

Fifth Sunday Of Ordinary Time Year A

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The term of address I use is a reminder of one of the fundamental teachings about our Mass and Eucharist. The Body of Jesus makes us into his Body Christ, the Church, and that we are adopted members of his family, brothers and sister of Jesus and children of the heavenly Father. We work together and witness to his love for us and our desire to love him in return.

With this in mind we celebrate our commitment Mass for Year 3 as we begin our program of preparation for First Forgiveness and Holy Communion. A special welcome to all the children's families and of course to the children themselves. Children, parents, teachers and I commit ourselves to the program of preparation. Let us give thanks for this wonderful time. May it help us all in the strengthening of our faith.

To help crown this occasion this week has been the week of St Werburgh. After Mass there will be coffee, tea, juice, biscuits and cake to mark the occasion of the Parish Feast of our Patron, our protector gentle overseer. Happy St Werburgh week!

This week we have the Requiem Mass of Mariella Vella, Thursday 11.00 a.m. Please keep her and her family in your prayers this week. Pray for the repose of her soul. May she rest in peace!

Also please pray for the repose of the souls of Eileen McClellan, Tim Cree and Brian Bratt. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, may they rest in peace!

Thank you to those supporting our Youth Movement. It is a joy to behold, especially the effort and commitment of our leaders. This week a brand-new table tennis table arrived to help enhance the various activities of the group.

Meanwhile let us pray for some respite in the weather!

God bless and take 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

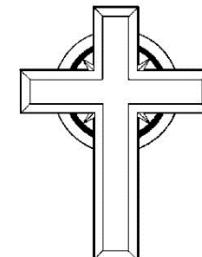
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

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 67640



**Sunday 8th February 2026
Fifth Sunday of the Year
Sunday Readings Year A
Weekday Readings Year 2**

Prayer to the Blessed Sacrament

***O Sacrament most holy, O Sacrament divine
All praise and all thanksgiving
Be every moment thine!***

	Ashley	Clayton	
Saturday 7th February Vigil Mass Fifth Sunday of the Year	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 8th February Fifth Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00 am	Mary Richards Mariella Vella (First Holy Communion Commitment Mass)
Tuesday 10th February		7.15 pm	Forgotten Holy Souls
Wednesday 11th February	6.45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Maureen and John Mulrooney Adoration Holy Souls
Thursday 12th February		9.15 am 11.00 am	Brian Bratt RIP (Mass with the school) Requiem Mass for Mariella Vella
Friday 13th February		10.00am	Holy Souls
Saturday 14th February Feast of St Cyril, and St Methodius		10.00am	Jose Mathew RIP Mass followed by Adoration
Vigil Mass Sixth Sunday	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 15th February Sixth Sunday of the Year		8.15 am 10.00 am	Aubrey Sammons Holy Souls

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.

Ash Wednesday – 18th February: Masses at Clayton are at 10.00 am and 7.15 pm. Mass at Ashley will be at 2.00 pm.

Lenten Appeal: We will be collecting throughout Lent for Mary's Meals and WaterAid.

Youth Events: For young people Years 7-13, we will also be going to the free Kenelm Youth Trust event 'Go with Hope' at Oscott College on Saturday 7th March. This is a great opportunity to grow as community, deepen our lives of faith and learn more about the legacy of our Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope.' Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes. Please contact Claire O'Hara (07929036596) for more details and how to register. Limited lifts will be available.

On Tues 10th March in Keele University Chapel, Kenelm Youth Trust will be running an event 'How to Be,' in partnership with Keele CathSoc, for young adults (16 years +). The evening begins with Mass at 6pm, followed by an informal time of discussion about 'what it means to be Catholic.' See flyer at the back of church

Readers Saturday	6.00pm	07.02.26 J. Dunlevy	14.02.26 B. Bromfield	21.02.26 R. McKenna
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	08.02.26 M. Corrigan	15.02.26 C. Pover	22.02.26 M. Anderson
Readers	Sunday 10 am	08.02.26 S. Sony/ M. Tierney	15.02.26 A. Hagan/ M. Hughes	22.06.26 B. Walker/ J. Somers
Counting	Clayton	08.02.26 Hughes	15.02.26 Walker	22.06.26 Thompson/Carter
Cleaning	Clayton	08.02.26 Group 5	15.02.26 Group 6	22.02.26 Group 1
Cleaning Ashley	Ashley	February S. & L.Mifflin		
Altar Flowers	Ashley 09.02.26 16.02.26	Hazel Hazel	Clayton 08.02.26 15.02.26	Rosalind Helen
Offertory Collections – thank you			The retiring collection at Ashley on 7th February is for the Building Fund	The retiring collection 14th/15th February is for Pro-Life
Gift Aid	Clayton	£116.09	Ashley	£55.00
Cash	Clayton	£264.54	Ashley	£32.00
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£92.00
Total	Clayton	£810.63	Ashley	£179.00
Racial Justice	Clayton	£86.62	Ashley	£ 45.50

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.

North Staffs Deanery Vocations Mass: On Monday 2nd March 2026 at St Joseph's Goldenhill ST6 5RD at 6.30 pm. Principal celebrant Father Julian Green.

Readers Rota: Please contact the office if you are unable to read on your allocated week, or try to swap with someone else on the rota.