



# 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 22<sup>nd</sup>/Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**



**JESUS SAYS:** "Be compassionate; do not judge; do not condemn. Treat others as you would like them to treat you."

How easy it is to be critical, to be over hasty in making judgements, to be intolerant of the faults of others. How terribly, arbitrarily and superficially people criticise and judge. By our judgements we convict ourselves.

Jesus said: "Do not judge and you will not be judged yourselves."

We should be very slow to judge others because we very seldom know all the facts. Even when we do, we still have no right to judge them. At times all of us have been victims of hasty judgements and we know how unhelpful and hurtful this can be,

Do we not all long for mercy and forgiveness rather than judgement? As people we are conscious of our own need for forgiveness and compassion, so let us not rush to judge. The more we open our hearts to others, the more we open our hearts to what God is offering us. The Lord in all His goodness will see to it that the blessings we have bestowed will return to us, a full measure pressed down, shaken together and running over.

*"Lord, only with the help of Your grace can we love as You love. Give us strength to overcome judgement, to overcome anger with love, ugliness with beauty and evil with good. We ask this through You, Christ our Lord."*

## 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.

There will be Mass on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 10.15 a.m. This will be said for Mary Catherine Haythornthwaite.

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 (Anniversary), Frank Jeffrey. Deacon Michael Dolan and Teresa (Terry) Southworth.

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.

## 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.

### LADIES' GROUP

The ladies will next meet on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00 p.m. in the Social Centre. All welcome.

### 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.

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

### READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Ecclesiasticus 1 vv 1-10	Mark 9 vv 14-29
Tuesday	Ecclesiasticus 2 vv 1-11	Mark 9 vv 30-37
Wednesday	Ecclesiasticus 4 vv 11-19	Mark 9 vv 38-40
Thursday	Ecclesiasticus 5 vv 1-8	Mark 9 vv 41-50
Friday	Ecclesiasticus 6 vv 5-17	Mark 10 vv 1-12
Saturday	Ecclesiasticus 17 vv 1-15	Mark 10 vv 13-16

### 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

Ecclesiasticus 27vv 4-7 Paul/Corinthians 15 vv 54-58  
Luke 6 vv 39-45



### 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, 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, especially Deacon Michael Dolan and Teresa (Terry) Southworth; 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.*

### FEAST NEXT WEEK

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March

St. David,

Patron Saint of Wales

### QUIZ NIGHT

Don't forget our Parish Quiz Night at St. Gregory's Social Club on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 7.00 p.m. for a 7.30.p.m. start. Admission £1.00 per person, pay on arrival. There will also be a Raffle.

It is so important that we keep our parish community together in this difficult time so please make every effort to come along and support your parish.

It would be helpful if we could have an idea of numbers to aid us in preparing for the evening. You can reply at [spencerjcr@gmail.com](mailto:spencerjcr@gmail.com).

### 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.