

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY YEAR C

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the Holy Father reminds us that the Lord Jesus showed great love and compassion to those who are poor. Poverty can mean a lack in many areas, fiscal, emotional, spiritual and physical. That is why we have such organisations as CAFOD but also MIND, FOODBANKS, NHS and many other organisations. This weekend's retiring collections are for CAFOD, money to help people in all sorts of poverty-stricken situations throughout the world.

Keeping up with the aims of charities, the church urges us to live simply, live sustainably, live in solidarity, become a live-simply parish. Do we ask ourselves the question, "Do we try to live simply so that others may simply live?"

To keep up the spiritual wealth of clergy and religious, part of our discipline is to attend a week of retreat each year. This week it is my turn to join my fellow religious brothers at Shallowford House not far from here for a time of prayer, input and meditation, accompanied by a renewal of our contacts and friendships within religious life. Pray for me as I will pray for you during this time of renewal.

There are many people to pray for. Please remember Sharon Acton in your prayers, recently deceased, along with all her family and friends. There are many others, please bring them to mind.

During the week we had the memorial of the Guardian Angels, a reminder of God's love for each of us as he has an angel by each of us. Angels are important to us in all sorts of ways, especially the fact that they create a contact between God and humanity. As I told the children I invite mine to sit on my shoulder and guide me and look to my welfare. Why not you as well!

Remember too that October is the month of Our Lady, our Mother and the Mother of the Church.

Meanwhile take care and remember that God is by our sides along with his holy angels.

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

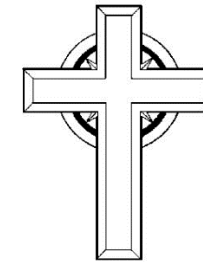
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

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 5th and 11th October 2025
Twenty- Seventh Sunday of the Year
Sunday Readings Year C
Weekday Readings Year 1**

CAFOD PRAYER

Generous God, we praise and thank you for all that you have given us.

May the fast we make remind us that all good things come from you and are intended for all.

Fill our hearts with your love and move us to be good neighbours to all our sisters and brothers.

Turn us away from indifference and lead us to work together to create a movement of hope.

Inspire us all to play our part, to build a better world where each and every person can share in the joy of your gifts.

Amen

	Ashley	Clayton	
Saturday 4th October Vigil Mass 27th Sunday	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 5th October 27th Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00am	Hugh Stafford Northcote Holy Mass
Retreat Week			
Saturday 11th October		10.00am	Holy Mass followed by Adoration
Vigil Mass 28th Sunday	6.00pm		Holy Mass
Sunday 12th October 28th Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00am	Holy Mass Hannah Schofield RIP
Tuesday 14th October		7.15 pm	Holy Mass
Wednesday 15th October	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Private Intention Adoration Holy Mass
Thursday 16th October		9.15am	Holy Mass
Friday 17th October		9.15 am	Thanksgiving
Saturday 18th October Feast of St Luke		12.15 am	Holy Mass
Vigil Mass 29th Sunday	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 19th October 29th Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00 am	Holy Mass 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.

Parish Mission – Save the Date! Friday 17th – Sunday 19th October 2025: We are excited to announce a Parish Mission weekend, taking place from Friday 17th to Sunday 19th 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 18th October: Tickets on sale after Mass or contact the parish office. £10 adults, £5 Senior Citizens, £2.50 Children.

CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day collection will take place on the weekend of 4th and 5th 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 can be made online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or using the CAFOD envelopes provided. Thank you for your support.

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

Readers Saturday	6.00pm	04.10.25 C. Bland	11.10.25 J. Bester	18.10.25 H. Brown
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	05.10.25 K. Lycett	12.10.25 J. Mason	19.10.25 M. O'Hagan
Readers	Sunday 10 am	05.10.25 A. Capper/J. Capper	12.10.25 A. Goodall/ M. O'Brien	19.10.25 S. Sony/M. Tierney
Counting	Clayton	05.10.25 Eggington/ Evans	12.10.25 Whitehurst/ Machin	19.10.25 Grannell
Cleaning	Clayton	W/c 05.10.25 Group 3	W/c 12.10.25 Group 4	19.10.25 Group 5
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley October	H. Brown/J. Dunlevy		
Flowers Ashley	Ashley	06.10.25 Sue McK	13.10.25 Chris	20.10.25 Hazel
Flowers	Clayton	05.10.25 Sujen	12.10.25 Helen	19.10.25 Catherine
Offertory Collections – thank you		Retiring collection 4 th /5 th October is for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day	Retiring collection 11 th October at Ashley is for the Building Fund	Retiring Collection 18 th /19 th October is for APF World Mission
Gift Aid	Clayton	£116.14	Ashley	£35.00
Cash	Clayton	£203.51	Ashley	£47.02
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£ 92.00
Total	Clayton	£749.65	Ashley	£174.02
Father Hudson's	Clayton	£457.65	Ashley	£74.97

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.

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.

Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal: Boxes are available in the porch. Please take a leaflet and check which items can be sent. Postage £5 per box. Please return to Church by 6th November.

North Staffs Area Pastoral Council - Talk on The Blessed Virgin Mary from 'Lumen Gentium' Presenter Father Julian Green on Friday 10th October in the Catherine Room, Our Lady of the Angels, Stoke 7 pm.