

Sunday 28th April 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Psalter week 1

Year: B(II).

Acts 9:26-31 & Ps 21:26-28,
30-32 r. 26 & 1 John 3:18-24

John 15:4-5 & John 15:1-8

*Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty.*



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

St Clare of Assisi Catholic Church

Downsfield Road,
Chester CH4 8HH

Tel: 01244 671015

Email: contact@stclares.co.uk

Website: stclares.co.uk

Facebook: StClaresChester
St Clare's St Vincent de Paul Society:
stclaressvp.co.uk

May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary

***Many thanks to Fr Neill Robb and Fr Paul Hopper for celebrating weekend Masses with us for
the next few weeks***

MASSES AND SERVICES

INTENTIONS

Saturday 27 th April	Exposition 10.30am - 11.30am Rosary 5.40pm Vigil Mass 6pm		
Sunday 28 th April	Fifth Sunday of Easter Mass 9.30am		Diane – Sam's mum (KC)
Monday 29 th April	No Mass	St Catherine of Siena, Doctor	<i>Feast</i>
Tuesday 30 th April	St Anthony's Devotions 7pm followed by Celebration of Word and Communion Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse Celebration of Word and Communion 9.30am		Private Intention (WS)
Wednesday 1 st May	St Joseph the Worker		
Thursday 2 nd May	No Mass	Saint Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor	
Friday 3 rd May	No Mass Friday abstinence	Saints Philip & James, Apostles	<i>Feast</i>
Saturday 4 th May	Exposition: 10.30am – 11.30am Rosary 5.40pm Vigil Mass 6pm	The English Martyrs	<i>Feast</i> For a safe & healthy pregnancy
Sunday 5 th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter Mass 9.30am		Imy and Paddy O'Connor (SB)

THE SICK, ELDERLY, 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, John Davies and Alan Challinor.

ANNIVERSARIES OCCURRING ABOUT THIS TIME: Jacqueline Whiteley, Kenneth Kelly, Annie Hare, Patrick O'Connor and Michael Garwood. **May they Rest in Peace.**

TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 9.30am MASS: This Sunday it's Mike & Veronica for the Holiday Home.

THE PARISH COUNCIL met on Tuesday and Fr Paul attended. We are hopeful that the Diocese will have a solution to our current difficulties in the near future.

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS FOR MAY: For the formation of religious and seminarians. We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

THE PEOPLE OF SUDAN NEED OUR HELP URGENTLY. CAFOD are launching an [emergency appeal](#) for donations to get aid to them on the biggest scale we can muster.

When violence broke out last year in Sudan between government and paramilitaries, most aid agencies evacuated. Now, humanitarian workers are struggling to get back into Sudan to help, meaning severe delays in getting aid to the people and the challenges of getting into areas where fighting is still going on remain. Many borders are shut as the government say they need to keep weapons out. But the Church and our local partners are still there. Please, stand with them today.

The situation has gone from serious to desperate very quickly. The UN is calling it 'the world's worst displacement crisis'. At least 8 million people have had to flee their homes; famine looms.

At least 25 million Sudanese need immediate, emergency help. Families are already going hungry and famine is looming. This crisis threatens to become the worst in living memory.

Our Caritas and Church networks are there when many aid agencies aren't, where people are in a desperate situation. The Church in Sudan is already responding and asking us to help them do more. Even in this year of economic stretch for many people here, we know that the Catholic community will want to respond with compassion to help people facing famine.

Despite this overwhelming scale, you will have seen how media attention is limited. We are calling on the Catholic community of England and Wales to give the people of Sudan our attention, and our hearts.

There will be a retiring collection this weekend for Sudan, please give generously. Alternatively, you can make a donation online @ <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis-appeal>

SUNDAY LUNCH: Our next lunch will be on 12th May at The Bird in Hand, Church Lane, Guilden Sutton, CH3 7EW at 12 noon promptly. We need to pre-order. Menu online at <https://www.thebirdinhandguildensutton.co.uk/> Contact Veronica 01244 678825 or catherine117hg@hotmail.co.uk

ST CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE: Theatre Night, Tuesday 4th June 7.30pm, The Importance of Being Earnest. Tickets £12 from Steve or any SVP member.

LOURDES BY JUMBULANCE: Chester Across Group are off to Lourdes by Jumbulance again in 2024. The dates are Thursday 15th to Saturday 24th August. (Wirral Across Group dates are Thursday 30th May to Saturday 8th June if better for you.) Franciscan Priest John Cavanagh will be Chaplain to the Chester Group. The Jumbulance travels overland and has seven beds on it and we are able to take very sick or disabled pilgrims. We have a Doctor, but there are vacancies for another nurse and several helpers. However, nurses and young people under 25 in full time education pay half. The cost for pilgrims is £1,095. Financial help may be available for those who cannot afford the full amount. Most sick pilgrims take advantage of Across Travel insurance at just £65. Helpers have to undertake a DBS. To make a donation contact Tony or on-line to Across, Account Number 00101485 Sort Code 80-08-64 reference Chester. Please contact Tony Murphy on 07881-656-974 or tonymurphyefc2002@yahoo.co.uk. Visit <http://www.across.org.uk/?s=AJ>.

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS VACANCY: The Diocese is seeking to recruit a Director of Schools and applications are now open. Details of the role and the application process can be found at <https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/director-of-schools-birkenhead-2040730>

A NEW VICAR GENERAL FOR THE DIOCESE: From Bishop Mark - I am grateful to Canon Jonathan Brandon for accepting my invitation to serve as a new Vicar General of the Diocese alongside Canon Michael Gannon VG. I am conscious that Jonathan is Parish Priest of one of the largest parishes of our Diocese, and I very much appreciate his generosity in being ready to undertake this service of the Diocese.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – Thursday 9th May: The Ascension is a Holyday of Obligation and our Mass at 9.30am will include St Clare's Primary school

ST CLARE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL: Our youngest children enjoyed many activities to celebrate St George's Day and it was the focus of our Forest School this week. Our oldest children are busy preparing for their upcoming tests, please keep them in your prayers.

SACRISTAN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We urgently need more volunteers to help set up for the weekend Masses on a rota basis. If you can help, please contact our Lead Sacristan, Tony Austin tonyfaustin@talktalk.net