



St Clare of Assisi Catholic Church

DIAMOND JUBILEE 1960 - 2020

Downsfield Road Chester CH4 8HH

Priest: Fr Emeka Nwachukwu, Tel: 07590 880327

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Parish Website: stclares.co.uk

Parish Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/StClaresChester/

Psalter Week I

21st February 2021

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February is dedicated to the Holy Family

This weekend Bishop Mark's pastoral letter on 'Re-Building on the Foundation of the Eucharist' will be read at all Masses

ST CLARE'S MASSES

Sat 20th 4 pm 'Drive in' vigil Mass

Sun 21st 9.30am *First Sunday of Lent*

Monday 22nd 9,30am Private Mass *Chair of St Peter*

Tues 23rd 9,30am Mass *St Polycarp (LIVESTREAM)*

Wed 24th 9.30am 9,30am *Ferial*

Thurs 25th 9,30am Private Mass *Ferial (LIVESTREAM)*

Fri 26th 9,30am Private Mass *Ferial (LIVESTREAM)*

FAMILY FAST DAY

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE NEEDY AND THE HUNGRY OF THE WORLD

Sat 27th 4 pm 'Drive in' vigil Mass

Sun 28th 9.30am *Second Sunday of Lent*

Please ask Fr Emeka if you wish a Mass to be said or phone the parish office

INTENTIONS

Jo Stamper

John Axon

Shiela Fuller

Peter Byrne

Jo Prendergast

Jude Prendergast

Eloise

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11-11.40am or on request

WAY OF THE CROSS DURING LENT:

The way of the cross will be livestreamed from St. Clare's every Friday during Lent at 7.00pm. Anyone can volunteer to lead with Fr. Emeka. We have before us a beautiful moment of grace open to us, when we follow our blessed Lord through the Way of the Cross promises answers to the deep questions thrown at us daily by the challenges of life and its crosses.

POPE FRANCIS LENTEN MESSAGE (extracts)

Fasting: In embracing the experience of poverty, those who fast make themselves poor. In this way, fasting helps us to love God and our neighbour, inasmuch as love focuses our attention on others and considers them as one with ourselves.

Hope: In these times of trouble, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, Saint Paul urges us to place our hope in reconciliation: "Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:20). By receiving forgiveness in the sacrament we in turn can spread forgiveness to others, we can offer it through our willingness to enter into attentive dialogue with others and to give comfort to those experiencing sorrow and pain.

Love: Love rejoices in seeing others grow. Hence it suffers when others are anguished, lonely, sick, homeless, despised or in need. Love is a gift that gives meaning to our lives. It enables us to view those in need as members of our own family, as friends, brothers or sisters. A small amount, if given with love, never ends.

TIMELY REMINDERS Public Health England reminded us of greater transmissibility of the new variants. We must remain vigilant to avoid transmission via touch (cleaning of surfaces and hand cleansing has been underlined); mitigation against droplets (face coverings) and ensuring continued good ventilation and air flow in sacred spaces, so our churches will remain safe.

Our sick, elderly, housebound and those in care homes are important members of our parish community. New names are in Bold Type.

Nigel Clayton, Veronica Creaney, W. Downes, Mary Frain, Michelle Gentile, Alan Gibson, Gwyn Harris, Lorna Jarvis, Judy Kearney, Ann Leach, Peter Lloyd, Rosemary McCabe, Kevin McCarthy, Rosemary Roberts, Gwen Spurr, Krysia Wesalak, Eileen Wyatt, Mark Wilson.
Please remember to pray for them each day as they carry their cross ,

NIGEL CLAYTON

Please continue to pray for Rose's husband Nigel who is slightly better but still in ICU

PETER BYRNE RIP

Please pray for soul of our late parishioner Peter Byrne who died recently. His funeral will be at 12 noon on 5th March.

FREE CHILDREN'S JUMPERS AND HATS

Daphne Jones writes: In these hard times when a lot of people have been laid off work or maybe short of money, if anyone knows of a family who would benefit from hats and/or jumpers for their children I have knitted quite a few. (Unfortunately I have not been able to get buttons as yet for the cardigans I have knitted). If interested contact dj04@talktalk.net

ATTENTION ALL GIFT AID DONORS

The tax year 2020/21 will be coming to an end on 5th April and the Parish will then undertake the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please contact Mike Russell (659434) by 5th April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in the tax year.

Also, if you are in the Gift Aid scheme and have moved house in the last year, please could you let Mike know.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

For 2021 is next Friday 26 February . Envelopes are once again available but once again CAFOD is offering us other, cash-free ways to make our donations if we prefer. We can donate on-line at cafod.org.uk/give or by text. Text **LENT** to **70460** to donate £10 and to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. To donate £10 but not to receive marketing communications please text **LENTNOINFORMATION** to **70460** NB Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message.

Your donations will enable CAFOD to continue the vital work of bringing water and other vital support to vulnerable communities around the world helping people like Abdella who has to spend 10 hours almost every day walking through mountainous parts of Ethiopia to collect water for his family. Or Hagos whose family nearly starved recently due to drought but who have now been provided with solar powered water pumps to enable them to cultivate their land."

ROSARY CORNER

"When lovers are together they spend hours repeating the same thing I LOVE YOU. What is missing in the world of people who think the Rosary is monotonous, IS LOVE

-Sr Lucia Fatima seer



ST CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE

The Holiday Home meeting this week showed that the pandemic has caused severe financial loss to the replacement fund. The net loss for the 2020/21 year is c£6000 owing to the lack of fundraising opportunities whilst there have still been some ongoing costs. Thus in 2021/22 conferences will be asked for their annual fee and St Clare's has reserves to cover the first half in April but not the second half due in September. The Holiday Home committee is also keen to recruit a Fund-Raising officer and if anyone feels able to offer their services in this role please do contact me on 01244671817 or bonsallstephen2@gmail.com . Do keep safe and well this week. God bless. Steve

St Clare's Catholic Primary School

School will be closed during the week beginning Monday 15th February for half term. It will reopen for children of key workers on Monday 22nd February.

