

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY YEAR A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus our Lord,

As we establish ourselves back at work and school let us look to the future with faith and hope. There is still so much good in the world and so many good people. A reflection of this is seen in our community spirit, the joy of worship as we gather together remembering that our family is also the family of the Church. Its values are our hope and salvation; our people reflect the love of God in Jesus Christ. Our Mass at weekends is so important for all our well-being.

Another reflection of our community spirit was the Parish Picnic last weekend. Despite the threat of weather, it turned our dry and then sunny and bright. So much so that I felt people would have stayed all day if they had not other things to do. Thank you to all who organized the event and those who donated meat and bread. Money from the barbecue paid for the bouncy castle, a big favourite with the children.

A date for your diaries! Bishop Timothy Menezes is coming to join us on Friday, November 27th to celebrate Confirmations. When I contacted him, he was already well booked up so we managed to get a date just in time. Thank you, Bishop Tim, we look forward to welcoming you!

This week we have the Requiem of Aileen Bell on Wednesday 23rd 1 p.m. Ashley. Also, the Requiem of Esther Bourne takes place on Friday 25th, 11 a.m. at Clayton. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace!

Please note that there will be no Wednesday Evening Mass at Ashley due to the Requiem and no 10 a.m. Mass on Friday due to the Requiem at 11 a.m.

Thanks to the initiative of the Parish Council we are planning a much needed clear up. Hopefully there should be some fliers on the benches giving details; if you can take part, if only for an hour or so, it would be great.

Meanwhile, take good care of yourselves and keep close to the Lord Jesus in work, recreation and prayers.

God bless,

Father Anton s.c.j.

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

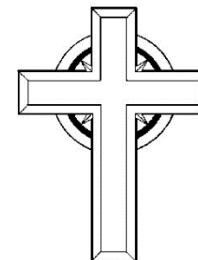
Our Lady & Saint Werburgh, Clayton

*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 676400



**Sunday 20th September 2026
Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year
Sunday Readings Year A
Weekday Readings Year 2**

Morning Prayer

**Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy.**

**Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
We are the people, the sheep of his flock.**

**Go within his gates, giving thanks.
Enter his courts with songs of praise.
Give thanks to him and bless his name.**

**Indeed, how good is the Lord,
Eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age.
Glory be to the Father ...**

	Ashley	Clayton	
Saturday 19th September Vigil Mass for Sunday Twenty- Fifth Sunday of the Year	6.00 pm		Dee Dutton
Sunday 20th September Twenty - Fifth Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00am	People of the Parishes Michael Somers RIP
Tuesday 22nd September		7.15 pm	Intentions of Louise
Wednesday 23rd September	1.00 pm	10.00 am	Holy Mass Requiem Mass for Aileen Bell
Thursday 24th September Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham		9.15 am 4.00 pm	Holy Mass with the school Reception for Esther Bourne
Friday 25th September		11.00 am	Requiem Mass for Esther Bourne
Saturday 26th September Vigil Mass for Sunday Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year	6.00 pm	10.00am	Paula and Tom Wedding Day Intentions Anne Widdecombe RIP
Sunday 27th September Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00am	People of the Parishes Jose Mathew RIP

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

Toddler Group at St Werburgh's: Every Wednesday term time 9.15 am – 11 am in the parish hall. All welcome.

Journey In Faith: On Tuesday 22nd September 8pm in the upper room.

Feast Day Mass for Our Lady of Walsingham: At St Wulstan's Church, Wolstanton on Thursday 24th September at 6.30PM

Home Mission: The Second Collection on this weekend is to support the work carried out by the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate. Through the Mission Directorate, we support our Church in a wide field of service and mission here in England and Wales. Please hold this important work in your prayers and give as generously as you can. Thank you.

Readers Saturday Ashley	6.00pm	19.09.26 J. Dunlevy	26.09.26 S. McKenna	03.10.26 H. Brown
Readers Clayton	Sunday 8.15 am	20.09.26 J. Mason	27.09.26 M. O'Hagan	04.10.26 A. Dible
Readers	Sunday 10 am	20.09.26 A. Goodall/ M. Hughes	27.09.26 T. Gauvin/ C. O'Hara	04.10.26 S. Sony/J. Somers
Counting	Clayton	20.09.26 Whitehurst Machin	27.09.26 Grannell	04.10.26 Lycett/ Bullock/ Corrigan
Cleaning	Clayton	20.09.26 Group 1	27.09.26 Group 2	04.10.26 Group 3
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley	September H. Brown/ J. Dunlevy		
Flowers	Ashley 21.09.26 28.09.26 05.10.26	Sue M Chris Chris	Clayton 20.09.26 27.09.26 04.10.26	Rosalind Julia Helen
Offertory Collections – thank you	Second Collections: 20.09.26 Home Mission 04.10.26 CAFOD Harvest Fast Day			
Gift Aid	Clayton	£165.00	Ashley	£55.00
Cash	Clayton	£322.77	Ashley	£34.10
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£92.00
Total	Clayton	£917.77	Ashley	£181.10
Catholic Education	Clayton	£119.09	Ashley	£14.40

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.

Caritas Parish Ambassadors: Could you be a Caritas Parish Ambassador? We're inviting people from across the Archdiocese of Birmingham to act as a link between your parish and Father Hudson's Caritas. Interested? Attend our information session on Tuesday 15th September at 7pm online. Contact Emily Pugh, emilypugh@fatherhudsons.org.uk or 07385 472924 for the link to join.

CAFOD ECUMENICAL WALK with prayer stations: On Sunday 20th September 2026. Please meet at Apedale museum car park at 2pm. This walk is weather permitting. Participants to bring own refreshments.