



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Blackpool Road, Deepdale, PRESTON. PR1 6HQ

Tel: 01772 795328

E-Mail: info@stgregoryspreston.org.uk

Website: www.stgregoryspreston.org.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Father Ted Gannon

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

Saturday 7th/Sunday 8th January 2012
The Epiphany of the Lord



THE WISE MEN came searching for Jesus. They found Him, worshipped Him and offered Him gifts.

At the Epiphany, Jesus was revealed as the Saviour, not of a few people or a select group but of all people. The Epiphany broke down the age old barrier between Jews and Gentiles. The Epiphany is a beautiful feast because it brings all peoples together. It also challenges us to open our hearts to other people. Jesus no longer needs our gifts but other people may. He wants us to share ourselves with one another. Talking across the fences is important.

As Christians we are called to be agents of a love that can bridge divisions and heal wounds. As a Church and a people we ought to be a place and people where all barriers fall down so that we can share our love of Jesus with everyone.

"God our Father, You are the light of every faithful soul. Fill the world with Your glory and reveal to all people the splendour of Your presence."

MASS INTENTIONS

Donal Terrins and Jacqui Troughton.

THE ROSARY will be prayed on Sunday 8th January at 6.00 p.m. at 6 St. Oswald's Close.

FEAST NEXT WEEK

Monday 9th January: The Baptism of the Lord



Father Ted's Column

Last weekend in his Pastoral Letter, Bishop Michael invited you, the people, to write to him. He wonders about the future of our Catholic Schools and whether we can afford to continue with them - especially when there seem to be so many pupils who are not Catholic or who come from non-practicing Catholic Families. He wonders what to do about parishes with large buildings and diminishing congregations. He faces difficulties in appointing priests to parishes as the numbers of priests continue to decline. He tells us that the mission of the Church is to reach out to others and that we all know people who have stopped coming to church. And he says he would like to hear from you - what are your thoughts and reflections about all these things and about anything else you might think would be helpful for him to know?

This is quite an opportunity - don't just let it slip past. It's an opportunity for the Bishop to hear from the people and at his own request! I have known five Bishops here in Lancaster and this is the first time I can remember the Bishop inviting the people to write and tell him what they think and feel. As I say, what an opportunity!

You can address the Bishop as "Dear Bishop Michael" and you write to him at: Rt. Rev. Michael Campbell OSA, The Bishop's Office, The Pastoral Centre, Balmoral Road, Lancaster. LA1 3BT. The Bishop's email address is: bishop@lancasterrcdioocese.org.uk.



The Service for Christian Unity Week in this year of Preston Guild will be held in the Guild Hall at 3.00 p.m. on Sunday 22nd January. Parishioners who requested tickets may collect these at the back of church. We have some spare and these will also be distributed at the back

of church on a first come, first served basis. The tickets are free but the event has incurred considerable expense so there will be a retiring collection. There will also be an exhibition in the Guild Hall foyer before and after the Service with information about other events in Guild Year.

LITURGY NEXT WEEK

Monday 9th

9.00 a.m. Service of the Word with Holy Communion

Tuesday 10th

6.30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

7.00 p.m. Mass - Elma Conneely

Wednesday 11th

9.00 a.m. Mass - Joan Preston

Thursday 12th

1.00 p.m. Mass

Requiem Mass for James Worthington

Friday 13th

9.00 a.m. Mass - Frank Casey

Saturday 14th

6.30 p.m. First Mass of Sunday - Chris Conway

Sunday 15th

10.00 a.m. Mass - The Parishioners



YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

For all who are sick; especially Peter Topping, Mary Traynor, Ann Singleton, Frank Madden, Francis Burns, Sam Dowd, Elsie White, Harry Cole, Esma Howard, Donald & Ingrid Whiles, Louis Caton, Breege McKenna, Jack

McCann, Bridie Kirley, Lauretta Hodson, Tom Marsden, Frank Byrne and Jacqui Troughton.

For the housebound and those in hospital.

For carers and all who are anxious for the health of their loved ones.

For the relief, comfort and solace of all refugees and the homeless.

For missionaries and for all victims of strife and terrorism.

For peace in all the troubled areas of our world.

For our clergy and all our parishioners.

Our Lady, our Mother, comfort of the afflicted, pray for them.

For all who have died recently, especially Jim Worthington and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	The Baptism of the Lord	
	Isaiah 42 vv 1-4, 6-7	Acts 10 vv 34-38 Mark 1 vv 7-11
Tuesday	Samuel 1 vv 9-20	Mark 1 vv 21-28
Wednesday	Samuel 3 vv 1-10, 19-20	Mark 1 vv 29-39
Thursday	Samuel 4 vv 1-11	Mark 1 vv 40-45
Friday	Samuel 8 vv 4-7, 10-22	Mark 2 vv 1-12
Saturday	Samuel 9 vv 1-4, 17-19	Mark 2 vv 13-17 and 10 v 1
Sunday	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	
	Samuel 3 vv 3-10, 19	Paul/Corinthian 6 vv 13-15, 17-20
		John 1 vv 35-42

CAFOD

The CAFOD stall will be at the back of church after both the Masses next weekend, 14th/15th January.



CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS:

£1,408.58

Sincere Thanks, Father Ted.

COLLECTION LAST WEEK:

£474.04



If you yourself or any parishioner you know of, is having anxiety about heating bills, then please contact the SVP or the clergy as we can help. We have funds for this purpose. Everything is always treated in confidence.

WE ALL MAKE NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

2012 could be the year your resolution changes the life of someone else.

If you have an hour or two, a week or a fortnight, to spare then we need you.

Volunteering is a vital part of every community. Our service supports vulnerable adults to access their local facilities such as swimming, gym, craft groups, libraries or simply visiting someone at home. Through our volunteers we are also able to provide carers with some respite so that they too have another layer of support.

If you think that volunteering could be part of your life in 2012 then we want to hear from you.

Check out our website www.lancashire.gov.uk/volunteer or call us on 01257 248118 and your local Volunteer Officer will be happy to meet you to discuss how you can help change someone's life this year.

ST. GREGORY'S SOCIAL CENTRE

Everyone Welcome.

Saturday 13th January - Artist Assured

Bingo - Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday lunchtime.

The Centre is available for hire for private functions. Bookings can be made by contacting the Secretary or the Stewardess on Preston 798336.

Why not visit our friendly club?