



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priest in Charge: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980



Sunday 12th April 2026
Second Sunday of Easter - Year A



IN TODAY'S GOSPEL we meet 'Doubting Thomas' and I think that, if we are completely honest with ourselves, we all have something in common with Thomas because, at times, we, too are troubled with doubt.

It seems that, after Good Friday, Thomas had cut himself off from the other apostles and walked alone. This was a big

mistake but we must remember that he was in grief. When he eventually re-joined the apostles, he noticed a difference in them. Their fear had largely gone and had been replaced by joy and peace. They claimed they had seen Jesus but Thomas refused to take their word for it. "Unless I see the holes that the nails made in His hands and can put my finger into them and unless I can put my finger into His side I refuse to believe."

Eight days later the apostles were in the house again and Thomas was with them. Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you", He said then He spoke to Thomas "Put your finger here, look here are my hands. Give me your hand, put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe." Thomas replied, "My Lord and my God".

When Thomas touched the wounds of Jesus, his doubts vanished and his faith was reborn. Then Jesus said to him, "You believe because you can see me but blessed are those who have not seen but believe."

Today we should all be thankful to Thomas, first for being a sceptic, like the rest of us but also for reinforcing our faith and further dispelling our doubt. Thomas, in his doubting, did us the favour of our lives. Deep in his doubt there is a root of our faith. We need, therefore, to pray about our faith, think about our faith, live our faith. This does not mean we will never have doubts but if, like Thomas, we care about what we believe in, that care in time will bring us into the presence of the living Lord.

Mass will continue to be said at 11.15 a.m. on Sunday with a weekday Mass at 10.15 a.m. on Wednesday.

MASSSES WILL BE SAID FOR

Wednesday 15th April Arfan Jones

Sunday 19th April Deacon Tom Butler

Friday 17th April at 1.00 p.m.

Funeral Service for Joseph Johnston

MASS INTENTIONS

Pilar Caton and Anne Statham

We are still happy to accept Mass Offerings which is a wonderful way to remember a person or family - anniversaries, sickness, bereavement, birthdays. The Masses will be said as soon as possible. Envelopes are available at the back of church.

PLEASE LET US KNOW of anyone who is in hospital or a nursing/care home so that arrangements may be made to visit them. Likewise, if you know of anyone ill or housebound who cannot get to church; ask them if they would like Communion at home, then let us know.

FEAST NEXT WEEK

Thursday 16th April St. Bernadette Soubirous
of Lourdes

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 (but not pasta and cereals). Also welcome are tea, coffee, sugar, UHT long life milk and meals in a tin e.g. meat - also, anything for homeless people with no cooking facilities. There are boxes at the back of church.

ATTENDANCES

Holy Thursday	91
Good Friday	110
Easter Vigil	112
Easter Sunday	191

COLLECTIONS

Easter Offerings	£784.00
Holy Places	£157.00

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.



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, Maureen Sharrock,

John Monty Black, Margaret Nuttall, Teresa Durnian, Agnes Partington, Aiden Crogan, Jim O'Donnell, Fay Hughes 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.

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

For all who have died recently; for all whose anniversaries occur about this time and for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

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

POPE'S INTENTION FOR APRIL

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation; that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

POSTAGE STAMPS COLLECTION

Would you please save your used postage stamps, (ensuring there is a border of envelope all around the stamp) as we can send them to Age Concern to help with their fundraising,

ST. GREGORY'S PARISH COUNCIL - SOCIAL TEAM QUIZ NIGHT

This will be held on Thursday 30th April at 7.30 p.m. in The Parish Centre.

£2.00 to enter. 4 or 5 people per team maximum.

Something for everyone! Lots of categories.

No need to bring a team as teams can be made up on the night.

See the poster at the back of church.

Come along and **Have Fun!**

BAPTISMS

If you have a child who requires the Sacrament of Baptism, please speak to Fr. John Mark or Deacon Jim for an initial meeting before being registered for Baptism.

ST. GREGORY'S SOCIAL CENTRE

Our Parish Centre is available to hire for private functions. Bookings can be made by contacting the stewardess on 01772 798836.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday	Acts/Apostles 4 vv 23-31	John 3 vv 1-8
Tuesday	Acts/Apostles 4 vv 32-37	John 3 vv 7-15
Wednesday	Acts/Apostles 5 vv 17-26	John 3 vv 16-21
Thursday	Acts/Apostles 5 vv 27-33	John 3 vv 31-36
Friday	Acts/Apostles 5 vv 34-43	John 6 vv 1-15
Saturday	Acts/Apostles 6 vv 1-7	John 6 vv 16-21

3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts/Apostles 2 vv 14, 22-33	Peter 1 vv 17-21
Luke 24 vv 13-35	

YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE

- **May Half Term B&B (Hostel) Stays:** In May half-term, we will be opening up the house on a B&B basis to families, groups of friends and individuals who want to spend a little bit of time in Keswick. More info. at:

<https://castleriggmanor.com/events/>