

ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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St. Clare's Church: Tel: 01772 719604

Priest in Charge: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Stephen Talbutt

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

Saturday 4th/Sunday 5th November 2023

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



JESUS HAD SOME HARSH CRITICISM to make of the Scribes and Pharisees. He called them hypocrites because they did not practice what they preached. A priest once remarked "I know that it is a shame that I do not practice what I preach but it would be far worse if I were to preach what I practice." The statement was made in good humour and by a very fine priest who did practice what he preached and yet it reflected rather well what Jesus is talking about in today's Gospel.

The real tragedy of the Scribes and Pharisees was not the fact that they had faults but that they were blind to their faults. Many of them, however, were sincere and pious people. The picture Jesus painted of them is a mirror into which we are invited to look.

Do we not sometimes consider ourselves better than others? Do we not demand sacrifices of others which we do not demand of ourselves? Do we not like to be noticed, to be admired and to take the best seat - if we can get it? Are we not lacking in charity, compassion, a sense of justice and a sense of service?

Let us try to be true to what we are. Lord, help us to shun all falsity and pretence and to live a life of genuine goodness. Then our deeds will flow from what we are as naturally as good fruit from a good tree.



Sincere Thanks to all who emptied their Red A.P.F. Boxes. A total of £330.00 was raised which has now been sent off to the A.P.F. Missions.

MASSES NEXT WEEK

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Mass at 10.15 a.m.

Saturday - Mass at 6.30 p.m.

Sunday - Mass at 10.00 a.m.

MASSES WILL BE SAID AS FOLLOWS

Monday 6 th	Sick & Housebound of the Parish
Wednesday 8 th	Special Intention
Friday 10 th	For all Family and Friends who have died and all those whose names are in the 'Book of the Names of the Dead'
Saturday 11 th	The Parishioners
Sunday 12 th	World Peace

Mass Intention

Josie and Noel McQuiggan - Sunday 26th November

NOVEMBER - THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

On Wednesday we begin the month of the Holy Souls. Each Friday throughout November, Mass will be offered for all our relations, family and friends who have died and for all whose names are written in our 'Book of the Names of the Dead.'

If you wish a Mass to be said for your loved ones, then please place the name in an envelope with the usual Mass offering and hand it to Fr. John Mark, Fr. Stephen or Deacon Jim or post it through the letter box of the Parish House. A Mass will then be said especially for them.

The 'Book of the Names of the Dead' will be placed on the Sanctuary throughout November. If you wish to add any name to those already in it, please do so.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS MASS

We also have an invitation to the Lancaster Diocesan Missions Mass on Saturday 18th November at 11.15 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church, Beech Grove, Ashton. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass from 10.30 a.m. and a Buffet Lunch after Mass. From 12.45 p.m. there will be Presentations from Bishop Paul and a Missionary Priest followed by a Question and Answer Session.

To assist with planning the day, please let Deacon Jim know if you would like to attend.

MASS	Saturday	6.30 p.m.	44
ATTENDANCES	Sunday	10.00 a.m.	114
COLLECTIONS	Offertory	£422.60	
	Sick & Retired	£86.50	
	Priests' Fund		

If you prefer to sign a Standing Order or undertake a Bank Transfer, please use the following details:

A/c Name: Parish of St. Gregory, Preston

A/c No: 81335332

Sort Code: 40-27-02

Please make sure you add your name to the payment, especially if you are a Gift Aider in order that we can claim back the tax.

CAKE STALL

Many thanks to all who supported this month's Cake Sale. The generous amount of £122.50 was raised for church funds along with £5.60 from the sale of teas and coffees.

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS

Wednesday 13th December: Joint Service of Reconciliation with St. Clare's will take place at St. Gregory's at 7.00 p.m.

Christmas Masses:

4th Sunday of Advent: Saturday 23rd December at 6.30 p.m.

Sunday 24th December at 10.00 a.m.

Christmas Eve: First Mass of Christmas Sunday 24th December at 6.30 p.m. preceded by Carols from 6.00 p.m.

Christmas Day: Monday 25th December - Family Mass at 10.00 a.m.

Boxing Day: Tuesday 26th December - Mass at 10.15 a.m.

Please Note:

The Sunday Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent does not fulfil the obligation for Christmas nor does the First Mass of Christmas fulfil the obligation for the 4th Sunday of Advent.

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Paul/Romans 11 vv 19-26	Luke 14 vv 12-14
Tuesday	Paul/Romans 12 vv 5-16	Luke 14 vv 15-24
Wednesday	Paul/Romans 13 vv 8-10	Luke 14 vv 25-33
Thursday	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	
	Ezekiel 47 vv 1-2, 8-9, 12	Paul/Corinthians 3 vv 9-11, 16-17
	John 2 vv 13-22	
Friday	Paul/Romans 15 vv 14-21	Luke 16 vv 1-8
Saturday	Paul/Romans 16 vv 3-9, 16,	Luke 16 vv 9-15
	22-27,	
	Next Sunday - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	Remembrance Sunday	
	Wisdom 6 vv 12-16	Paul/Thessalonians 4 vv 13-18
	Matthew 25 vv 1-13	



YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

for Sam Dowd, Jackie Lyons, Donald & Ingrid Whiles, Michelle Riley, Raine Tallon, Gerard Renaudin, Rudolph Carlisle, Members of the Wood and

Madden Families, Robert Swan, John Allen. Maureen Sharrock, Harry Oulton, John Monty Black, Martin Gee, Cynthia Maguire, Margaret Nuttall, Agnes Partington, Teresa Durnian, Agnes Jordan and all who are sick.

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.

For all who are battling the Coronavirus and those risking their own lives and safety to care for them.

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

For all who have died recently; for Pauline Vickers and all others whose anniversaries occur about this time; for all who have died as a result of war and terrorism, especially in the two World Wars and for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

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

FEASTS NEXT WEEK

Thursday 9 th	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Friday 10 th	St. Leo the Great
Saturday 11 th	St. Martin of Tours

POPE'S INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father as he fulfills his mission. May he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

FOOD BANK APPEAL

Please continue to bring in items for the Salvation Army Food Bank. Anything you can give will be taken to them. They are desperate for tinned and dried food plus tea, coffee, sugar, UHT long life milk and meals in a tin e.g. meat - also, anything for homeless people with no cooking facilities. They are not, however, allowed to accept alcoholic drinks. There is a box at the back of church.