

EASTER SUNDAY YEAR B

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Christ Jesus,

He has risen as he said he would! He has rebuilt the temple in the three days that he prophesied. He has rebuilt the temple that is his body because within that body is the Son of God, a member of the Blessed Trinity. He is God and he is risen!

While we are fully aware of the fact that it is Jesus who has risen, many of the disciples felt bereft, left in limbo, unable to function and without direction. Yes a few of the chosen, such as Mary and Peter and James were privileged to know that he had risen but many never heard the news quickly. May we rejoice in that we know in faith that he is truly risen.

This event, this happening, is so important and significant that we now celebrate Easter as a season, taking forty days to complete with the celebration of Pentecost, when Christ strengthens his disciples and the whole church with the gift of the Holy Spirit, the presence of Christ being able to be present in each and everyone of us. As such we now return to the use of the "Alleluia" within the Mass and especially before the gospels are read. Happy and blessed Easter to you all as we celebrate its season!

If you are lucky enough to be having a break either away or from home base, enjoy the thought of God's gift to us all of creation and all its associated gifts. Let Spring into our lives, let us celebrate new birth and the light and life of the risen Lord Jesus.

Keep in your prayers all the sick and housebound, those in hospital and those who approach the time of their resurrection to life eternal.

A big thank you to all the teams who have prepared and supported the Easter Liturgy, given time and attention to all the little details that need to be dealt with. The music, the readings, the serving, the flowers, the cleaning and preparation of the church and altar have been wonderful. Truly I have had to worry about very little and as such have been able to give my mind to the tasks in hand. A very heartfelt thanks to you all!

Another big thank you to all our background workers who quietly go about the administration, the secretarial and accounting duties, the rotas, the maintenance, the planning and preparation for events and care of sick and elderly through visits and taking communion to the sick. There are so many roles within the life of the parish. It is after all a community of faith and worship, which in turn lets the world know that existence and hope we have in Christ.

If I have missed anyone out in all these categories, then please forgive me and know that you are treasured and that the Lord knows all that you do in his name.

God bless and keep you safe in the joy of his resurrection!

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
2342 16*

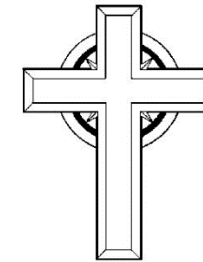
Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

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 31st March 2024

Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday Readings Year B

Weekday Readings Year 2

Blessed Miriams Prayer

**Holy Spirit, inspire me
Love of God, Consume me.
In the right path lead me.**

**Mary, my Mother,
watch over me.**

**With Jesus bless me.
From all evil, all illusion, all danger,
Preserve me.**

	Ashley	Clayton	
Sunday 31st March Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord	9.00am	11.00 am	Michael Riley Anne Bourne
Saturday 6th April Vigil Mass 2nd Sunday of Easter	6.00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 7th April 2nd Sunday of Easter		8.15 am	Thanksgiving – Ted and Pauline Hothersall Diamond Wedding Anniversary John Dunne RIP
Tuesday 9th April		7.15 pm	Sara Metcalf RIP
Wednesday 10th April	6. 45 pm 7.15 pm	10.00am	Aubrey Sammons Adoration No Intention
Thursday 11th April		9.15 am	No Intention (Mass with the School)
Friday 12th April		10.00am	Deceased of the Gillard family
Saturday 13th April		10.00am	Eileen Mee and family
Vigil Mass	6. 00 pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 14th April 3rd Sunday of Easter		8.15 am 10.00am	Philomena Barrington Jeff Beardmore RIP

Please Note: No Confession at Clayton on Saturday 6th April.

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.

Easter Monday Mass: At Sacred Heart Church, Hanley at 10.00 am. Chief Celebrant Canon Paul McNally. All welcome. Light refreshments available.

Gift Aid Envelopes at Clayton: Envelopes are available today. Please take a flyer with further details regarding Gift Aid. If you would like to Gift Aid your donation please contact the parish office.

Lenten Appeal - WaterAid and Mary's Meals: Please return any donations collected through Lent to church as soon as possible.

Vacancy – Archdiocese of Birmingham: Administration Support Officer: Permanent/Full-time (35 hours per week) Salary range: £21,000 to £25,000 fte p.a. plus benefits, hybrid remote working. The Birmingham Diocesan Trust (BDT) is looking to appoint an experienced Administration Support Officer for our Safeguarding Team, which is based at Cathedral House, St Chad's, Queensway, Birmingham. For an informal discussion about this role please call Claire Reay, Head of Safeguarding on 0121 230 6240. Applications including a CV and supporting statement to be submitted to the HR department to julia.hale@rcaob.org.uk by Monday 8th April 2024. Shortlisting: 9th April

Readers	Saturday 6pm	31.03.24: Easter Sunday Mass 9am M. Hartley	06.04.24: I. Thompson	13.04.24: B. Bromfield
Readers	Sunday 8.15 am	31.03.24 Easter Sunday Mass 11am only	07.04.24: M. O'Hagan	14.04.24: S. Sammons
Readers	Sunday 10am	31.03.24: Easter Sunday Mass 11am	07.04.24: A. Goodall/ M. O'Brien	14.04.24: S. Sony/M. Tierney
Counting	Clayton	31.04.24: Walker	07.04.24: Thompson/ Carter	14.04.24: Egginton
Cleaning	Clayton	31.03.24: Group 4	07.04.24: Group 5 & 5b	14.04.24: Group 1
Cleaning	Ashley	April	H. Brown	J. Dunlevy
		Offertory Collections – Thank You		The collections at all Easter Masses are for your Parish Priest (envelopes in the porch)
Gift Aid	Clayton	£188.00	Ashley	£40.00
Cash	Clayton	£313.85	Ashley	£37.00
Standing Orders	Clayton	£430.00	Ashley	£92.00
Total	Clayton	931.85	Ashley	£169.00
Flowers	Clayton	£171.87		

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 concern.

Vacancy - Archdiocese of Birmingham – Deputy Diocesan Solicitor: The Birmingham Diocesan Trust (BDT) is looking to appoint an experienced Deputy Diocesan Solicitor. Permanent/Part-time (21 hours per week) Salary range: £45,000 to £55,000 fte p.a. plus benefits, hybrid remote working. Applications including a CV and supporting statement to be submitted to the HR department to julia.hale@rcaob.org.uk by 8 April 2024. Shortlisting: 8 April 2024 Interviews: TBC w/c 15 April 2024