

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Having celebrated the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into heaven, we look to the following Sunday to celebrate Pentecost, the coming down of the Holy Spirit of Fire upon the Apostles as they hid away in the upper room, afraid to go out for fear of the Jews. It will mark the end of the Easter season and the start of Ordinary time in our weekly worship.

This time of the year is also a happy time as we prepare our children to make Holy Communion with the Lord Jesus for the first time. The celebration is a time of introduction to a relationship worthy of honour for all our time on earth. Parents and children are called to honour this beautiful time and practise it continually to keep us joined in this life to the heavenly life to come. Thursday evening 7 p.m. in school is the time for our parents' meeting. See you there!

For those among us who might like to visit the newly restored Sacred Heart Mosaic Church in Droitwich. We are forming a carpool that will leave here at 2 p.m. Sunday June 7th, arriving at Droitwich for a conducted tour at 3.30 p.m. Tea and coffee will be provided for us in the hall afterwards with ourselves invited to bring a little something with us to fill the hunger gap. So far, we have four volunteer drivers and there are 13 (thirteen) passenger places available. Please book through the parish office. The mosaics have been renewed due to a £161,000 donation from the National Lottery Fund! It has been a costly but impressive renewal.

Next Sunday, Pentecost Sunday, our Youth Group are organizing a Pentecost Party with a shared table which follows on from the 10 a.m. Mass. Further details are in the newsletter!

Next week is half term and a time to recoup for staff and pupils. Let us hope the weather improves a little for the chance to enjoy a bit of outdoor time.

Meanwhile, take care and God bless,

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***

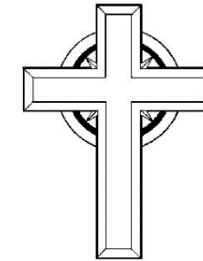
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023

Email: olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk

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

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



**Sunday 17th May 2026
Seventh 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	
Saturday 16th May Vigil Mass Seventh Sunday of Easter	6.00 pm		Intentions of the Hall family
Sunday 17th May Seventh Sunday of Easter		8.15 am 10.00 am	People of the Parishes Father Colin Fortune
Tuesday 19th May		7.15 pm	Mary O' Reilly RIP
Wednesday 20th May	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Father Dominic Adoration Holy Mass
Thursday 21st May		9.15 am	Brother Michael
Friday 22nd May		10.00am	Brijeetha Sebastian RIP
Saturday 23rd May Vigil Mass Solemnity of Pentecost	6.00 pm	10.00am	Father Brian Boyle Holy Mass
Sunday 24th May Solemnity of Pentecost		8.15 am 10.00am	People of the Parishes Will Simpson RIP

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.

Please keep Milan and Winter in your prayers they are to be baptised this weekend.

North Staffs Area Pastoral Council: Talk on St Francis of Assisi – Friday 29th 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 23rd 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 24th 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 Saturday	6.00pm	16.05.26 R. McKenna	23.05.26 S. McKenna	30.05.26 B. Bromfield
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	17.05.26 C. Pover	24.05.26 M. Anderson	21.05.26 M. Mason
Readers	Sunday 10 am	17.05.26 A. Capper/ J. Capper	24.05.26 A. Goodall/ M. O'Brien	31.05.26 S. Sony/ M. Tierney
Counting	Clayton	17.05.26 Walker	24.05.26 Thompson/ Carter	31.05.26 Eggington/ Beardmore
Cleaning	Clayton	17.05.26 Group 1	24.05.26 Group 2	31.05.26 Group 3
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley	May: P. & C. Quinlan		
Flowers	Ashley 18.05.26 25.05.26	Chris Sue M	Clayton 17.05.26 24.05.26	Helen Sujen
Offertory Collections – thank you			The retiring collection 16 th /17 th May is for Catholic Communication	The retiring collection on 23 rd May at Ashley is for the Building Fund
Gift Aid	Clayton	£149.22	Ashley	Not Available
Cash	Clayton	£301.34	Ashley	
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£92.00
Total	Clayton	£880.56	Ashley	
Poor Parishes	Clayton	£198.57		

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 or 01782 613023 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Clayton Parish AGM – Sunday 7th 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 4th July 12 Noon – 2pm: We would be very grateful for prizes for the main raffle.

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

Lourdes Petitions: If you would like a petition taking to Lourdes please put in a sealed envelope and pass to Judy Somers or the parish office by Sunday 24th May.