

## TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY YEAR C

Dear People of God,

As we begin our new academic year, let us renew our commitment to the family of God, the family of the Church. We are God's people, the sheep of his flock. He loves us and has given us life, for us to live it well and one day be with him in the reward of eternal life.

Thank you to everyone who kept things ticking over while I was away. All three supply priests expressed their thanks for the way they were welcomed and looked after. The care you gave and the ability you showed is a positive reflection on our church communities to take responsibility for the church as both building and people. It is a good and positive sign for the future well-being of St Werburgh and St John the Baptist.

I ask you all to pray for the success of the Parish Mission which is to take place Friday October 17<sup>th</sup> through to Sunday afternoon 19<sup>th</sup>. The Zion community will lead the event with time spent in the school before the main event. A good deal of time, effort and finance is being invested in this event, let it not be in vain!

### 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.*

Further news, thank you for the donation given to Ashley Parish from a legacy to the tune of £1500. Progress is going well on the external renewal of the church. It should look very smart and clean once finished. Work will also be starting next week on the externals of the church and presbytery in Clayton. This latter work is preventative to preserve the eaves, woodwork, and window frames.

I've had several requests for the starting date of **JOURNEY IN FAITH**. We begin Tuesday evening September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8 p.m. following evening Mass at 7.15 p.m. All are welcome to attend, people wanting to update their faith and knowledge, those interested in the faith, and those wanting to become Catholics. On completion of the course there is no obligation; the journey is for one's personal faith.

Youth Group will start Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. for year 4 and older. There is also the Fearless Retreat at Alton Castle 7-9<sup>th</sup> November. Contact Clare O'Hara 07929036596.

Take care and 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*

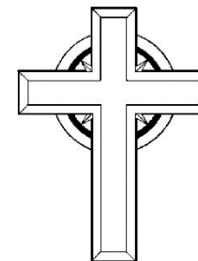
**Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ**

**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 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year  
Sunday Readings Year C  
Weekday Readings Year 1**

### MORNING OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, through the most pure heart of Mary, I offer you all my prayers, works and sufferings of this day. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

	Ashley	Clayton	
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September Vigil Mass 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year</b>		8.15 am 10.00am	Doctor John Kennedy RIP Father Tony Rohan RIP
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September</b>		7.15 pm	Holy Mass
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September</b>	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass Adoration Holy Mass
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September</b>		9.15 am	Holy Mass with the School
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b>		10.00am	Holy Mass
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September Vigil Mass</b>	6.00 pm	10.00am	Mass followed by Adoration  People of the Parishes
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</b>		8.15 am 10.00am	Mary Richards RIP Val Baddeley RIP
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>		7.15 pm	Holy Mass
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass Adoration Holy Mass
<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September</b>		9.15 am	Holy Mass with the School
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September</b>		10.00am	Father Tony Rohan RIP
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September Vigil Mass 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	6.00 pm	10.00am	Mass followed by Adoration  Holy Mass
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>		8.15 am 10.00am	People of the Parishes John Mansell RIP

**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 pray for Leo who is to be baptised this weekend, and Emelia who is to be baptised next weekend, and their families. 7

**North Staffs Area Pastoral Council** will be hosting a talk on Laudato Si' by Phil Mayland on September 8th at Our Lady & St Werburgh at 7pm.

**Cursillos Encounter Day:** On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at Our Lady & St Werburgh Church from 9.30am – 1pm. Refreshments and brunch provided **(please advise of any dietary requirements)** Please take a flyer from the porch.

Readers Saturday	6.00pm	06.09.25 S. McKenna	13.09.25 B. Bromfield	20.09.25 R. McKenna
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	07.09.25 M. Anderson	14.09.25 M. Mason	21.09.25 R. Hartley
Readers	Sunday 10 am	07.09.25 B. Walker/ J. Somers	14.09.25 B. Tierney /R. Gallimore	21.09.25 M. Larkin/J. Parkes
Counting	Clayton	07.09.25 Corrigan/ Lycett/Bullock	14.09.25 Hughes	21.09.25 Walker
<b>Cleaning</b>	Clayton	W/c 07.09.25 Group 4	W/c 14.09.25 Group 5	W/c 21.09.25 Group 1
<b>Cleaning Ashley</b>	Ashley September	M. Heath & C. Byrne		
<b>Flowers Ashley</b>	Ashley	08.09.25 Chris	15.09.25 Chris	22.09.25 Sue Mck
<b>Flowers</b>	Clayton	07.09.25 Helen	14.09.25 Catherine	21.09.25 Rosalind
Offertory Collections – thank you		The retiring collection at Ashley on 6 <sup>th</sup> September is for the Building Fund	Retiring collection 13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup> September Catholic Education Service	Retiring collection 20 <sup>th</sup> /21 <sup>st</sup> September is for Home Mission
Gift Aid	Clayton	£123.15	Ashley	£30.00
Cash	Clayton	£255.53	Ashley	£49.92
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£ 92.00
Total	Clayton	£808.68	Ashley	£171.92

**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.

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

**North Staffs Area Pastoral Council are organising a social gathering for people who have been received into the Catholic Church during 2024 and 2025.** This will take place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November at Holy Trinity Newcastle. The morning will start at 10am with Mass and then we will gather in the Centre next to the church for light refreshments and the chance for us to meet each other. We hope to finish by 12/12.30pm. This invitation is open to those who were fully received or baptised with their direct families and sponsors. **Please can you let Clayton parish office know if your will be attending by Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September.**