

**St. Francis of Assisi, Isleworth**  
**www.stfrancis-isleworth.org**

**St. Clare of Assisi: August 11th, 2019**

*Hymns: 177, 758, 381, 244*



*Today's Celebration* is the Feast of St. Clare of Assisi (1194-1253) who was an early follower of St. Francis. Following his example, she embraced a life of poverty, giving up her material status, as had Francis, which was their response to the 'poor Christ', who had given all for the world. Drawing to her a community of women, Clare wrote a rule of life for them, and they lived a simple, often silent life of work and prayer.

**For your prayers**

For the Church especially Justin our archbishop, Sarah our bishop, and Graham our area bishop

For the Poor Clares, the order St. Clare founded, and for all who follow the Franciscan way

For the needs of the world especially for all who live in poverty

For our local community

For the sick and the suffering

For the departed

## **Collect**

God of peace,  
who in the poverty of the blessed Clare  
gave us a clear light to shine in the darkness of this world:  
give us grace so to follow in her footsteps  
that we may, at the last, rejoice with her  
in your eternal glory;  
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.

## **First Reading**    *Hosea 2. 14-15 & 19-20*

I will now allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. From there I will give her her vineyards, and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she shall respond as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt. And I will take you for my spouse forever; I will take you for my spouse in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy. I will take you for my spouse in faithfulness; and you shall know the Lord.

## **Responsorial Psalm**    *Psalm 62*

***For God alone, my soul in silence waits.***

God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.  
For God alone my soul in silence waits;  
truly, my hope is in him. **R**

He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.  
In God is my safety and my honour;  
God is my strong rock and my refuge. **R**

Put your trust in him always, O people,  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

God has spoken once, twice have I heard it,  
that power belongs to God alone. **R**

**Second Reading** *2 Corinthians 4. 6-10*

It is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

**Gospel Reading** *John 15.4-10*

Jesus said to his disciples, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love."

**Post Communion**

Merciful God,  
who gave such grace to your servant Clare  
that she served you with singleness of heart  
and loved you above all things:  
help us, whose communion with you  
has been renewed in this sacrament,  
to forsake all that holds us back from following Christ  
and to grow into his likeness from glory to glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Notices**

**Refreshments after worship** do come into the church hall for tea or coffee after the service.

**Baptism** today at 1pm. Lacey Rose will be welcomed as a member of the Church.

**Thursday morning** eucharist this week at 10am.

**Vicar**

**and Assistant Area Director of Ordinands**

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