

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord Jesus in the Temple. Before Jesus introduced the fullness of Baptism with John the Baptist, as a child he would be presented in the Temple to God his Father. It would be a time of thanksgiving, a time to dedicate his life, like that of all the Jews, to God, the law and the prophets. We celebrate this time with candles, a sign that Jesus was to become the light of the world. Happy Presentation Day!

During the week we celebrated the Memory of St John Bosco. His lifework was the welfare of young boys and girls, hence the title, "Apostle of the Youth". He had no formal system of theory of education. His methods centred on persuasion, authentic religiosity, and love for young people. He was an enlightened educator and innovator. The question for us all is "What kind of educators are we?" It is not so much what we teach as to how we teach and what values we put into place, instil in the minds of our children. Above all we are called to love God, and to love our neighbour as ourselves." True honesty to God and to one another is paramount lest our children drift into a world devoid of his love and the love of each other!

As you can see the church roof is undergoing major repairs. Thank you for all the donations to date and also for several pledges of money yet to come. Please support us in this endeavour so that other works can also progress especially when it comes to maintaining and improving the site and buildings as a whole. Again "thank you" for all the generosity and support!

Also this week we have come through the Official Brexit Day. Let us keep in our prayers all who may be adversely effected by the process. Let us pray for the well-being of our country, a happy working economy, and an opportunity and care for all.

Please keep in your prayers all our sick and housebound in our care! Thank you for supporting the continued care given by LinkLine. Thank you to all volunteers who happily give their time to the telephone befriending service and all visitors and Eucharistic Ministers who look out for and care for the sick and housebound.

And finally we take note of the Holy Father's prayer intention for February "Listen to the Migrants' Cries."

May God reward you and keep you in his care!

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

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

Chaplain's Office for inpatients at the Royal Stoke: 01782 676400

Website: www.ourladyandstwerburgh.org.uk Email: catholics.clayton@btinternet.com



**Sunday 2nd February 2020
The Presentation of the Lord
Sunday Readings Year A, Weekday Readings Cycle Two**

The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.	And the Word was made flesh.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.	R. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with Thee; Blessed art thou among women, And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.	Hail Mary. . .
Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death. Amen	V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.	R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.
R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.	Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.
Hail Mary. . .	Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen

	Ashley	Clayton	Intentions
Saturday 1st February Vigil Mass for Sunday Feast of the Presentation of the Lord	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 2nd February Feast of the Presentation of the Lord		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	Frank and Lilian Thomas The Rosary – for peace in the world Deceased members of the Grannell and Harper families
Tuesday 4th February		7.15 pm	Holy Souls
Wednesday 5th February		9.30 am	Reginald Squires (No Adoration)
	11.30am		In Thanksgiving
Thursday 6th February		9.15 am 6.30 pm	Mary Marsh Divine Office
Friday 7th February		10.00 am	Private Intention
Saturday 8th February		10.00 am	Thanksgiving, Mass followed by Adoration until 11am
Vigil Mass for Sunday 5th Sunday of the Year	6.00 pm		Bill and Monica Griffiths
Sunday 9th February 5th Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 9.40 am 10.00 am	People of the Parishes The Rosary – for peace in the world Ellen and Philip Bode

Confessions: At Clayton Saturday's 10.30 – 11.30 am. At Ashley Saturday's 5.25 pm – 5.45 pm.

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! Including: Margaret Boden, Mary Gregory, Michael Somers, Kathleen Rouffet, Louise and Dee Dutton.

Please Note at Ashley: Mass on Wednesday is at **11.30 am**.

Ashley Accounts: There is a copy of the year end accounts available at the back of Church.

Our Lady & St Werburgh Roof Fund: Good progress has been made on the roof this week.
The total cost will be £36,180.

If you are able to make a donation please hand it to Father Anton.

If you are a taxpayer and would like to GiftAid your donation there are envelopes available in the porch, or ask at the parish office.

Total raised so far £5,000 and we have pledges for £5,600 yet to come in – thank you!

Gift Aid Rebate at Clayton: We have received £6,395.33. Thank you to all who GiftAid their donations. If you are a taxpayer and would like to GiftAid your donations there are forms available in the porch, or ask at the parish office.

Clayton Cleaning Rota: TWO VOLUNTEERS needed please. ONE to clean the Upper Room, at times to be arranged, and ONE person to offer to join Group 2 rota to vacuum the church carpet only! This would be on a Thursday or Friday morning every 6 weeks. Please contact Sharon in the office or Father Anton.

Volunteers Required for Tea and Coffee Rota: More volunteers are needed to join the teams who are now down to 2 people. Please speak to Judy or contact Sharon in the parish office.

	Diary Dates
Tue 4 th Feb	Journey in Faith 8pm
Wed 5 th Feb	Baby and Toddler Group 9.30 am – 11.00 am
Thur 6 th Feb	Over 55's Friendship Club 12.45pm – 2.50pm
Wed 12 th Feb	Parish Committee Meeting 8pm
Thur 13 th Feb	Second Parents' Meeting for First Holy Communion Children 7pm in the school hall
Wed 26 th Feb	Ash Wednesday
Thur 5 th March	First Forgiveness 7pm in Church
Sun 26 th April	Parish AGM after 10am Mass

Safeguarding: If you would like to speak to someone about safeguarding, please contact either The Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator: 0121 230 6240 or The Parishes Safeguarding Representative: Mrs Kate Hagan 07930 658080
Protecting children and vulnerable adults from harm is our priority.

GDPR Letters for Volunteers on Rotas at Clayton Parish: Please collect your GDPR letter/s from the porch if you have not already done so. This covers every rota at Clayton, you will need one for every rota you volunteer for.

GDPR Letters for Rotas at Ashley Parish: Letters for the cleaning rota and flower rota are now available at the back of Church.

Amended Ashley Cleaning Rota: Thank you to the new team who have joined the rota. Please can all teams collect an amended rota from the back of Church.

GDPR - Please Note: No rotas will be going on the parish website in future. Please ensure you have a copy of your own rota, or check the weekly Church bulletin for information on the rotas.