

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we make our way through Lent it would seem that life is giving us plenty of challenges and penances. The latest concerns about Coronavirus have certainly stimulated thought and action. Please note that we are now making continual changes in order to make the environment as friendly and safe as possible, but we understand if anyone feels too vulnerable to join us in worship.

From this Sunday on we will be having a one-use hymn sheets which we ask you to take with you and either destroy or use as scrap at home. Mass leaflets will need to be shared, one between two where possible. Again please take the one you use home and destroy it or keep it for personal use. Please do not leave it behind for someone else to have to deal with. There will be no offertory procession and designated altar servers will handle the Sacred Vessels after thorough hand washing. Communion should only be taken in the hand and please keep your hand still and wide open while receiving the host. We are ordering hand gel for entrance into church and encourage everyone to wash their hands thoroughly before leaving home. Please note paper hand towels are now available.

This may make you laugh a little, but we are also asking that people give in their collection offering as they enter church so that the collection bags are not passed from person to person.

We remember Bishop David McGough this weekend as he has celebrated his Golden Jubilee, giving thanks to him for his service; the retiring collection will be towards a small token of our appreciation.

Please pray especially for Monica Gillard and her family and friends. Her Requiem Mass took place this week. She has been a long-standing member of the community and parish and she is very much missed by her loved ones. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord! We remember also Father Robert Wright who died recently at his parish in Coventry. Rob was one of my contemporaries in college and is remembered fondly. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord!

God bless, keep safe and look after 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](http://www.ourladyandstwerburgh.org.uk) Email: [catholics.clayton@btinternet.com](mailto:catholics.clayton@btinternet.com)



**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
Third 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
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b> <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am 4.00pm	Michael Brennan The Rosary – for peace in the world John Goodwin Stations of the Cross
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Feast of St Patrick</b>		7.15 pm	Kevin McCarthy
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>11.30am</b>	9.30 am	Mariam Mathew Ramanattu ( <b>No Adoration</b> ) Ellen Squires
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Solemnity of St Joseph</b>		9.15 am	Gerrard Moss
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>		9.30 am	Alice Alker
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b>		10.00 am	Michael Latham (Mass followed by Adoration until 11am)
<b>Vigil Mass for Sunday</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>4.00 pm</b>	8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Dennis O'Neill The Rosary – for peace in the world Very Rev. Monsignor Louis D. McRaye 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> March. Requiem Mass on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> 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 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Family Fast Day. CAFOD Lent Fast Day collection will be on 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> March.

**BISHOP DAVID MCGOUGH – GOLDEN JUBILEE:** On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, our area bishop, Bishop David will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> 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 – 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> March: Please keep all those suffering from dementia in your prayers, and especially all those who care for them.**

**Diary Dates**

Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Journey in Faith 8pm
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Baby and Toddler Group 9.30am – 11am
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Parish Committee Meeting <b>8.15 pm Upper Room</b>
Thur 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Over 55's Friendship Club 12.45pm – 2.50 pm
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Parish AGM after 10am Mass
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> March, and 20<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> March, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> March 7.00 pm – Marriage, 17<sup>th</sup> March 7.00pm – Pregnancy, 18<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> March: List in the porch if a few gentlemen can sign up to help please.**