

**Sunday  
18<sup>th</sup> February  
2024**

Candidates for the Sacraments

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent  
Psalter Week I  
Year B**

Gen 9: 8-15  
Psalm 24  
1 Peter 3: 18-22  
Mark 1:12-15



Website: [stclares.co.uk](http://stclares.co.uk)  
Facebook: StClaresChester  
St Clare's St Vincent de Paul  
Society: [stclaressvp.co.uk](http://stclaressvp.co.uk)

**St Clare of Assisi  
Catholic Church**

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CH4 8HH

Priest: Fr Bernard Forshaw

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*If you wish to make a donation to St Clare's church - Bank Sort Code: 30-15-52 Acct number: 54579560*

**February is dedicated to The Holy Family**

**MASSES AND SERVICES**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February Exposition & Confessions: 10.30am – 11.30am  
Rosary 5.30pm  
**Vigil Mass 6.00pm**

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February **First Sunday of Lent**  
**Mass 9.30am**

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> February Rosary 9.10am  
**Mass 9.30am**

Tues 20<sup>th</sup> February St Anthony's Devotions &  
**Mass 7pm**

Wed 21<sup>st</sup> February Stations of the Cross 11.00 am  
**Mass 11.30am**

Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> February Chair of St Peter  
Rosary 9.10am  
**Mass 9.30am**

Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> February St Polycarp  
**CAFOD: Family Fast I**  
Exposition 8.45 - 9.20am  
**Mass 9.30am**  
Friday Abstinence

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February Exposition & Confessions: 10.30am – 11.30am  
Rosary 5.30pm  
**Vigil Mass 6.00pm**

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
**Mass 9.30am**

**INTENTIONS**

Edward Craggs (RIP)

Sarah Russell (RIP)

Natalie's healing and conversion

Lila and Johnny Bradburne

Edward Craggs

Eileen Green

Tessa Creighton

Sarah Russell (RIP)

Theresa Hart

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**– Saturday 10.30 - 11.30am and on request

**THE SICK, ELDERLY AND HOUSE BOUND** and those in care homes are important members of our parish community. Trisha Cannon, Veronica Creaney, Mike Darby. W. Downes, Jenny Guest, Lorna Jarvis, Mary, Judy Kearney, Peter Lloyd, Rosemary McCabe, Rosemary Roberts, Eileen Wyatt, Geoffrey Prendergast.  
*If anyone is in need of a visit / Holy Communion, please let Fr Bernard know 01244 671015*

**ANNIVERSARIES OCCURRING ABOUT THIS TIME** Patricia Feeney, Kathlene Fitzpatrick, Alec Dignon, Antonio Ippoliti, Joseph Fenlon, Peter Lavender, Rose Edwards and Gerry McGrath. **May they rest in Peace.**

**LENT 2024** Bishop Mark's Lenten Pastoral letter will be read at masses this weekend. Masses at the usual times except on Wednesdays when mass will be at 11.30 am followed by a Lenten Lunch (soup and a roll) for CAFOD in the Parish room. Stations of the Cross will also be prayed on Wednesdays at 11 am in the Church. Please note that Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb is CAFOD Family Fast Day. CAFOD envelopes are available on the table at the back of the church and can be returned in the offertory bag or through the Presbytery any time up until the weekend of 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> March. We journey through Lent together engaging in extra time for prayer and reaching out to all those who are in need at home and abroad.

**THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS - FEBRUARY: For the terminally ill**

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

**THROUGH LENT WITH POPE FRANCIS** – An Online Retreat: Running from Ash Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to Easter. Visit [www.onlineprayer.net](http://www.onlineprayer.net) to receive daily emails with quotes from Pope Francis for prayer/reflection, plus Scripture verse, music, picture and reflection question.

**TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 9.30am MASS** (in the Parish Room) Tea and Coffee this Sunday will be given by Catherine & Elaine with proceeds to St Clare's SVP and the following week by Mike and Veronica on behalf of the Holiday Home. We hope you will join us.

**SINGING PRACTICES:** We have begun to hold Singing Practices again on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm. We need more singers if we are going to be able to truly celebrate our Masses, both during Lent, but especially in the most important week of the year, Holy Week, leading to our celebration of Easter.

If you can sing in tune, then please come along on Thursday - just from 7.30pm until 8.15pm "The one who sings, prays twice."

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** Friday 1st March 2024, 10.30am St Werburgh's Church, Grosvenor Park Road, Chester CH1 1QJ. This year's service was prepared by Christian women in Palestine and the theme is 'I beg you, bear with one another in love'. It takes about one hour and light refreshments will be served afterwards. There will be a retiring collection for the work of World Day of Prayer in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as well as projects run by Christian charities around the world.

**St CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE:** All our allocated Holiday Home weeks are now booked, and Our Lady's and St Bernard's say they have filled their allocation as well. A Music Night on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm is planned to raise funds for the Holiday Home and at 10.15 on Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March there is an SVP Youth Mass. Both events are at the Chester CHS. Please support us if you can and let us know if you can attend by speaking with an SVP member or Father Bernard. Keep safe and as well as possible this week. God bless Steve. <https://stclaresvp.co.uk>

**SUNDAY LUNCH GATHERING:** The next Sunday Lunch will be on Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Mill, Liverpool Road, Upton CH2 1AU at 12.30pm. Menus available. Please contact Catherine for details: 01244678825 or [catherine117hg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:catherine117hg@hotmail.co.uk)

**FOODBANK DONATIONS:** Thank you for your donations. Please continue to bring these in and as the trolley fills up donations will be taken to the Warehouse.

**HIGHLIGHT FROM THE HIGH:** The Chester Catholic High school is hosting an **SVP Youth Mass** for all Catholic schools in the Chester and Ellesmere Port area on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am. Local parishioners are very welcome to join us in this special celebration but as this is a school day all guests will need to register their wish to attend in advance. Please contact [GaspariniA@christofidelis.org.uk](mailto:GaspariniA@christofidelis.org.uk) by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.

**The students at the CHS are rehearsing for the 'Living Stations of the Cross' performance which will take place in the school hall on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 10am.** Parishioners are invited to come and watch the play. Tickets free of charge. Limited places! To book your seat, please email [shawk@christofidelis.org.uk](mailto:shawk@christofidelis.org.uk)

**ST CLARE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for Mass on Ash Wednesday. It was a wonderful start to this season of Lent. As it is the last week of the half term, the children have enjoyed their rewards, with the winning house 'Mother Theresa' decorating and eating pancakes and the whole school enjoying a 'Mad Science' afternoon.

*When you have read this newsletter please pass it on to someone in your neighbourhood/local area*