

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We are now well into the Easter Season and looking forward to the great celebrations of the Ascension and Pentecost when Jesus returns to Heaven and sends us the Holy Spirit, firstly to the Apostles in order that they might be strong in faith and witness to the message of the Risen Lord Jesus. I cannot but help feel that this is the risk and commitment that Pope Leo is showing to us all, when he states that the world is being led by tyrants who spend billions on warfare, killing many innocent men, women and children. Thank you Pope Leo, may your message of peace be heard throughout the world.

Please note that there is an educational meeting on this Friday 24th at St James Church around the corner. It is about fraud and scams awareness. It runs from 1.30 -3 p.m. It is sponsored by Father Hudson's Group and is free to attend. It is particularly geared to help the elderly understand and avoid situations. All are welcome.

St James also celebrates its 60th Anniversary of Celebration of the Eucharist. 10 a.m. next Sunday for anyone who is free. Please keep our Christian brethren in your prayers as they witness to their faith in Christ!

May I remind the Finance Committee that they meet this Tuesday at 5.30 p.m. in the Upper Room. May I take this moment to thank all those who volunteer to help with Parish Finance, either on the committee, counting, doing accounts and generally helping to keep all things in order as is required by the diocese and other state organizations.

God bless you all and let us continue to celebrate the Easter Season.

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

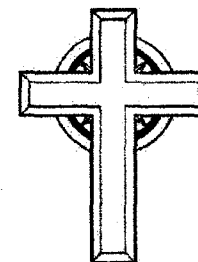
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

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 19th April 2026
Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday Readings Year A
Weekday Readings Year 2**

***Happy moments
Praise God
Difficult moments
Seek God
Quiet moments
Worship God
Painful moments
Trust God
Every moments
Thank God***

	Ashley	Clayton	
Saturday 18th April Vigil Mass Third Sunday of Easter	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 19th April Third Sunday of Easter		8.15 am 10.00 am	Christine McKenna Birthday, All souls in Purgatory and Thanksgiving
Tuesday 21st April		7.15 pm	Intention of Sister Geraldine
Wednesday 22nd April	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Maureen & John Mulrooney Adoration Deceased of the Hall family
Thursday 23rd April Solemnity of St George		9.15 am	Holy Mass with the school
Friday 24th April		10.00am	Jose Mathew RIP
Saturday 25th April Feast of St Mark Vigil Mass Fourth Sunday of Easter	6.00 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass People of the Parishes
Sunday 26th April Fourth Sunday of Easter		8.15 am 10.00am	Mildred Brennan Nora Lloyd

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.

Ashley Thanksgiving Meal: Saturday 25th April after Mass. All welcome. Please see Hazel after mass for tickets. Please bring your own drinks.

Gift Aid Envelopes: The Gift Aid envelopes for the new tax year are available to collect in the Church porch.

Parish of St James the Great Clayton: Sixtieth Anniversary Eucharist. On Sunday 26th April 2026 at 10am. Please see poster on noticeboard for further details.

Are You Worried About Scam Callers?: Father Hudson's Caritas Clayton Social Group in association with Nat West Bank are offering a free information session for anyone over 50. It will be held on Friday 24th April 1.30 – 3.00 pm at St James's Church Hall, Clayton Road.

Upcoming events at Oscott College:

St John Henry Newman, Theology and the Imagination, Friday 1st May – Saturday 2nd May: A Theology Symposium in honour of St John Henry Newman's elevation to Doctor of the Church. The event begins on Friday May 1st at 7pm with a free public lecture. You can attend this without any obligation to attend the Symposium, which begins on Saturday morning at 9.15am. Further details can be found here:

<https://stmaryscollegeoscottcio.churchsuite.com/events/al1hod7n>

Organ Recital, Sunday 3rd May Join us as we welcome Cathy Lamb to the college chapel. Bookings can be made here:

<https://stmaryscollegeoscottcio.churchsuite.com/events/22e4lszl>

Readers Saturday	6.00pm	18.04.26 C. Bland	25.04.26 B. Bromfield	02.05.26 L. Mifflin
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	19.04.26 M. Hill	26.04.26 S. Sammons	03.05.26 C. Dible
Readers	Sunday 10 am	19.04.26 B. Walker/ J. Somers	26.04.26 B. Tierney/ R. Gallimore	03.05.26 M. Larkin/ J. Parkes
Counting	Clayton	19.04.26 Hughes	26.04.26 Grannell	03.05.26 Lycett/Bullock/ Corrigan
Cleaning	Clayton	19.04.26 Group 3	26.04.26 Group 4	03.05.26 Group 5
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley	April H. Brown/ J. Dunlevy	May P. & C. Quinlan	
Flowers	Ashley 27.04.26 04.05.26	Hazel Hazel	Clayton 19.04.26 26.04.26	Sujen Catherine
Offertory Collections – thank you				The retiring collection 25 th /26 th April is for Clergy Training Fund
Gift Aid	Clayton	£115.15	Ashley	£50.00
Cash	Clayton	£286.23	Ashley	£28.45
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£92.00
Total	Clayton	£831.38	Ashley	£170.45
			Ashley Building Fund	£30.70

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.

Newcastle Staffs Foodbank: Please see list of current shortages on the noticeboard.

North Staffs Area Pastoral Council:

Programme of Events for 2026: Copies available in the porch.

May Devotions – Walsingham Association; On Sunday 3rd May at St Patrick's Packmoor 3.30 pm.

Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham – Saturday 9th May.