

# Sunday 10th March 2024

## Fourth Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday

Psalter Week IV

Year B

Psalms 136

2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23

Ephesians 2: 4-10

John 3: 14-21



Website: [stclares.co.uk](http://stclares.co.uk)

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# 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*

### March is dedicated to St Joseph - His Feast Day is 19th March

#### MASSES AND SERVICES

Saturday 9th March	Exposition & Confessions: 10.30am – 11.30am Rosary 5.30pm <b>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</b>
Sunday 10th March	<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> <b>Mass 9.30am</b>
Mon 11th March	<b>No Mass today</b>
Tues 12th March	St Anthony's Devotions and <b>Mass 7.00pm</b>
Wed 13th March	<b>Stations of the Cross 11.00am</b> <b>Mass 11.30am</b>
Thurs 14th March	Rosary 9.10am <b>Mass 9.30am</b>
Fri 15th March	<b>Exposition from 8.45-9.30am</b> <b>Mass 9.30am</b> Friday Abstinence
Saturday 16th March	Exposition & Confessions: 10.30am – 11.30am Rosary 5.30pm <b>Vigil Mass 6.00pm</b>
Sunday 17th March	<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> <b>Mass 9.30am</b>

#### INTENTIONS

Edward Craggs (RIP)
Peter Charles Byrne (RIP)
Peter Tomlinson (RIP)
Sarah Russell (RIP)
Ints Meryl Fisher
Private Intention (WS)
Ints St Clare's Parish
Rose Linsley RIP

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)** – Saturday 10.30 - 11.30am

**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, Cynthia Lloyd.  
*If anyone is in need of a visit/Holy Communion this Lent, please let Fr Bernard know 01244 671015*

**ANNIVERSARIES OCCURRING ABOUT THIS TIME:** Elizabeth McHugh, Joseph Morrell, May Kilduff, Mary Cummins, Mary Patterson, Edward Eccleston, Christine Long and Phyllis Beane. **May they Rest in Peace.**

**TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 9.30am MASS** (Parish Room): This week provided by Sue with proceeds to CAFOD and next week by Catherine and Elaine for the St Clare's SVP.

**LENT 2024:** Mass on Wednesdays during Lent is at 11.30am followed by a Lenten Lunch for CAFOD in the Parish room. Stations of the Cross are prayed on Wednesdays at 11am in the Church. CAFOD Family Fast Day envelopes can be returned in the offertory bag or to the Presbytery any time up to Palm Sunday, 24th March.

**HOLY WEEK REQUESTS:** **1. Washing of feet** will take place during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday at 7.00pm. If you would like to take part in this important ceremony, please sign the list at the back of Church. **2. Watching at the Altar of Repose** in Church on Holy Thursday will be from 8.00 - 10.00pm. If you can watch and pray with Our Lord, please sign the list at the back of Church as soon as you can as it is important that we have at least 3 people for each half-hour for safety and security reasons. **3. Singing Practices** on Thursdays at 7.30pm. We **urgently** need more singers if we are going to be able to celebrate well our Holy Week and Easter Services. So please come along on Thursday - from 7.30-8.15pm

**THROUGH LENT WITH POPE FRANCIS:** An Online Retreat: running until 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.

**ATTENTION ALL GIFT AID DONORS:** The tax year 2023/24 ends on 5<sup>th</sup> April. The process will begin of claiming back the Gift Aid on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Scheme) please contact Mike Russell on 07883 199628 by 5<sup>th</sup> April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on your donations

**REGULAR GIVING TO THE PARISH:** For those parishioners who have used planned giving envelopes during 2023/24, new boxes of envelopes to be used from Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April are now available. If you would like to set up a Standing Order in favour of the Parish to make your regular giving, or have not used planned giving envelopes before and would like to do so, please contact Mike Russell (07883 199628)

**PARISH COUNCIL:** Next meeting this Tuesday after 7pm Mass in the Parish room. Please contact Fr Bernard before 5.00pm on Monday with any agenda items/items for discussion.

**St CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE:** Music Night this Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.15pm at the Catholic High School, tickets £10 from SVP members. **Foodbank Donations:** 26kg of food was taken to the warehouse this week-thank you.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:** This year's pilgrimage dates: *by air* Fri 26 July to Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Aug, *by coach* Thurs 25 July to Fri 2 Aug and *young people* Wed 24 July to Fri 2 Aug. Booking forms available @ [www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk) ring 07773 324264, if you are aged 16/22 email [youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) to join the youth section of the pilgrimage.

#### **FURTHER THREAT TO THE UNBORN OF ABORTION UP TO BIRTH**

In the next couple of weeks an attempt is to be made to widely decriminalise abortion up to the birth. This is a further assault on the sanctity of human life in our society. This extreme amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill is being made by Diana Johnson MP and parliamentarians will be under pressure to support the amendment on grounds of compassion for mothers who seek to abort their unborn child beyond the legal limits. The effect would be to withdraw legal protection from the unborn. It is important to make our voice heard in support of the unborn child. Please contact your Member of Parliament to ask that they oppose the decriminalisation of abortion up to birth (*Samantha Dixon* <https://samantha-dixon.co.uk/contact/>). The *Right to Life* website has details under 'Take Action' which enables you to find and contact your MP directly and the website of the *Society for the Protection of Unborn Children* has helpful information under 'Resources.' The *Right to Life* website also has details of an alternative amendment by Caroline Ansell MP to reduce the legal limit for abortion from 24 to 22 weeks on the basis of the increased survival rates for babies being born at 22 and 23 weeks. We cannot doubt the impact which your e-mail or letter will have in making known opposition to decriminalising abortion up to birth and in support of the value of every human life. <https://righttolife.org.uk/littlefighters>  
<https://www.spuc.org.uk/>

**HIGHLIGHT FROM THE HIGH:** 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 free of charge. To book your seat, please email [shawk@christofidelis.org.uk](mailto:shawk@christofidelis.org.uk)

**ST CLARE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** We held two very successful evenings this week to celebrate all the fantastic work our pupils achieve with their parents. It has also been World Book Day and the children dressed up as their favourite book character and had a range of activities to celebrate modern children's literature.