



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

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Sunday 26th April 2026

4th Sunday of Easter - Year A



TODAY is known as "Good Shepherd Sunday".

Christ is our Good Shepherd. Two things stand out in this beautiful story. The first is the oneness that developed between the shepherd and his sheep. The shepherd came to know his sheep so well that he knew which one had tender hooves, which one became sick from eating certain things

and which was prone to stray from the others. The second thing that stands out is the deep dedication of the shepherd to his sheep; it even extended to his risking his life for them.

Against this background, we are able to appreciate better what Jesus has in mind when He says, "I am the Good Shepherd". Jesus is saying His relationship and dedication to us is as close as the shepherd to his sheep. Like the shepherd, Jesus is with us always, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. "I will be with you always to the end of time", Jesus told His followers.

Like the shepherd, Jesus knows each one of us in a deeply personal way. He knows which one of us has a weak faith; which of us is apt to be discouraged; which of us is prone to stray from the flock.

Jesus never deserts us. He is always there to help us and, should we stray from the flock, Jesus will leave the other 99 sheep and go in search of us. What God said to the prophet Isaiah, Jesus says to each one of us personally. *Do not be afraid. "I have called you by name. You are precious to me. Do not be afraid, I am with you"*. We must never doubt the faithfulness of Jesus. On Him we can totally depend.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Please bring in any used stamps remembering to leave a border round all the edges. There will be a box at the back of church. We can send them to Age UK to help with their fund-raising.

MASSES WILL CONTINUE TO BE SAID AT

10.15 a.m. Wednesday

11.15 a.m. Sunday

MASSES WILL BE SAID FOR

Wednesday 29th April

Frank McKeever

Sunday 3rd May

Pilar Caton

MASS INTENTION

Cynthia Maguire

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 in 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.

NEXT CAKE SALE

The next Cake Stall will be today after Mass.

Come along and join us for a cuppa and cake and enjoy a chat with fellow parishioners.

FOOD BANK APPEAL

Please continue to bring in items for the Salvation Army Food Bank. 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 plus anything for homeless people with no cooking facilities. The centre is not, however, allowed to accept alcoholic drinks. There are boxes at the back of church.

MASS ATTENDANCES

Sunday 19th April 129

COLLECTION

Sunday 19th April £385.00

TODAY: World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Special Collection for the Ecclesiastical Education 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 so we can claim back the tax.

PRESTON CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

This will take place on Sunday 7th June at St. Walburge's Church beginning at 2.00 p.m. and ending there following the Procession with Benediction.



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, Agnes Partington, Teresa Durnian, Bill Hughes, Aiden Crogan. 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.

THIS MONTH marks the third anniversary of the war in Sudan. It's a crisis that may not be in the headlines but it continues to devastate millions of lives. With your help, CAFOD is still there, working with the local Catholic Church to provide food, clean water and vital support to families forced to flee their homes.

Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of region for Africa has written to our parish, asking us to stand in solidarity with our neighbours and consider giving monthly to support families in Sudan. He shares this message:

"Our sisters and brothers in Sudan feel abandoned. The gap between overwhelming needs and available support is massive. This is why regular monthly giving is so vital - so that we can stay present and keep saving lives until peace is restored. When we give monthly, we show that love of neighbour is stronger than violence, stronger than despair, stronger than war." Donate at cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan.

FEASTS NEXT WEEK

Wednesday 29TH April St. Catherine of Siena
Friday 1ST May St. Joseph the Worker
Saturday 2ND May St. Athanasius

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Acts/Apostles 11 vv 1-18	John 10 vv 1-10
Tuesday	Acts/Apostles 11 vv 19-20	John 10 vv 22-30
Wednesday	St. Catherine John 1 v 5 to 2 v 2	Matthew 11 vv 25-30
Thursday	Acts/Apostles 13 vv 13-25	John 13 vv 16-20
Friday	St. Joseph Genesis 1 v 26 to 2 v 5	Matthew 13 vv 54-58
Saturday	Acts/Apostles 13 vv 44-52	John 14 vv 7-14
	4 th Sunday of Easter Year A	
	Acts/Apostles 6 vv 1-7	Peter 2 vv 4-9
	John 14 vv 1-12	

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!