

THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We now come to the end of the church's year with the Wonderful Solemn Feast of Christ the Universal King. It is also Youth Sunday, and we welcome our younger members as they assist in the Liturgy of Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. Thank you to them all in advance. It is a good time to say "thank you" to all those who have supported them in their endeavours, walks, retreats, gatherings and of course the very important times of worship.

Once more we remember and give thanks for the Life of Father Simon Hall whose funeral services took place this week. Father Simon was only 48 years old and will be very much missed by his parishioners, family and friends. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord!

We also remember all our faithful departed, especially as we remain in the November Remembrance of the Dead. Those whose funeral services took place this week, are Brigid Hulse and Patricia McDermott. Please pray for them all and their families as well.

Please remember Marian Mountford also recently deceased and whose Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Thursday December 4th at St Werburgh.

Next Saturday we have the Winter Fayre at St Werburgh Parish and Parish School. They are always great occasions and who knows we might have some festive snow! Not everyone's cup of tea, I know, but at the moment the word Winter certainly applies.

At Ashley we look forward to the Festival of Angels on Saturday 6th December 10am – 4pm. Before I was allowed my afternoon tea, I had to make my angel for the exhibition. I had good instructions otherwise I would not have had a clue. Congratulations to all for the organised afternoon tea, the scones were especially enjoyable, more reminiscent of Summer in Cornwall with tea, jam and cream to accompany them. Well done everyone!

Next Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent, the start of the New Year in the life of the church. Advent is a time to prepare properly for the second coming of Christ. Although it may not be the end of time, each Christmas is a new beginning for us as we recall the birth and life of Christ. It is time for us to renew our faith and commitment. Confession is a sacrament for this time, which is possibly one of the biggest witnessing to oneself of one's deep and sincere love of Christ and his Church.

Year Five, Certificate of Catholic Practice, please collect your pre-application forms from Fr Anton at Sunday Mass!

Meanwhile keep warm and look out for those who may have special need of help at this time of the year.

God bless and keep safe!

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***

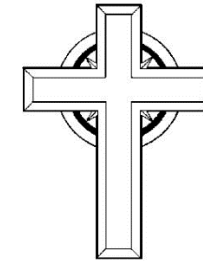
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

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 23rd November 2025

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Sunday Readings Year C

Weekday Readings Year 1

Psalm 120

I lift up my eyes to the mountains:

from where shall come my help?

My help shall come from the Lord

Who made heaven and earth.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of Father Simon Hall and
all our faithful departed.**

	Ashley	Clayton	
Saturday 22nd November Vigil Mass Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Saturday 23rd November Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe		8.15 am 10.00 am	Aubrey Sammons and Barry Akers Michael Somers (Youth Mass)
Tuesday 25th November		7.15 pm	John & Margaret Wood
Wednesday 26th November	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Brenda & Wyn Howe Adoration Holy Souls
Thursday 27th November		9.15 am	Holy Souls
Friday 28th November		10.00am	Thomas RIP
Saturday 29th November Vigil Mass First Sunday of Advent	6.00 pm	10.00 am	Mary Kutty Manimala, Mass followed by Adoration People of the Parishes
Sunday 30th November First Sunday of Advent		8.15 am 10.00 am	Ellen & Philip Bode Jacob

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 Alexander and Theodore who are to be baptised this weekend in your prayers.

Holy Souls Envelopes: Available in the porch.

Our Lady and St John's Ashley Angel Festival: The Angel Festival is the 6th December 10-4pm at Our Lady and St John's Ashley. Our Lady and St Werburgh's school, Hugo Meynell school and St Mary's School Mucklestone are all making Angels along with quite a few other groups. We hope to have about 600 Angels on display. There will also be refreshments, decorating gingerbread Angels and craft stalls.

Help is urgently needed for the Angel Festival. We need people to serve the refreshments; be greeters in church; marshal in the carpark; help to put up and take down the display and to make cakes. If you can help with any of these roles please either email Hazel at angelfestival.olstj@gmail.com or sign up on the poster in the porch at Ashley. Thank you.

Coffee Morning at Ashley Parish: On Tuesday 25th November 10am – 12 noon. All very welcome.

Readers Saturday	6.00pm	22.11.25 H. Brown	29.11.25 R. McKenna	06.12.25 J. Allbutt
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	23.11.25 M. Anderson	30.11.25 M. Mason	
Readers	Sunday 10 am	23.11.25 L. Machin/H. Carter	30.11.25 A. Capper/J. Capper	
Counting	Clayton	23.11.25 Eggington/ Evans	30.11.25 Whitehurst/ Machin	07.12.25 Grannell
Cleaning	Clayton	23.11.25 Group 5	30.11.25 Group 1	07.12.25 Group 2
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley	November P. & C. Quinlan	December A & J. Capper	
Flowers Ashley	Ashley	24.11.25 Sue McK		
Flowers	Clayton	23.11.25 Catherine	29.11.25 Sujen	
Offertory Collections – thank you		Retiring collection 22 nd /23 rd is for Catholic Youth Service	Retiring collection 29 th /30 th November is for flowers for the altar	Retiring collection 6 th /7 th December is for Poor Parishes
Gift Aid	Clayton	£317.20	Ashley	£75.00
Cash	Clayton	£469.56	Ashley	£21.10
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£ 92.00
Total	Clayton	£1,216.76	Ashley	£188.10

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.

Winter Fayre Saturday 29th November from 12 Noon to 2 pm.

Raffle tickets: Now available at the back of Church.

Raffle Prizes: We would be grateful for prizes for the main raffle.

Items for Stalls: Books, toys, bric a brac, bottles etc.

Homemade Cakes: To be brought in on the day with the full list of ingredients.

Counting Team Clayton: A couple of people urgently needed to join one of our counting teams. Please contact the parish office for further information.

Missio Red Boxes: Please return boxes over the next few weeks. Envelopes in the porch.

Carol Singers for ROYAL STOKE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL: Taking place on Tuesday 9th December 2025. Time: 18:00pm (start) – 19:30pm

Meeting Point: SPARC, Chapel, LG2 @ 17:30

Everyone is kindly asked not to attend if they have some Covid19 or Flu-like symptoms. Please inform the parish office if you would like to attend by Sunday 30th November.