

**Third Sunday of the Year
Year B Psalms Wk 3**

Entrance Antiphon: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place. honour

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, make me know your ways.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

Bank details

From time to time you may have reason to make out a cheque in favour of the Priory or Parish. Our local Lloyds branch has indicated the necessity of entering the correct title in the Payee space. We do try to keep the various accounts distinct in accordance with their purposes. As we begin the new year, it is useful to refresh our memory of the details. Two examples:
if you wished to make out a cheque for your Sunday collection, you would fill it in as 'Clare Priory Parish';
if you wished to use a cheque to make an offering for a Mass to be celebrated by one of the friars, you would make out the cheque to 'Austin Friars Clare Priory'.

The correct titles of the main accounts are:

Account for	Fill in the cheque as follows:
Parish	Clare Priory Parish
Community	Austin Friars Clare Priory
Priory day to day business	Clare Priory House account
Friends of Clare Priory	Friends of Clare Priory
Augustinian Press	Augustinian Press

Mother of Good Counsel, Clare Priory

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Augustinian Friars Diocese of East Anglia

Third Sunday of the Year

Missal Page 711 (Old book, 458)

21st January 2018

Good News for Sinners

Today we are in danger of being drowned in bad news. Jesus began his ministry by announcing good news. What was this good news?
That the kingdom of heaven had come. The kingdom stands for the fulfilment of promises, the fullness of God's blessings, in short, the new order of things. Forgiveness is available. Recovery is possible. God's love is unconditional and is available to us in Christ. All we have to do is recognise our need, and seek his help with humility and sincerity. Unless we repent we can't hear the good news.

THOUGHTS FROM AUGUSTINE

Prayer from the Heart

The pure prayer that ascends from a faithful heart will be like incense rising from a hallowed altar. No fragrance can be more pleasing to God than that of his own Son. May all the faithful breathe out the same perfume.

Commentary on Psalm 140,6

Prayer: Lord, I am poor and needy, and you are generous to all who appeal to you.

Confessions 11,2

Saints of the Week

Wednesday 24th St Francis de Sales Bishop of Geneva, d. 1622, renowned for his gentle approach that attracted many to return to the faith:

Always be as gentle as you can and remember that one catches more flies with a spoonful of honey than with a hundred barrels of vinegar.

As often as you can during the day, recall your mind to the presence of God.... Consider what God is doing, what you are doing. You will always find God's eyes fixed on you in unchangeable love.

Every moment comes to us pregnant with a command from God, only to pass on and plunge into eternity, there to remain forever what we have made of it.

Thursday 25th The Conversion of St Paul The experience on the road to Damascus and the conversation that changed Paul's life: 'Who are you, Lord?' 'I am Jesus and you are persecuting me.' The event is recorded twice in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 9 and chapter 22.

Friday 26th Saints Timothy and Titus

Timothy was converted by St Paul c.47 and became his assistant. Headed the church in Ephesus and received two letters from Paul. Stoned to death c.97

Titus was also a disciple of Paul. First bishop of Crete. Paul wrote to Titus as well.

Saturday 27th St Angela Merici 1474-1540, was particularly concerned at the lack of education of young women. With friends she began to gather up from the streets the young girls that they saw and to teach them. With her groups of friends she set up the Company of Saint Ursula, known now as the Ursulines, the first group of women religious to work outside the cloister and the first teaching order of women. Angela Merici said:

'Take a look around you. Open your eyes to the needs you see along the way. What people do you notice who need help but who are not being helped? What are their true needs? Make a commitment to help them in some way.'

First Aid Training - Saturday 10th February 2018 9:30 - 4:30pm

For all those who are responsible for running or participating in church clubs, activities or any other meetings whatever the age group attending. This is a certificated course with a recognised qualification delivered by a local trainer. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please ask Fr David.

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Emilie Lambert, Tony Ranzetta Jr, David Sowerby (husband of Teresa Vitoria-Sowerby), Andrew McCullough, Michael Kingston, Kathleen Taplin, Michael Cronin, Pat Moroney, Donna (Pat's daughter), Brian Lenehan, Auriol Lamb-Cubitt, Brian Young (Lorna Quick's brother), Richard Lucking (Kate Davy's father), Sarah Booth, Kath Bullen, Shirley Kennedy, Jane Brown, Sheila Green, Jack, Lali and Orlando Cardozo, Patricia MacBride, Mark Lunn, Maura Kingston, Donna Wilson (Maria's daughter-in-law), Michael Farndon, Don Fitzgerald, Mary-Rose Henderson (Jean's sister), Abby Joyce, Pauline Wilkinson, Vivienne Hay's son Matthew, Peggy Rodgers, Jack Britton, Luke Twentyman, Ivan Smithet, Fred Taylor, Pat Dowson, Debbie Baloki, Brian David Hye (friend of Lucy Woodhouse), Karen Minns, Joan Perry, Gill Pardoe, Celia Poels, Karen Lane, Gloria Tatum and her son Alan, Joan Lally (Irene's sister), Anthony Stammers (relation of Sue Negus), Joan Gent (mother of Chris), Trish Birt, Fr Ben, Angela Hudson-Evans.

If you know of anyone who is ill or housebound, and would like a visit, please let Fr. David know.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Anna Bareham, aged 89 years, who died at Devonshire House on Tuesday evening. Anna worked at Clare Priory in the late 1940s before the return of the friars, when Clare Priory was a nursing home. Anna's funeral and burial will be in Ireland and there will be a memorial Mass for her at the Priory later

New Parishioners or New Addresses

Welcome to parishioners who have recently joined us. We pray that your life as a member of the family of Mother of Good Counsel will be blessed and happy. Would you like to fill in a 'new parishioner' form and hand it in to Fr Stefan or to me? Forms are available on the hymn book stand.

Longer term parishioners who have moved house or changed details of telephone contacts, etc., are encouraged to fill in the appropriate form and hand it to Fr Stefan or to me. Forms are available on the hymn book stand.

Men's Breakfast Invitation

The Clare Baptist Church has kindly invited gentlemen to a cooked breakfast 8.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. on Saturday 27th January, when their guest speaker, the Rev Simon Mattholie, will present his topic entitled 'Permission to Fail'. To book a place, gentlemen should contact Peter Bateman 01787 277567, as spaces in the Clare Baptist Church Hall are limited. (See the poster.)

Second Collections throughout the year (diocesan, national, Augustinian, special)

These collections are listed in the Diocesan Calendar but, as we had only 25 calendars to sell, I think it would be helpful to list the ways in which we are asked to support the various needs and ministries of the Church. When the handbook states that a collection is mandatory (**M**), it does not mean that you, personally, have to contribute; it means that the parish as a whole must make a contribution. When the handbook states that a collection is optional (**O**), then it is optional not just for you but also for the parish! Here is the list for the first half of the year. So far there are three additional collections this year, listed as 'special': January 14th, today, White Flower Appeal; May 5th Mission Appeal on behalf of Marist Missionaries; September 23rd Appeal by Survive-MIVA. There is no Augustinian appeal listed... yet.

JANUARY			
14th	Pax Christi		O
21st	White Flower Appeal	For the protection of the unborn	Special
28th	Racial Justice Sunday	For the Catholic Association for Racial Justice	O
FEBRUARY			
	Lent Alms	For ACN and Don't Screen Us Out	M
Friday 23rd Sunday 25th	CAFOD Fast Day	Not exactly a collection but rather a gathering-in of the Fast Day envelopes	O
MARCH			
Good Friday 30th	Holy Places Palestine	For the upkeep of the Holy Land shrines	M
APRIL			
22nd	Vocations Sunday	To provide for our diocesan seminarians	M
MAY			
5th	Marists' Mission Appeal	Bro John McAllister	Special
12th	Catholic Communications		M
JUNE			
17th	Day for Life	Catholic Life Charities	M
24th	Peter's Pence	To support Pope Francis	M
JULY			
7th	Apostleship of the Sea	To enable chaplaincy for seafarers	O

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity,
Sunday 21st January - Thursday 25th January**

A week of prayer uniting Christian churches around the world. In Clare, we are holding events to gather together throughout the week to pray with and for each other.

Sunday 21st	4:00pm	Clare Baptist Church - service to start the week, followed by four days of meeting for 30 minutes to pray:
Monday 22nd	12:00pm	St Mary's, Cavendish
Tuesday 23rd	12:00pm	Clare Priory
Wednesday 24th	12:00pm	Clare United Reformed Church
Thursday 25th	12:00pm	St Peter & St Paul, Clare

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
FRIDAY 2nd MARCH AT CLARE PRIORY - 2.00 pm**

In preparation, there are two Bible reflections at the URC Hall, Clare on Tuesdays 6th February and 20th February
10.30-11.30 am (coffee at 10.15)
Led by Fr Stefan

Come and join ladies from the Churches of Clare and Cavendish
As we only host this service every four years we look forward to your support
Iris Hopkins 01787 277739

Collection

14th January - £ 547.00

Thank you for your contributions to last Sunday's collection for Pax Christi, which amounted to £42.25.

Congratulations to our First Holy Communion candidates who introduced themselves to the 10 o'clock congregation last Sunday and began their lessons. Thank you to Rosie Kerr for looking after this important ministry, and of course to Lucy who was on hand to help out at the start of this year's lessons. We shall keep them all in our prayers

Programme and calendar of events – a correction

The weekly gatherings for Christian meditation are on **Wednesday** evenings at 7 p.m.