

## TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY YEAR C

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate “The Day of Prayer in Thanksgiving for the Harvest.” With price increases, world problems of distribution and shortages, we might not think that there is reason for thanksgiving or celebration. There again the whole of creation is something that we can give thanks for, God’s gift to us, life itself. I suppose also that the size of God’s gift is relative, some think they don’t have enough even if they do, others are eternally grateful that what they have is because of the goodness of life and God. Let us give thanks to God for whatever he allows in this life and the next.

I am pleased to report that nearly all the building work has been completed both at Ashley and Clayton. Both our churches should be looking better and well-cared for. Needless to say, like your own dwellings, there is constant need for care and updating of property. Thank you to all who have helped with these two projects, raising money, doing the paperwork, and helping organise and supervise the work involved.

This week I have been called out to the Douglas Macmillan Hospice on a number of occasions. It makes me very aware of the good work done by these organisations and their importance for respite and end of life care. Such a difference from much of what is being proposed in Parliament. Let us pray always for respect of the gift of life!

Thank you to our Parish Council that met this week. There was a lot of positive discussion and initiative. The emphasis this moment is the up-and-coming Parish Mission. Representatives of the Parish Council will be speaking at all Masses.

As October approaches we remember it is the month of Our Lady. Why not dust off our rosaries!

Meanwhile take care and let us keep one another in prayer!

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*

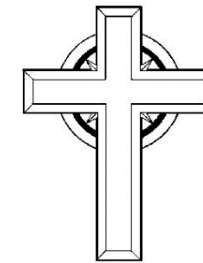
**Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ**

**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 676400**



**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Twenty- Sixth Sunday of the Year**

**Sunday Readings Year C**

**Weekday Readings Year 1**

### **MISSION PRAYER**

*Father, pour your Spirit upon the people of our parishes.  
Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of  
your power, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new  
consecration to your service, so that your love may grow  
among us and your kingdom come. Through Christ our  
Lord, Amen.*

	Ashley	Clayton	
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September Vigil Mass 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>		8.15 am 10.00am	Phil Regan (anniversary) Deacon Paul Mayland RIP
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>		7.15 pm	Holy Mass
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass Adoration Holy Mass
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>		9.15 am	Families of our Parishes
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>		10.00am	The Doyle family
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October Vigil Mass 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>	6.00 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass followed by Adoration  People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>		8.15am 10.00am	Hugh Stafford Northcote Holy Mass

**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.

**Journey In Faith:** On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm in the upper room. All welcome.

**Father Hudson's:** The annual Father Hudson's Caritas collection takes place on the weekend of 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September. Father Hudson's Caritas is a Social Care & Community Charity working across the Archdiocese of Birmingham, with a focus on Catholic Social Teaching, working with people experiencing homelessness, support for adults with disabilities, welcome for refugees and migrants, care & social activity for older people and working with children & families. The focus of our appeal this year is on the fight against poverty.

**Father Hudson's Caritas Young at Heart Group:** A social gathering for the over 50's, meets at St James' Church Clayton on the last Friday of every month.

**Ashley Harvest Supper:** On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 7pm at the Anglican Church. Tickets will be on sale £5 each after Mass.

**Youth Group - Fearless Retreat:** We are taking a group to the Fearless Retreat at Alton Castle from 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> November £50. Years 5 -9. Please contact Claire O'Hara for further details on 07929036596

**Gift Aid – Clayton Parish:** We have received income from our claim for Gift Aid from the donations made by our Gift Aid Donors totalling £7,212.12. Thank you to all! If you are a tax payer and would like to become a donor – it will cost you nothing other than your donation – please complete a form available from the church porch.

Readers Saturday	6.00pm	27.09.25 J. Dunlevy	04.10.25 C. Bland	11.10.25 J. Bester
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	28.09.25 D. Mason	05.10.25 K. Lycett	12.10.25 J. Mason
Readers	Sunday 10 am	28.09.25 L. Machin/H. Carter	05.10.25 A. Capper/J. Capper	12.10.25 A. Goodall/ M. O'Brien
Counting	Clayton	28.09.25 Thompson/Carter	05.10.25 Eggington/ Evans	12.10.25 Whitehurst/ Machin
<b>Cleaning</b>	Clayton	W/c 28.09.25 Group 2	W/c 05.10.25 Group 3	W/c 12.10.25 Group 4
<b>Cleaning Ashley</b>	Ashley October	H. Brown/J. Dunlevy		
<b>Flowers Ashley</b>	Ashley	29.9.25 Sue McK	06.10.25 Sue McK	13.10.25 Chris
<b>Flowers</b>	Clayton	28.09.25 Julia	05.10.25 Sujen	12.10.25 Helen
Offertory Collections – thank you		Retiring collection 27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup> September is for Father Hudson's Society	Retiring collection 4 <sup>th</sup> /5 <sup>th</sup> October is for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day	Retiring collection 11 <sup>th</sup> October at Ashley is for the Building Fund
Gift Aid	Clayton	£123.15	Ashley	£26.00
Cash	Clayton	£282.41	Ashley	£41.10
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£ 92.00
Total	Clayton	£835.56	Ashley	£159.10
<b>Home Mission</b>	Clayton	£ 67.72	Ashley	£11.70

**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](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.

**Parish Mission – Save the Date! Friday 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025:** We are excited to announce a Parish Mission weekend, taking place from Friday 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2025. The mission will be led by the Sion Community and promises to be a time of spiritual renewal, reflection, and fellowship for our entire parish family during this Jubilee Year. See website for further details.

**Curry Quiz and Disco Night – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October: Tickets on sale after Mass or contact the parish office.**

**CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day collection** will take place on the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October. Donations made in previous Fast Day collections are reaching families caught up in the ongoing conflicts in Gaza, Ukraine and Sudan. The focus of this Fast Day appeal is support for families affected by severe drought in parts of Ethiopia, where water has become very hard to find. Donations may be made online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](https://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or using the CAFOD envelopes that will be provided. Thank you for your support.