

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY YEAR C

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Sunday is “Evangelii Gaudium Day” or “The Joy of the Gospel.” The word Gospel, itself means Good News! Jesus gave the news of redemption to his disciples, the good news of the salvation of the world and it was to be done through the love of him, our saviour. Sometimes I think the world’s population only see the gospel as a burden upon their back, restricting them of their freedom, when it is trying to do exactly the opposite and give us true freedom, especially that of mind heart and soul.

The gospel is a treasure that unfolds in front of us, although it is slow it takes time to assimilate the wonder of its contents. God so loved the world that he sent his only Son to be our Saviour. He did not count his equality with his Father, but rather emptied himself of all powers above us so that he could be like us, and understand us in all things.

Yes, it is all a mystery but at the same time a loving and beneficial one, given to us because of the love of God for his creatures. We are his beloved creatures, we are his people, the sheep loved by the shepherd.

Please take note of the forthcoming Parish Mission, run by the Zion Community, taking place from Friday evening October 17th until Sunday afternoon. The full program is on the leaflet at the back of church. Friday 7p.m. starts with an Introduction, Evening Prayer and Wine and Cheese. Saturday 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer, A Talk/Prayer/Workshop. Mass will be at 12.15 p.m. Shared table followed by a talk at 2 p.m. with service of Reconciliation and Healing. Later in the evening there will be a social, quiz, curry night and disco – tickets available at the back of church. On Sunday there will be a short talk following the Masses. The event finishes with a talk “Pilgrims of Hope” for all families. Do try and take part! Speak to Claire O’Hara for further information.

Please note that the repairs continue at pace both at Clayton and at Ashley, all part of the Diocesan Requirement to keep the buildings in order for the use of the people of our parishes.

Remember too the Harvest Supper Friday 3rd of October 7p.m. for 7.30p.m. taking place at Ashley Anglican Church. Tickets are £5 each.

Please remember Patricia Mary Hughes in your prayers. Please also pray for her family and friends.

God bless and keep you all safe in his care!

Father Anton s.c.j.

**Our Lady & Saint John the Baptist, Ashley
and**

Our Lady & Saint Werburgh, Clayton

The parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216

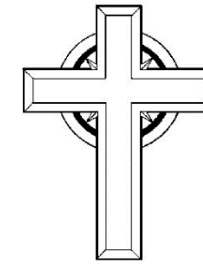
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023

Email: olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk

[Parishes Office Hours: Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat 10.00 am – 1 pm]

Chaplain’s Office for inpatients at the Royal Stoke: 01782 676400



**Sunday 21st September 2025
Twenty- Fifth Sunday of the Year
Sunday Readings Year C
Weekday Readings Year 1**

MISSION PRAYER

*Father, pour your Spirit upon the people of our parishes.
Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of
your power, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new
consecration to your service, so that your love may grow
among us and your kingdom come. Through Christ our
Lord, Amen.*

	Ashley	Clayton	
Saturday 20th September Vigil Mass 25th Sunday	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 21st September 25th Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00am	Ryan Biju – Thanksgiving John Mansell RIP
Tuesday 23rd September		7.15 pm	Holy Mass
Wednesday 24th September Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Families of the Parishes Adoration Holy Mass
Thursday 25th September		9.15 am	Holy Mass with the School
Friday 26th September		10.00am	Romano Sidoli RIP
Saturday 27th September Vigil Mass 26th Sunday of the Year	6.00 pm	10.00am	Holy Mass followed by Adoration People of the Parishes
Sunday 28th September 26th Sunday of the Year		8.15am 10.00am	Phil Regan (anniversary) Deacon Paul Mayland RIP

Confessions on Saturdays: At Clayton – 10.30 – 11.30 am. **At Ashley** before 6 pm Mass.

Please pray for the sick and elderly of our parishes and all those who have asked for prayers. May the healing touch of the Lord be with them all.

Please keep Leo who is to be baptised this weekend and his family in your prayers.

Journey In Faith: The first session will be on Tuesday 23rd September at 8pm in the upper room. All welcome.

Father Hudson's: The annual Father Hudson's Caritas collection takes place on the weekend of 27th & 28th September. Father Hudson's Caritas is a Social Care & Community Charity working across the Archdiocese of Birmingham, with a focus on Catholic Social Teaching, working with people experiencing homelessness, support for adults with disabilities, welcome for refugees and migrants, care & social activity for older people and working with children & families. The focus of our appeal this year is on the fight against poverty.

Father Huson's Caritas Young at Heart Group: A social gathering for the over 50's, meets at St James' Church Clayton on the last Friday of every month, with the next meeting being held on Friday 26th September between 1:30 pm & 3:30 pm.

Youth Group: Restarts on Saturday 27th September in the parish hall from 6pm – 7.30 pm. Children year 4 and above are welcome. Subs £2. Tuck shop available. This session is a St Carlo Acutis special.

Fearless Retreat: We are taking a group to the Fearless Retreat at Alton Castle from 7th – 9th November £50. Years 5 -9. Please contact Claire O'Hara for further details on 07929036596

Readers Saturday	6.00pm	20.09.25 R. McKenna	27.09.25 J. Dunlevy	04.10.25 C. Bland
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	21.09.25 R. Hartley	28.09.25 D. Mason	05.10.25 K. Lycett
Readers	Sunday 10 am	21.09.25 M. Larkin/J. Parkes	28.09.25 L. Machin/H. Carter	05.10.25 A. Capper/J. Capper
Counting	Clayton	21.09.25 Walker	28.09.25 Thompson/Carter	05.10.25 Eggington/ Evans
Cleaning	Clayton	W/c 21.09.25 Group 1	W/c 28.09.25 Group 2	W/c 05.10.25 Group 3
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley September	M. Heath/C. Byrne		
Flowers Ashley	Ashley	22.09.25 Chris	29.9.25 Sue McK	06.10.25 Sue McK
Flowers	Clayton	21.09.25 Rosalind	28.09.25 Julia	05.10.25 Sujen
Offertory Collections – thank you		Retiring collection 20 th /21 st September is for Home Mission	Retiring collection 27 th /28 th September is for Father Hudson's Society	Retiring collection 4 th /5 th October is for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day
Gift Aid	Clayton	£137.24	Ashley	£39.00
Cash	Clayton	£336.02	Ashley	£51.70
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£ 92.00
Total	Clayton	£903.26	Ashley	£182.70

Safeguarding: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Kate Hagan She can be contacted at: sg.olstwerburgh.clayton@rcaob.org.uk or 01782 613023 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) are undertaking a thematic inspection of survivor engagement and support, and the Archdiocese of Birmingham has been chosen as one of the Dioceses to be involved in this project. Further information and a link to the survey is available on both the Diocesan website and our own parishes website.

Parish Mission – Save the Date! Friday 17th – Sunday 19th October 2025: We are excited to announce a Parish Mission weekend, taking place from Friday 17th to Sunday 19th October 2025. The mission will be led by the Sion Community and promises to be a time of spiritual renewal, reflection, and fellowship for our entire parish family during this Jubilee Year. See website for further details.

Ashley Harvest Supper: On Friday 3rd October 7pm at the Anglican Church. Tickets will be on sale £5 each after Mass.