

**Sunday**  
**8<sup>th</sup> September 2024**  
**Education Sunday**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Psalter week III**

**Year: B**

**Isaiah 35: 4-7**

**Psalm: 145**

**James 2: 1-5**

**Mark 7: 31-37**



**St Clare of Assisi**  
**Catholic Church**

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Fr Patrick

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**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Wednesday; 9:30am to 12 noon

**September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows, whose memorial the Church celebrates on 15<sup>th</sup> September**

**MASSES AND SERVICES**

Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Confessions: 5.30pm – 5.55 <b>Vigil Mass 6pm</b>
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept	23 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day of Special Prayer for Education</i> Confessions: 9am – 9.25am <b>Mass 9.30am</b>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St Peter Claver, Priest <b>No Mass</b>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St Anthony's Devotions & <b>Mass 7pm</b>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Adoration: 8.30am – 9.30am <b>Mass 9.30am</b>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Most Holy Name of Mary Rosary 9.10am <b>Mass 9.30am</b>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	St John Chrysostom, B, D - <i>Memorial</i> <b>Mass 9.30am</b>
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Exaltation of the Holy Cross - <i>Feast</i> Confessions: 5.30pm – 5.55 <b>Vigil Mass 6pm</b>
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept	24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (The Joy of the Gospel) - Feast</i> Confessions: 9am – 9.25am <b>Mass 9.30am</b>

**INTENTIONS**

Zygmunt Weselak RIP
People of the Parish
Dick Rogers RIP
Edward Craggs RIP (KC)
Dermot Quirke RIP
Mr V V Mamma chan
People of the Parish

**THE SICK, ELDERLY, HOUSE BOUND** and those in care homes are important members of our parish community: Judy Kearney, Rosemary Roberts, Eileen Wyatt, Veronica Creaney, Peter Lloyd, Mike Darby, Geoffrey Prendergast, Cynthia Lloyd, Alan Challinor, Jenny Jarvis and Margaret Russell

**ANNIVERSARIES OCCURING ABOUT THIS TIME:** Winifred McHugh, Michael Francetti, Eileen Hickman, Fr. Rudolph Keller OFM Cap. Sheila Shepard, Albert Capper, George Farrell, Sheila Fisher and Sybil Powell

**TEA AND COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 9.30am MASS:** it is Sue with proceeds to CAFOD and next week it's Pat and Mary with proceeds to Parkinson's UK.

**FOODBANK DONATIONS:** Please keep donations coming and they will be taken to the warehouse soon.

**REFUGEE ASSIST:** The team are organising donations so no further requests at present, thank you.

**ST CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE:** Thanks to all who responded to our appeal for help last week. I'll be in touch shortly to move your help further. Thanks, Steve.

**NEW CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP:** Volunteers needed as soon as possible, please see Fr Patrick if you can help.

**THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER:** For the Cry of the Earth: We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climatic change and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

**HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY CANCER?:** 15<sup>th</sup> Sept at 3pm, an Ecumenical Service "Pause for Hope" at St Columba's Church. For anyone affected by cancer. The choir of St Joseph's Church will be there to lead singing.

**HERITAGE OPEN DAYS AND TRENA COX TALK:** For a fortnight from Monday 9th onwards St Werburgh's church will be open weekday afternoons to welcome everyone to Chester's Heritage Open Days. As part of this annual event, on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm, Aleta Doran will be giving a talk on Trena Cox, the extraordinary Stained Glass Artist, whose work you can see in St Werburgh's church porch.

**ANNUAL MASS ATTENDANCE:** Over the last two weeks in September and the first two weeks of October, the annual Mass attendance will take place (the number of people attending Mass are counted). This is the figure that is used for the Parish Pastoral Statistics form.

**GARDENING AT ST CLARE'S:** Many thanks to those who have got involved already, still more room for others! We have set up a WhatsApp group to keep in contact and updated. Please let me know if you want to be added [jenny.szczyglowska@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.szczyglowska@gmail.com)

**ST CLARE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:** It has been a pleasure to welcome all the children back to school this week. They have all settled well into their new classes and enjoyed meeting their new teachers and seeing friends. We will have our Start of the School Year Mass in Church on Friday 13th September at 9.30am. It would be lovely if parishioners could join us.

**EDUCATION SUNDAY – 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER:** Established by the Bishops in 1848, Education Sunday is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in the liturgical calendar of England and Wales.

Education remains the largest charitable activity of the Church in this country, with many of our schools established for poor immigrant children in the 19th century. Our forebears rightly saw education as the principal means of handing on the faith and improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural lives of children and young people. Since then, the Catholic Church has become the country's largest provider of secondary schools and second-largest provider of primary schools, along with four universities.

Catholic schools continue to be true to their historical mission, in educating substantially more pupils from the most deprived backgrounds, and while outperforming national averages at GCSE RE, English and Maths.

This success, however, continues to be dependent on the support of the Catholic community. There are many ways to do this, for instance in prayer for vocations to Catholic education; asking your diocese about becoming a school foundation governor; or encouraging a young person to become a teacher in a Catholic school.

We also give thanks for the many thousands of teachers, lecturers, academics, support staff, leaders, governors, directors, advisers and others who have found their vocation in Catholic education, and without whom this would be impossible. Catholic education is a wonderful achievement to be celebrated - happy Education Sunday.

Dear Lord,

Thank you for the gift of Catholic education. Thank you for all those who have given their talents to educating our young people. Through the challenges they encounter each day, lead them to an ever-deeper appreciation of the sacred duty to which you have called them. Thank you for all those who contribute to the efficient running of our Catholic education sector: chaplains, support staff, kitchen staff, maintenance staff, governors and trustees. We thank them for their hard work and dedication. Thank you for all the leaders of Catholic education. May they be people of integrity so that they can be witnesses as well as teachers. We pray that the schools they lead will become places where our young people can experience your love in their lives. Thank you for our pupils and students. May your love strengthen and nurture them through the influence and example of those who care for them. We pray that through their time at school and university they will flourish and grow to discover who you have called them to be. We make this prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord, Amen

**CONTACTS:** (Parish Priest & Parish office at the top of this newsletter)

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**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Bernise Whitley, Email: [safeguarding@stclares.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stclares.co.uk)

**Diocesan Safeguarding Co-Ordinator:** Andrew O'Brien Email: [andrew.obrien@DioceseofShrewsbury.org](mailto:andrew.obrien@DioceseofShrewsbury.org)

**Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy:** Tel 01244 364543, answer phone available.

**Parish Newsletter:** Email [patriddell31@aol.com](mailto:patriddell31@aol.com)

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

St Clare's Parish is part of the Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025