

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We have reached the fourth Sunday of Easter and as such the period of celebration of the Resurrection continues. It is the time of many celebrations and Sacraments. This week we offer our congratulations to all the children of year 6 and additional young people who were confirmed. Because of the need for some remaining caution we asked our neighbouring parish for the use of their church. Thank you to Father Paul and the parish community of Holy Trinity for their generous help.

This weekend is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In particular we look to the future and the continuation of the availability of the Sacraments and Church Life. For this and the work of Christ we have need of leaders, priest, sisters and brothers, willing to attempt to devote their lives to the spiritual needs of people. Life is indeed short and all of us need help to live life and prepare for life eternal.

Last Wednesday week we celebrated a very important element in the life of the Church. It was the Feast of the Blessed Martyrs of England. The feast celebrates the many men and women who suffered for the Faith in England between 1535 and 1680 and have subsequently been recognised by the Church. These included priests, both secular and religious, as well as laity who were prepared to shelter them, to arrange secret Masses, and to witness the Faith. They came from all ages and backgrounds and their heroic witness helps us have a greater love for the Church, the Mass and the Priesthood.

Let us continue to pray for peace in the world, especially the Ukraine, an end to barbaric practices and a world that acknowledges its creator and the belief in a return to him one day in paradise.

Please continue to remember in your prayers Christine McKenna who's Requiem is this coming Friday 11 a.m. Also let us remember all her family and friends in our prayers.

Meanwhile stay safe and protect your faith and the faith of your family and friends.

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**

**[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](http://www.ourladyandstwerburgh.org.uk) Email:

[olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk)



**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Sunday Readings Year C**

**A Prayer for Ukraine**

**Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.  
We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom, to guide their choices.**

**We pray for the world  
that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.**

**May we walk in your ways  
so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.**

**Amen**

	Ashley	Clayton	Intentions
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May Vigil Mass for Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	5.00 pm	7.00 pm	George Dutton Lilian and Frank Thomas
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>		8.30 am 10.00am	Rosemary Davies People of the Parishes
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>		11.00am	Requiem Mass for Christine McKenna
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May Feast of St Matthias Vigil Mass for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	5.00 pm	12 Noon 7.00 pm	First Holy Communion Preparation Mass Group 2 People of the Parishes Tom Riley
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>		8.30am 10.00am	Private Intention Michael Thompson

**Confessions:** At Clayton Saturday's 10.30 – 11.30 am.  
At Ashley before Saturday evening 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!

**Gift Aid Envelopes for Ashley Parish 2022 - 2023:** Available in the porch. Please consider taking out a standing order for your offertory donations. Forms available in the porch or contact the parish office. If your circumstances have changed over the past year please let the parish office know.

Please keep Jonah who is to be baptised this weekend and family in your prayers.

**Missio Red Boxes:** Thank you to all parishioners who donated to Missio through the red boxes. In 2021 we raised £638.12. If you would like a box to take home and collect throughout the year they are available in the porch.

**Potteries Theological Society:** The next meeting is on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm at Keele University in the Moser Building – room CM0.12.

Volunteer needed to transport a parishioner to and from the 10am Sunday Mass. Please contact the parish office if you can help.

<b>Readers at Ashley:</b>	<b>07.05.22: J. Dunlevy</b>	<b>14.05.22: S. Mckenna</b>
<b>Reading at Clayton:</b>	<b>08.05.22: 7pm M. Larkin</b>	<b>15.05.22: 7pm C. Pover</b>
<b>Reading at Clayton:</b>	<b>08.05.22: 8.30 am M. O'Hagan</b>	<b>15.05.22: 8.30am A. Capper</b>
<b>Reading at Clayton:</b>	<b>08.05.22: 10am B. Walker</b>	<b>15.05.22: 10am M. Hughes</b>
<b>Counting at Clayton:</b>	<b>08.05.22: Hughes Team 2</b>	<b>Second Collection: Hagan</b>
<b>Counting at Clayton:</b>	<b>15.05.22: Walker Team 3</b>	
<b>Church Cleaning at Clayton:</b>	<b>W/c 08.05.22: Group 5 &amp; 5b</b>	<b>W/C 15.05.22 Group 1</b>
<b>Church Cleaning at Ashley:</b>	<b>May: P. &amp; C. Quinlan</b>	<b>June: A. &amp; J. Capper</b>
<b>Children's Liturgy:</b>	<b>08.05.22: 1<sup>st</sup> Leader Su 2<sup>nd</sup> Leader Anne</b>	<b>15.05.22. 1<sup>st</sup> Leader Claire L 2<sup>nd</sup> Leader Natalie</b>
<b>Altar Flowers:</b>	<b>Clayton: 08.05.22: C. Pover 15.05.22: J. Goodall</b>	<b>Ashley: 07.05.22: C. Quinlan 14.05.22: C. Quinlan</b>
		<b>The retiring collection this weekend is for the Clergy Training Fund.</b>  <b>The retiring collection next weekend is the Diocesan appeal for Ukraine.</b>

**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 01782 613023. Protecting children and vulnerable adults from harm is our priority.

**Volunteers needed to join the Counting Rota at Clayton:** Further volunteers would be welcomed to join our counting teams. The teams, usually two people each week, count the weekly offertory, record the gift aid income and prepare it for banking. Full training will be given. We work on a rota basis to hopefully lighten the load for everyone.

**Marriage Notification:** Harrison Riddle and Rosina Bloor would like to announce their intention to marry on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2022.