

# St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

[www.sfachurch.org.uk](http://www.sfachurch.org.uk)

01564 782498

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

1<sup>st</sup> September 2019

## PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.30 am	Anthony Mawby

### Monday [Feria]

9.00 am Intentions of Helen Brookes

### Tuesday [St Gregory the Great, pope, doctor of the Church]

9.00 am Eamon O'Neill

### Wednesday [St Cuthbert, bishop]

9.00 am Michael Wilkin

### Thursday [Feria]

9.00 am Rod Crossley

### Friday [Feria]

9.00 am Welfare of Rosemary Scholey  
*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass until 10.00 am*

### Saturday [Feria (of Our Lady)]

9.00 am Donors and Benefactors

Confessions: Saturday, 4.30-5.00 pm

---

Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who have died: **Elfriede Instone; Paul Anthony Ereaut; Joseph Johnson; Dorothy O'Shea** (anniversaries).

---

*Last Week's Collection: £239.60. Thank you.*

---

You may have noticed some large holes by the path in the cemetery that have tubing protruding from them. These are the first stage in the provision of external lighting bollards. It is hoped that the work will be concluded in the next week or so.

---

**ADVANCE NOTICE.** Please note that Mass on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> September will be at 8.00 am, an hour earlier than usual.

---

I must here relate a story, handed down to us by the tradition of our forebears, which explains Gregory's deep desire for the salvation of our nation. We are told that one day some merchants who had recently arrived in Rome displayed their many wares in the market-place. Among the crowd who thronged to buy was Gregory, who saw among the merchandise for sale some boys exposed for sale. These had fair complexions, fine-cut features, and beautiful hair. Looking at them with interest, he enquired from what country and what part of the world they came. 'They come from the island of Britain,' he was told, 'where all the people have this appearance.' He then asked whether the islanders were Christians, or whether they were still ignorant heathens. 'They are pagans', he was informed. 'Alas!' said Gregory with a heart-felt sigh, 'how sad that such bright-faced folk are still in the grasp of the Author of darkness, and that such graceful features conceal minds void of God's grace! What is the name of this race?' 'They are called Angles,' he was told. 'That is appropriate', he said, 'for they have angelic faces, and it is right that they should become joint-heirs with the angels in heaven. And what is the name of the province from which they have been brought?' 'Deira' was the answer. 'Good. They shall be rescued from *de ira* – from wrath – and called to the mercy of Christ. And what is the name of their king?' 'Allel', he was told. 'Then,' said Gregory, making play on the name, 'it is right that their lands should echo the praise of God our Creator in the word *Alleluia*.'

Approaching the Pope of the apostolic Roman see – for he was not yet Pope himself – Gregory begged him to send preachers to the English people in Britain to convert them to Christ, and declared his own eagerness to attempt the task should the Pope see fit to direct it. This permission was not forthcoming, for although the Pope himself was willing, the citizens of Rome would not allow Gregory to go so far away from the city. But directly Gregory succeeded to the Papacy himself, he put in hand this long cherished project. He sent other missionaries in his place; but it was his prayers and encouragement that made their mission fruitful. And I have thought it fitting to include this traditional story in the history of our Church.

St Bede the Venerable (673-735), *A History of the English Church and People*, Book 2, Chapter 1