



# St Clare of Assisi Catholic Church

DIAMOND JUBILEE 1960 - 2020



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**Psalter Week IV**

**22nd MARCH 2020  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Year of The Word**

**DEDICATION:**

**March is dedicated to St Joseph**

## **CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES**

### **A letter from the President and Vice-President on behalf of all the Bishops of Conference**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches. This will begin from Friday evening, 20th March 2020, until further notice.

Our churches will remain open. They are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing. However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.

Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually in that celebration; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion: this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. These are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day.

We want everyone to understand that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time.

You will find more details about the pathway of prayer and sacramental life we are now to take in the accompanying document and on the Bishops' Conference website ([www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)). Your own bishop and parish priest will provide further support, encouragement and information about our way of prayer together in the coming weeks.

The second vital aspect of these challenging times is our care for each other. There are so many ways in which we are to do this: being attentive to the needs of our neighbour, especially the elderly and vulnerable; contributing to our local food banks; volunteering for charitable initiatives and organisations; simply keeping in touch by all the means open to us.

During these disturbing and threatening times, the rhythm of the prayer of the Church will continue. Please play your part in it. The effort of daily kindness and mutual support for all will continue and increase. Please play your part in this too. For your commitment to this, we thank you.

The Lord is my shepherd, There is nothing I shall want.' May God bless us all

Vincent Cardinal Nichols President

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP President Vice-President

St.Clare's Church is open on SUNDAYS: 9.am - 12 noon (with exposition from 11 am) ,  
5pm -6pm

Weekdays 10am-12 noon (with exposition from 11 am), 6.pm-7pm

Saturdays 10am-12 noon, 6pm-7pm

**For Baptisms, Confirmation, Weddings & Funerals**

Please call or email Fr Emeka above



**OUR SICK LIST**

**Our sick, elderly, housebound and those in care homes are important members of our parish community. New names are in Bold Type. Please remember to pray for them each day as they carry their cross ,**

Dot Bell, Veronica Creaney, W. Downes, Mary Frain, David Gardiner, Michelle Gentile, Katie Gray, Gwyn Harris, Lorna Jarvis, Judy Kearney, Ann Leach, Peter Lloyd, Rosemary McCabe, Kevin McCarthy, Alex Shone, Gwen Spurr, Krysia

Wesalak, Eileen Wyatt.

**ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME**

Phyllis Beane, Mona Kirby, Ann McGarry, Nora Donnelly, Martin McAllister-Turner

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS**

**You may have heard that Food Banks are struggling as people panic buy**

**Our bishops have asked us to be especially conscious of the needs of others in these times**

**The next collection for the Food Bank will be the weekend 28/29th March**

**Please contribute as much as you can of non perishable foodstuffs,**

**OUR LADY'S INTERCESSION**

From this Saturday the candle on Our Lady's altar will be lit and left burning as a reminder to us all to pray and seek her intercession during these coming weeks of this emergency until the re-consecration of England as her dowry

**PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

Please see a copy of the Parish council minutes on the notice board

**BEHOLD 2020**

Behold 2020 is the official companion to the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary Their website on [www.behold2020.com](http://www.behold2020.com) gives information and many details of events here and around the country. An extract of Behold 2020 is given in the latest 'Crusader' magazine in the church porch

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please pray for the souls of Mike Edwards and Cris Frost who died recently. May choirs of angels welcome them into heaven

**CHURCH CLEANING ROTA**

This week the duty falls on **Team 1**  
**New volunteers are needed urgently.**  
Please contact Medi on 01244 677006 or [medi@fendts.com](mailto:medi@fendts.com)

**OFFERING IN CHURCH**

**If** you wish to set up a Standing Order either permanently or in order to continue to make your regular Offertory giving to the Parish during the period when Mass is not being celebrated in public, Please send an email to Mike Russell (from the Diocesan Planned Giving & Gift Aid Service) including your name, phone number and name of the Parish. Mike's email address is : [mike.russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:mike.russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS**

That the church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the gospel and grow in unity



CAFOD Lent Fast Day Collection:- Very many thanks to all at St Clare's who supported this collection; our combined donations totalled £644 which when Gift Aid is added will be approx £750. Thanks to your support for CAFOD many more families and communities will be able to receive expert help and care in their need.

**SVP TABLE TOP SALE**

**Cancelled** owing to concern over the

**SVP LUNCH**

SVP Lunch:**Cancelled** owing to concern over the Coronavirus.

**ST CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE**



We live in extraordinary times. The corona virus is causing distress amongst many people both young and old. Many of the SVP volunteers are in the "At Risk" group and thus are not able to operate as they would wish for the beneficiaries who may need their help. The need to self-isolate means essentially that they need to stay in their homes away from those they would wish to help. They themselves become almost in need of the SVP help that they ordinarily would give to others. At this time, we all need to help where we can and put our trust in God that he will come to our aid. Keep well all of you and thanks for your thoughts and help always. God bless. Steve

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

New boxes of envelopes to be used from Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April are now available in the porch.

Spare boxes are available if you have not used planned giving envelopes before and would like to do so. If you take a set of envelopes to use for the first time, contact Mike Russell (659434) and let him know the envelope number you are using. Or write your details and envelope number on the card at the front of the box and put completed card with your Offertory giving in the first envelope you use. Thank you.

## HELP THE PARISH GET EXTRA FUNDS! CAN YOU ANSWER "YES" TO THE FOLLOWING?

- **Do you give money at the Offertory?** (however small or large the amount)
- **Are you a Tax Payer?** (even if you only pay very little in tax)
- **If you don't already do so, are you willing to make your Offertory donations either in Offertory Envelopes, or by Standing Order?**

Write your name and address and tick whether you would like to use Offertory Envelopes or to give by Banker's Standing Order on a Gift Aid form at the back of Church. Then send the form to the address on the envelope provided.

## YOUTH ZONE

### PEACE DURING COVID-19

I won't claim to know what's coming in these days, but I am sure we will all find moments when our space feels too small. When our family members begin to feel like a lot. When everything will feel repetitive. When we will grow tired of this and not know what to do with ourselves. Anxiety thrives in these kinds of environments. **But peace is ours, mis amigos.** Let's claim it!

The great gift of our God is that peace is offered to us freely, at any moment. We don't have to grasp, we don't have to desperately reach — but we do have to actively welcome it. At the end of the day, there is only so much we can do — and the rest is up to God. No, you won't always be OK. No, you won't always boldly claim your agency in the midst of the things out of your control. No, you won't always remember to welcome the peace that is offered to you at every moment. It's bound to happen — these are uncharted waters for all of us, after all. **But God is still God.** God was with Noah through the flood, with the Israelites through the desert, and with Jesus from passion to death and Resurrection. Let's walk through these times together, mindful of the loving and unending care of our Lord who tirelessly desires our peace. *Life Teen Blog*



## ROSARY CORNER

In the spiritual journey of the Rosary, based on the constant contemplation — in Mary's company — of the face of Christ, this demanding ideal of being conformed to him is pursued through an association which could be described in terms of friendship. We are thereby enabled to enter naturally into Christ's life and as it were to share his deepest feelings.

In this regard Blessed Bartolo Longo has written: "Just as two friends, frequently in each other's company, tend to develop similar habits, so too, by holding familiar converse with Jesus and the Blessed Virgin, by meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary and by living the same life in Holy Communion, we can become, to the extent of our lowliness, similar to them and can learn from these supreme models a life of humility, poverty, hiddenness, patience and perfection". *Rosarium Virginis Mariae 15 PopeSt*

*John Paul II*

Date/Time	Feast/Colour	Readings	Offered For
Sat 21/03 Private Mass	<i>Fourth Sunday</i>	1 S 16: 1,,6-7,10-13 Ps 22; Ep 5: 8-14	<b>Agnes Latham (SB)</b>
Sun 22/03 Private Mass	<i>Of Lent</i>	Jn 9: 1-41	<b>Julia Mary Walsh and Dorothy Lamb</b>
Tue 24/03 Private Mass	<i>Ferial</i>	Ezk 47: 1-9,12; Ps45 Jn 5: 1-3,5-16	<b>James Prendergast</b>
Wed 25/03 Private Mass <i>The Annunciation</i>		Is 7:10-14:8:10; Ps 39; Heb 10: 4-10;	<b>David brown (SB)</b>
Thu 26/03 Private Mass	<i>Ferial</i>	Ex 32: 7-14; Ps 105;	
Fri 27/03 Private Mass	<i>Ferial</i>	Ws 2: 1,12-22; Ps 33; Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30	<b>Eileen Prendergast</b>
Sat 28/03 Private Mass <b>CLOCKS GO FORWARD</b>	<i>Fifth Sunday</i>	Ezk 37:12-14;Ps129; Rm 8: 8-11	<b>Sylvia Mills RIP (KC)</b>
Sun 29/03 Private Mass	<i>Of Lent</i>	Jn 11 1-45	<b>Gloria Smith RIP</b>

## St Clare's Catholic Primary School



Despite the difficult circumstances we have been working in this week, the community of St Clare's has continued to have plenty of lovely, joyful moments! On Monday afternoon the children enjoyed assemblies led by 'Rock Steady'. This was a gentle introduction to playing electric guitar, keyboard and drums. We had a great sing along first with Key Stage One, followed by Key Stage Two. As the children were thoroughly engrossed spaced, I thought how wonderful it was that we had a hall full of very happy, excited and enthusiastic children.

Later the same afternoon we were delighted to listen to Dee Radio, as we listened to our recording for School of the Week! Each day during the week part of the nineteen minute recording was played. You can listen to the full recording on Dee Radio website- there is a whole load of information about St Clare's shared in this. Staff were responsible for different parts of the recording and organised pupils well. The outcome reflects the wide range of fantastic experiences the children have whilst they are at St Clare's and how proud they are of their school.

On Tuesday all pupils in 'Australia' (Reception) went off for a day in Forest School. They booked a day of perfect weather and had the most wonderful time exploring, learning, asking lots of questions, not to forget toasting marshmallows! Even Mrs Holt said she thought it was one of the best school trips she had been on!

We are blessed to have such great families who are working co-operatively with us in ensuring children are hand sanitising throughout the day and parents are not coming into the school building if they can avoid it, to ensure we reduce the opportunity for the spreading of germs.

**In conformity with Government Coronavirus regulations school is now closed**

