

THIRTIETH SUNDAY YEAR A

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This weekend we have an exchange of pulpits, and we welcome Fr John Waters from Wolstanton who will be saying Masses here while I go over to his parish in return. Please make him welcome and explain any procedures he may need to know about.

Half term is here and a chance for families to spend a little extra time together and hopefully have a little rest and recreation. Let us all come back refreshed for the work ahead. If you are travelling, go safely and return safely. Perhaps take St Christopher along with you, the patron saint of travellers.

Next Sunday is the Feast of All Saints, a celebration of our hope for life in heaven and a recognition of all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. Remember that as well as famous Saints there are also many less famous such as our own relatives and friends who have lived a good life in the eyes of the Lord!

During the month of November, we pray for our loved ones and all the faithful departed. To this end we bring to the altar the names of those for whom we ask daily prayers. There are envelopes at the back of church to place lists of people you want remembered. There will be a box at the back of church to place the names of your loved ones in. Should you wish to include a donation, it will be put towards continuing Masses for the Holy Souls. Secondly, should you wish an individual Mass said for someone, then there are different envelopes to put your intentions forward. You can place those in the box too or bring them to the office.

This week we also give thanks to one of our past members, Mildred Brennan who in gratitude to the parish left £10,000 in her will for its needs. Many thanks to Mildred and may she rest in peace!

As some of you may know Bishop Tim Menezes has been appointed to the diocese of Brentwood. He will be leaving us at the end of November. His last act as a Bishop here will be to celebrate our Confirmations on Friday November 27th. Please keep him in your prayers as we wish him "bon voyage."

Please remember in your prayers all the sick and housebound and especially little 4-year-old Elliott who is seriously ill in hospital.

Finally, I hope you have remembered that this weekend the clocks go back giving everyone an extra hour in bed, a good start to half-term for many.

God bless and keep safe, especially if you are travelling.

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***

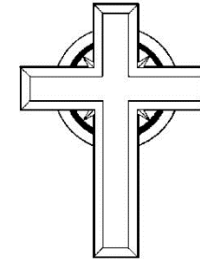
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

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 25th October 2026
Thirtieth Sunday of the Year
Sunday Readings Year A
Weekday Readings Year 2

Prayer before Mass

**I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

**For love of my brethren and friends
I say: 'Peace upon you!'
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good.**

	Ashley	Clayton	
Saturday 24th October Vigil Mass for Sunday Thirtieth Sunday of the Year	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 25th October Thirtieth Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00am	Mary Richards RIP Joseph & Gladys Mason RIP
Saturday 31st October		10.00am	Deceased of the Cunningham family, Mass followed by Adoration
Vigil Mass Solemnity of All Saints	6. 00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 1st November Solemnity of All Saints		8.15 am 10.00 am	Ann Conway RIP Derek And Brigid Hulse RIP
Monday 2nd November The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed	7.15 pm	10.00 am	Ann McVeigh RIP Father Colin Fortune RIP

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

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.

Missio Red Boxes: Please can you return the contents of your boxes to Church as soon as possible in the brown envelope available from the back of Church.

Holy Souls Envelopes: Are now available at the back of Church.

Ashley Parish Table top sale and refreshments in Oddfellows hall 11am-3pm on the 7th November. All welcome . Proceeds to the building fund. Crystals, craft items, Christmas gift ideas.

Mass for Deceased Clergy: On Tuesday 10th November at Holy Trinity, Newcastle 12 noon.

Volunteering Opportunities in our parishes:

Altar Server Chaperone – must be 18+, DBS clearance required via the Parish, required before and after weekend masses on a rota basis.

New members of the **Cleaning and Counting teams** always welcome to join the rota. No DBS required, training given,

General Volunteer to record monthly meter and water temperature readings – no DBS required.

Readers Ashley	Saturday 6.00pm	24.10.26 B. Bromfield	31.10.26 R. McKenna	07.11.26 H. Brown
Readers Clayton	Sunday 8.15 am	25.10.26 M. Corrigan	01.11.26 C. Pover	08.11.26 M. Anderson
Readers	Sunday 10 am	25.10.26 B. Tierney/ M. Tierney	01.11.26 M. Larkin/ M. Hughes	08.11.26 L. Machin/ H. Carter
Counting	Clayton	25.10.26 Thompson Carter	01.11.26 Eggington/ Beardmore	08.11.26 Whitehurst/ Machin
Cleaning	Clayton	25.10.26 Group 6	01.11.26 Group 1	08.11.26 Group 2
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley	November A & J. Capper		
Flowers	Ashley 26.10.26 02.11.26 09.11.26	Chris Chris Sue M	Clayton 25.10.26 01.11.26 08.11.26	Rosalind Julia Sujen
Offertory Collections – thank you	Second Collections: 30th Oct/1st Nov Johnson Association 7th/8th Nov Father Hudson's			
Gift Aid	Clayton	£112.00	Ashley	£20.00
Cash	Clayton	£256.23	Ashley	£44.00
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£92.00
Total	Clayton	£798.23	Ashley	£156.00
Missio	Clayton	£ 223.94	Ashley	£ 48.20

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.

Safeguarding: We have received a copy of the report from the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency following the recent inspection, which has awarded the Archdiocese an overall grading of **Exceeding Expectations**. A copy of the report is available should anyone wish to read it in full - please contact the Office.

Winter Fayre: On Saturday 21st November 12 noon until 2.00 pm. We would be grateful for raffle prizes for the main raffle and items for the stalls. Homemade cakes please bring in on the morning of the fayre (**with a list of all ingredients**)