00am             | Will Simpson RIP  |
| <b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>  |                    | 10.00am             | Holy Mass   |
| <b>Vigil Mass<br/>Seventh Sunday of<br/>Easter</b>                                 | 6.00 pm            |                     | Intentions of the Hall family   |
| <b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May<br/>Seventh Sunday of<br/>Easter</b>                 |                    | 8.15 am<br>10.00am  | People of the Parishes<br>Holy Mass   |

**Confessions on Saturdays: At Clayton** – 10.30 – 11.30 am. **At Ashley** before 6 pm Mass.

**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.

**North Staffs Area Pastoral Council: Talk on St Francis of Assisi** – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May at Holy Trinity Community Centre, Newcastle 7pm. Talk given by Father Michael Miners. **(please note change of date from original APC programme)**

**Come and celebrate Pentecost with our parish family!**

**Youth Group – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 6–8pm**

All young people (Year 4 and up) are welcome to join us in the hall for an evening of free pizza, games, prayer, and preparation for our Youth Mass.

**Youth Mass – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 10am**

Please join us for our Pentecost Youth Mass, followed by the usual teas and coffees.

**Pentecost Party for All**

After teas and coffees you are warmly invited to stay for a parish Pentecost celebration. Families are especially welcome! There will be games, crafts, reflections and a shared table lunch together. If you are able to bring a dish to share, please add your name and dish to the list at the back of church - or feel free to bring your own picnic.

|                                      |                                       |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Readers<br>Saturday                  | 6.00pm                                | 09.05.26<br>H. Brown                   | 16.05.26<br>R. McKenna   | 23.05.26<br>S. McKenna   |
| Readers                              | Sunday<br>8.15 am                     | 10.05.26<br>M. Corrigan                | 17.05.26<br>C. Pover   | 24.05.26<br>M. Anderson  |
| Readers                              | Sunday<br>10 am                       | 10.05.26<br>L. Machin/<br>H. Carter    | 17.05.26<br>A. Capper/<br>J. Capper  | 24.05.26<br>A. Goodall/<br>M. O'Brien  |
| Counting                             | Clayton                               | 10.05.26<br>Whitehurst/<br>Machin      | 17.05.26<br>Walker   | 24.05.26<br>Thompson/<br>Carter  |
| <b>Cleaning</b>                      | Clayton                               | 10.05.26<br>Group 6                    | 17.05.26<br>Group 1  | 24.05.26<br>Group 2  |
| <b>Cleaning<br/>Ashley</b>           | Ashley                                | May<br>P. & C.<br>Quinlan              |  |  |
| <b>Flowers</b>                       | <b>Ashley</b><br>11.05.26<br>18.05.26 | Chris<br>Chris                         | <b>Clayton</b><br>10.05.26<br>17.05.26   | Rosalind<br>Helen  |
| Offertory Collections –<br>thank you |                                       |  | The retiring<br>collection 9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup><br>May is for Poor<br>Parishes fund | The retiring<br>collection 16 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup><br>May is for Catholic<br>Communications |
| <b>Gift Aid</b>                      | <b>Clayton</b>                        | £132.32                                | <b>Ashley</b>  | £40.00   |
| <b>Cash</b>                          | <b>Clayton</b>                        | £240.12                                | <b>Ashley</b>  | £25.50   |
| <b>Standing Orders</b>               | <b>Clayton</b>                        | £430.00                                | <b>Ashley</b>  | £92.00   |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>Clayton</b>                        | £802.44                                | <b>Ashley</b>  | £157.50  |
| <b>Mary's Meals/WaterAid</b>         | <b>Clayton</b>                        | £130.89<br>(Tap & Go)<br>£40.00 (cash) |  |  |

**Safeguarding:** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Kate Hagan She can be contacted at: [sg.olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk) or 01782 613023 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

**Clayton Parish AGM – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June** after 10am Mass: All welcome. Reports from groups can be read out at the meeting. Please leave at the parish office or bring on the day.

**Summer Fayre – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 12 Noon – 2pm:** We would be very grateful for prizes for the main raffle.

**Summer Fayre Raffle Tickets:** Now available in the porch. Please take some to sell to family and friends.