

## THIS WEEK

**Monday** 9am Walking for Health Group  
4pm Handbell ringing

**Tuesday** 9.30am Morning Prayer  
7.30pm Lent Study Course "Draw Near" at St Mary's

**Wednesday** 10.15am Holy Communion  
11am Welcome Coffee Morning

**Thursday** 7.30pm Evening Prayer for Lent

**Friday** 7pm Choir practice

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Tuesdays** 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am  
Ecumenical Lent Study with refreshments at  
Cornerstone Methodist Church

**Wednesday** 4<sup>th</sup> March 2pm Mothers' Union  
service in church

**Sunday** 15<sup>th</sup> March Mothering Sunday

## Contact Details

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## Parish Hall bookings

Steve Welsh 07717 778 541  
stclementparishhall@outlook.com

## Booking Secretary for baptisms, weddings funerals and interment of ashes:

Norma Mellor 0161 748 4457  
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## DONATIONS

To donate to St Clement's  
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# ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH

## 22nd February 2026

### First Sunday of Lent

## TODAY'S HYMNS

121 Forty days and forty nights  
702 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us  
775 Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
127 Lord Jesus think on me  
646 God is working his purpose out

## TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 2: 15 – 17, 3: 1 - 7  
Romans 5: 12 – 19  
Matthew 4: 1 – 11

## THE COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

## THE GOSPEL

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' <sup>4</sup> But he answered, 'It is written,  
"One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you",  
and "On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’ <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! for it is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’ <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

## **INTERCESSIONS**

### **Please Pray for:**

#### **The Church:**

Pray for our diocese of Manchester and our bishops David, Mark and Matthew, archdeacon Karen and area dean Peter. Pray for our parishes of St Clement and St Mary and all those who work and worship in them.

#### **The World:**

Pray for the people of Ukraine after 4 years of war and dealing with very cold winters. Pray that world leaders will work towards peace in all places of conflict. Give thanks for the work of aid agencies which go into dangerous parts of the world to relieve suffering.

#### **The King and Government:**

Pray for King Charles, Queen Camilla and all the royal family. Pray for the government, MPs and local councillors that they will carry out their duties with diligence and integrity for the benefit of all people.

#### **Community:**

Give thanks for the people who look after the parks and gardens of our town, bringing the beauty of nature to our surroundings. Pray for those who are unable to access the green spaces that they will see the beauty of creation all around us.

#### **The Sick:**

We hold in God’s care all those we know who are sick, including Alastair Moore, Annette Ulian, Eileen McKay, Elaine Blezzard, Beryl

O’Neil, Alison Griffiths, Frank Kilroy, Christopher Brown, Emma Coulson, Tina Ellis and Georgia Coghlan. May they find healing in body, mind and spirit.

### **The Departed:**

Pray for Martin Egan, Thomas Porter and any others known to us who have died recently and for the families and friends who grieve for them. May all who have gone before us rest in peace and rise in glory.

### **Anniversaries:**

Albert Hillman, Herbert Clapham, Edward Bamford, Alfred Mellor, Sarah Lister, Samuel Day, Janette May, John Tarbuck, Mary Lindley, John Saultor, George Woodworth, May Foulkes, Darren Nightingale, Arthur Abrey, Mina Bailie, Harry Greenlees, Doris Shearn, Joan Osborne, Ann Dyson.

## **POST COMMUNION**

Lord God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## **NEXT WEEK’S READINGS**

Genesis 12: 1 – 4a

Romans 4: 1 – 5, 13 - 17

John 3: 1 – 17

## **EVENTS IN LENT**

**Tuesdays** 7.30pm Lent Study Course “Draw Near” at St Mary’s

**Tuesdays** 10.30am Ecumenical Lent Study s at Cornerstone Methodist Church (from 3<sup>rd</sup> March)

**Thursdays** 7.30pm Evening Prayer for Lent at St Clement’s