

PENTECOST SUNDAY YEAR A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy Pentecost Sunday! This weekend we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending on the Apostles in the upper room. This event is a reminder to us that the gift of the Spirit has been given to us as followers of Jesus. Both in baptism and confirmation we recognise his special arrival into our lives. It is interesting too that our church has a special recognition of the presence of the Holy Spirit, with the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. The stain glass windows remind us of the virtues we need to practise in our lives strengthened by the presence of him within us.

This Sunday is the end of the Easter Season! The Paschal (Easter) Candle will be removed from the sanctuary and reside to one side, only to be used at times of Baptisms and Funerals. At these times we are reminded of our New Birth in Christ at Baptism and our promised Resurrection after death.

Half term beckons and I hope it is a time for family renewal and perhaps a chance for a break over the bank holiday weekend. Let us always be ready to renew our spiritual lives along with social and physical renewal.

The car-pool for the proposed visit to the newly decorated Mosaic Church in Droitwich Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup> is able to offer a number of places to non-drivers. If interested, please contact the parish office. Departure from St Werburgh is 2 p.m. Arrival for the guided tour is 3.30 p.m. approx. and tea and coffee in the hall afterwards. Bring a snack to enjoy with your tea and coffee!

Please note the shared table in the parish hall following the 10 a.m. Mass. More details in the newsletter! Come along and have a little family fun.

Meanwhile take good care of yourselves. Keep our sick and housebound in your prayers. Allow the Holy Spirit to renew itself within oneself and rejoice in the gift of faith along with the strengthening of the Holy Season.

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***

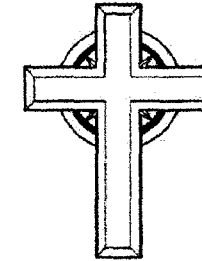
***Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ***

***Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023***

***Email: [olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk](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 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026  
Solemnity of Pentecost  
Sunday Readings Year A  
Weekday Readings Year 2  
(Fortnightly)**

***Prayer to the Holy Spirit***

Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

**V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.**

**R. And you shall renew the face of the earth.**

Let us pray:

O God, who taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may be always truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

	<b>Ashley</b>	<b>Clayton</b>	
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May Solemnity of Pentecost</b>	6.00 pm		Holy Mass
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May Solemnity of Pentecost</b>		8.15 am 10.00 am	People of the Parishes Will Simpson RIP
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May  Vigil Mass Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity</b>	6.00 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass, followed by Adoration  People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity</b>		8.15 am 10.00am	Holy Mass Bill Cooper RIP
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>		7.15 pm	Holy Mass
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass Adoration Holy Mass
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>		9.15 am	Holy Mass
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>		10.00am	In Thanksgiving
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June Vigil Mass Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ</b>	6.00 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass, followed by Adoration  Holy Mass
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity</b>		8.15 am 10.00am	Holy Mass People of the Parishes

**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 Arthur who is to be baptised next weekend in your prayers.**

**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)**

**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.**

**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.**

<b>Readers Saturday</b>	6.00pm	23.05.26 L. Mifflin	30.05.26 B. Bromfield	06.06.26 S. McKenna
<b>Readers</b>	Sunday 8.15 am	24.05.26 M. Anderson	31.05.26 M. Mason	07.06.26 R. Hartley
<b>Readers</b>	Sunday 10 am	24.05.26 A. Goodall/ M. O'Brien	31.05.26 S. Sony/ M. Tierney	07.06.26 A. Hagan/ M. Hughes
<b>Counting</b>	Clayton	24.05.26 Thompson/ Carter	31.05.26 Eggington/ Beardmore	07.06.26 Whitehurst/ Machin
<b>Cleaning</b>	Clayton	24.05.26 Group 2	31.05.26 Group 3	07.06.26 Group 4
<b>Cleaning Ashley</b>	Ashley	June A. & J. Capper		
<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Ashley</b> 25.05.26 01.06.26 08.06.26	Sue M Sue M Hazel	<b>Clayton</b> 24.05.26 31.05.26 07.06.26	Sujen Catherine Julia
<b>Offerory Collections – thank you</b>			The retiring collection on 23 <sup>rd</sup> May at Ashley is for the Building Fund	
<b>Gift Aid</b>	Clayton	£159.12	Ashley	£35.00
<b>Cash</b>	Clayton	£586.34	Ashley	£20.72
<b>Standing Orders</b>	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£92.00
<b>Total</b>	Clayton	£1175.46	Ashley	£147.72
<b>Catholic Communications</b>	Clayton	£ 65.23	Ashley	£ 8.30

**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.

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

**Trip to Hednesford - July 5<sup>th</sup>:** If you would like to go on the coach to Hednesford it will be leaving St Mary's Norton at 12 noon. There is plenty of room to park at church. (You need to take a fold up chair with you.) To book and pay £15 for a place please contact: Chris Schofield on: 07958 044099