



# ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priest in Charge: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>/ Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**



**IN TODAY'S GOSPEL** we are plunged into the world of the Beatitudes. Here we discover the values Christ held up before His disciples. Christ faced them with a radical choice - they could either take the way of the world and its values (the pursuit of money, pleasure, popularity, power, prestige) or they could take His way and live the lives of the Kingdom (poverty of spirit, cleanliness of heart, capacity to show mercy, suffering for the cause of right). Christ offered His disciples a whole new set of goals and values. These are the direct opposite of those coveted by the world.

To which do we belong? When making important decisions, do we ever consult Christ and His Gospel?

*"God, our Father, You are the same yesterday, today and forever. Help us to have confidence in Your unfailing love and goodness, for Your love surpasses all our hopes and desires. Forgive us our failings, keep us always in Your peace and lead us in the path of Eternal Life."*

## FEAST NEXT WEEK

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February Chair of St. Peter, the Apostle

## QUIZ NIGHT

There will be a Parish Quiz Night in Gregory's Social Centre on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. Admission will be £1.00 per person, payable on arrival. There will also be a Raffle. Please come along and support your parish. This event will be the first of a number of social gatherings intended to bring our parish community together again.

## THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2025

### For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

**WE WELCOME** Fr. John Mark back from his holidays this week.

Our Mass will return on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 10.15 a.m.

Please continue to pray for a solution by Bishop Paul to resolve the ongoing situation in our parish so that we can return and welcome everybody back to our Sunday celebration of Mass.

The church is still open for Baptisms and Funerals. Please contact either Fr. John Mark or Deacon Jim.

## MASS INTENTIONS FROM CHRISTMAS

Mark McGrath, Cynthia Maguire, Martin Joseph Haythornthwaite, 56<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, Richard Michael & Kathleen Haythornthwaite, Ellen McKeever, Thanksgiving for Safe Arrival of a Grandchild, Martin Joseph Haythornthwaite and Frank Jeffrey.

Mass Intentions are still being accepted and the Masses will be said as soon as possible. Please email requests to [marianvaughn362@gmail.com](mailto:marianvaughn362@gmail.com), leave them at the Parish House or contact Deacon Jim.

Can we please remember Kath Riley in our prayers; for the success of an operation which she has recently undergone?

## 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. They are not, however, allowed to accept alcoholic drinks. There are boxes at the back of church.

### OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH

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.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March: A "Lenten Meditation" at 7.00 p.m.
  - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April: A Taizé Evening of Prayer and Music at 7.00 p.m.
- Both of these will take place in the Liturgy Room.

**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.

### POSTAGE STAMPS COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone who has collected used stamps. They have been sent to Age UK. Please continue to save them, with a 1 cm. border around the stamp. Thank you.

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 23<sup>RD</sup> TO 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY

We have been issued with an invitation to join Bishop Paul Swarbrick in this centenary year. The Pilgrimage covers a full itinerary and the cost is £949 per pilgrim sharing. Single rooms are an extra £40 per day. If there are any youth interested the cost is £795 with a reduction of £100 if booked before 11<sup>th</sup> February.

If you require further details then please contact Deacon Jim or Sandra McGrath.

### READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Genesis 4 vv 1-15, 25	Mark 8 vv 11-13
Tuesday	Genesis 6 vv 5-8 and 7 vv 1-5, 10	Mark 8 vv 14-21
Wednesday	Genesis 8 vv 6-13, 20-22	Mark 8 vv 22-26
Thursday	Genesis 9 vv 1-13	Mark 8 vv 27-33
Friday	Genesis 11 vv 1-9	Mark 8 v 34 to 9 v 1
Saturday	Hebrews 11 vv 1-7	Mark 9 vv 2-13
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C</b>	
	Samuel 26 vv 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23	Paul/Corinthians 15 vv 45-49
	Luke 6 vv 27-38	



### 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, John Allen. Maureen Sharrock, Harry Oulton, John Monty Black, Martin Gee, Margaret Nuttall, Agnes Partington, Teresa Durnian, Bill Hughes, Deacon Bill Adams, Teresa Southworth, Danny Vickers, Aiden Crogan 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 Frank Jeffrey and all others 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.*

### RWANDA GROUP TRUST

- The Rwanda Group Newsletter for January is now available. There are copies in church or email [marianvaughn362@gmail.com](mailto:marianvaughn362@gmail.com) for one.
- The next table-top sale will be on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February in St. Anthony's Annexe. Please contact Bernadette Roberts (07734 972897) to book a table. Cost £10.00.

**THE PARISH NEWSLETTER** is issued every weekend. It is available throughout the week on the table at the back of church or you can view it on-line at [www.stgregoryspreston.org.uk](http://www.stgregoryspreston.org.uk).

### 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 798336.

Why not visit our friendly club with a fine selection of beers, wines and spirits?