

**Sunday**  
**15<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Gaudete Sunday**

**Psalter week III**

**Year: C**

Zeph 3:14-18; Isa 12:1-6;  
Phil 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18



**St Clare of Assisi  
Catholic Church**

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Fr Patrick

Parochial Administrator

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**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Wednesday: 10am to 12noon

**December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**MASSES AND SERVICES**

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec *St John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor - Memorial*  
Adoration 4.30pm – 5.30pm  
Confessions: 5.30pm – 5.55pm & Rosary 5.40pm  
**Vigil Mass 6pm**

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Gaudete Sunday**  
Confessions: 9am – 9.25am  
**Mass 9.30am**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Dec **No mass**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec *St Anthony's Devotions &*  
**Mass 7pm**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec *Rosary 9.10am*  
**Mass 9.30am**  
*Adoration: 10am -11am – after Mass*

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec *Rosary 9.10am*  
**Mass 9.30am**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec *Rosary 9.10am*  
**Mass 9.30am**

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Dec *Saint Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor*  
Adoration 4.30pm – 5.30pm  
Confessions: 5.30pm – 5.55pm & Rosary 5.40pm  
**Vigil Mass 6pm**

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
Confessions: 9am – 9.25am  
**Mass 9.30am**

**INTENTIONS**

David Brown RIP (SB)

Joyce Bownas RIP

Paul Davis RIP

Sarah Russell RIP

Davis family 5<sup>th</sup> WA and 5 years  
since Confirmation (Mari)

Frank Hopkins

Edward Craggs RIP (KC)

Dale Garrett RIP

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:** Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December, Children's Mass at 4pm

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December, Mass During the Night at 8pm

Christmas Day, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Day Mass at 9.30am

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Please pray for Pauline Cain and John Creaney who died recently. May they Rest in Peace.

**From Steve Bonsall: Sad Passing** - I am sorry to report the passing of a long-standing parishioner, John Creaney. He died earlier this week and leaves a wife Veronica and other family.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: This Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am Mass  
Faith, Fun & Friendship



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

**ANNIVERSARIES ABOUT THIS TIME:** Terence Durham, Joannes Burgess, Nora Crawford, Mary Foxall, Winifred Smith, Sarah Russell, Ann Miller, Elizabeth McGovern and Evelyn Stanton.

**TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 9.30am MASS:** This week it's Catherine and Elaine with proceeds to St Clare's SVP and next week it's Mike and Veronica with proceeds to the Holiday Home.

**RED MISSIO BOXES:** Please bring your boxes to Church and give to Tony or leave in the Sacristy for counting. Thank you.

**FOODBANK DONATIONS:** Please keep the donations coming and put them on the trolley in the cupboard next to the Altar of the Sacred Heart. Please do not put food donations in the understairs cupboard. 60kg of food was taken to the warehouse last week. Thank you for your support. Regards Steve

**ST CLARE'S SVP CONFERENCE:** Befriending is the main function of the SVP and St Clare's Conference keeps that at its heart. If you know of anyone who needs help in whatever way then please do get in touch. Contact can be made via the website <https://stclaressvp.co.uk> or to Steve on 07838089298. Keep safe and as well as possible. God bless.

**OUR MISSION TOGETHER:** We seek your suggestions for project ideas that we can use the OMT funds on, things that will benefit the life of the parish now and that we can pass onto future parishioners. **Please complete one of the forms at the back of the church** and leave in the OMT envelope on the noticeboard or pass to Fr Patrick or any Parish Council member. **This is your chance to have a say on how this money can be spent – fill out a form today.**

**THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: For pilgrims of hope:** We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

**ST CLARE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:** The whole school had a wonderful trip to the Pantomime in New Brighton to see Peter Pan. On Tuesday, the Key Stage One children performed the Nativity for their families, which was a lovely way to tell the Christmas story. Next week, Key Stage Two are going to be performing their Carol Concert. Unfortunately, we are unable to hold it in church, therefore it will be at Chester Catholic High School on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. It would be lovely if parishioners were able to join us.

**CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:** Our school Carol Service will take place on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6:30pm in the school hall. All warmly welcomed. The Catholic High School wishes you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

**THE NEW ESV LECTIONARY:** If you wish to purchase your own copy of the new Sunday Missal, they are available online at the CTS (Catholic Truth Society) <https://www.ctsbooks.org/product/sunday-missal-2025/> or see Sue or Sheila after Mass at the Repository. The Repository is well stocked for Christmas too, make sure you take a few minutes to have a look.

**SINGING PRACTICE** 🎵 Last before Christmas – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in church, all welcome 

**ADVENT:** Advent comes from the Latin adventus, meaning 'arrival' or 'coming'. It's the season before Christmas we use to prepare ourselves to celebrate the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnate God of love. The liturgical vestments priests wear during the season are purple, matching the candles lit on each Sunday of Advent. Purple is a colour typically associated with penance. The exception is the third Sunday – Gaudete Sunday – when priests wear pink vestments – the colour of rejoicing.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS COLLECTION:** The collection to provide flowers in Church over the Christmas season is being held at each Mass this weekend – please place your donation in the basket in the porch.

**CONTACTS:** (Fr Patrick and office at head of Newsletter)

**St Clare's SVP:** website: [stclaressvp.co.uk](http://stclaressvp.co.uk) or Email: [bonsallstephen2@gmail.com](mailto:bonsallstephen2@gmail.com)

**Parish Safeguarding Representative:** 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)

**Choir and music for Sunday Mass:** Kate Hughes [kate.hughes@me.com](mailto:kate.hughes@me.com)

**Church Cleaning:** Mary Axon [maryaxon42@gmail.com](mailto:maryaxon42@gmail.com)

**If you wish to make a donation to St Clare's:** Bank sort code: 30 15 52 Acct: 54579560

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