



## 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 5<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - Year C



**IN TODAY'S GOSPEL** we hear again the immortal words of Jesus in relation to the woman caught in adultery:

"Let the one who is without sin throw the first stone."

The story warns us against being too quick to take the moral high ground - for which of us is without sin?

We must learn from the example of Jesus. He condemned the woman's sin but He refused to condemn her. He did, however, say to her: "Go and sin no more." He encouraged her to own up to it and to take responsibility for it but His overriding motive was compassion. The compassion and forgiveness of Jesus gives life. The woman went away free; free to change her behaviour and to regain her self-respect.

Jesus reminded us that people are capable of changing if given a chance and that the mission of the Church is to be a place of forgiveness and reconciliation so that those who fail (and that includes all of us in different ways and to varying degrees) may experience the love and compassion of the ones who refuse to condemn.

*"Lord, help us to keep our hearts pure, our minds clean, our word true and our deeds kind. Help us to be merciful and forgiving towards all those who sin against us, so that we may enjoy the peace and unity of Your Kingdom where You live forever and ever."*

**THE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION** will take place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June beginning at 2.00 p.m. at St. Walburge's church and ending there, following the Procession, with Benediction.

This year is also the 100th Anniversary of our Diocese and Holy Year, so we are asked to spread the word so that we can make this an extra specially large Procession in honour of Our Lord.

### POPE'S INTENTION FOR APRIL

#### For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person and will help us face the crises of our times.

## Lenten Schedule

Throughout Lent the church will be open for private prayer:

10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon  
Monday to Friday

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon  
Sunday

- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April: Our Parish Mass will be at 10.15 a.m. and will be said for Martin Joseph Haythornthwaite.
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April: A Service of Reconciliation at 7.00 p.m. at St. Clare's.
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April: a 'Taizé Evening of Prayer and Music' at 7.00 p.m. in the Liturgy Room at St. Gregory's.
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April: the last of our Lenten Stations of the Cross in St. Gregory's church at 12.00 noon followed by a Soup Lunch in the Parish House - all donations to CAFOD.
- Palm Sunday. Palms will be blessed and will be available at St. Gregory's on the table at the back of church during the church's opening hours.
- Holy Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April: Holy Mass at 7.00 p.m. at St. Clare's.
- Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April: Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3.00 p.m. at St. Clare's.
- Holy Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April: The Easter Vigil at 8.30 p.m. at St. Clare's.
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Sunday Mass will be said at St. Gregory's - more details of this and the time in next week's Newsletter.

### MASS INTENTIONS TO BE SAID

Mark McGrath, Cynthia Maguire, Martin Joseph Haythornthwaite, Thanksgiving for Safe Arrival of a Grandchild, Deacon Michael Dolan, Teresa (Terry) Southworth. Mark McGrath and Maureen Ramshead.

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.

### OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH

Sincere Thanks to all who have continued with their Standing Orders throughout the closure of our church for Sunday Mass and to all who have continued to hand in their Gift Aid envelopes at the Parish House or to other churches which they have attended. These have been passed on to us.

Envelopes handed in recently total £1,122.00. Many thanks.

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.

Any donations towards the cost of flowers for Easter would be gratefully received. There will be a box at the back of church for this purpose

### 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 - plus 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.

**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.

### READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Daniel 13 vv 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62	John 8 vv 1-11
Tuesday	Numbers 21 vv 4-9	John 8 vv 21-30
Wednesday	Daniel 3 vv 14-20, 24-25, 28	John 8 vv 31-42
Thursday	Genesis 17 v 3-9	John 8 vv 51-59
Friday	Jeremiah 20 vv 10-13	John 10 vv 31-42
Saturday	Ezekiel 37 vv 21-23	John 11 vv 45-56

### Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50 vv 4-7      Paul/Philippians 2 v 6-11  
St. Luke's Passion 22 vv 14-23 and 5 v 6



### 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, Aidan 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 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.*

### RWANDA GROUP TRUST - LENTEN ALMSGIVING

The Group, now under the patronage of Bishop Paul, is seeking to raise funds for the poorest of the poor in Rwanda. There are many who need our help; please help us to help them. We have no paid employees or overheads. For Further information or to make a donation contact Michael Donlan (Trustee):

Tel: 07864 990941.

E-mail: [rwandagrouptrust.org@gmail.com](mailto:rwandagrouptrust.org@gmail.com)

Website: [www.rwandagrouptrust.org](http://www.rwandagrouptrust.org)

Bank Account: Rwanda Group Trust

Sort Code 09 01 29 Account No. 08478395

### CASTLERIGG NEWS

- Easter Retreat: 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April - open to anyone in Year 7 or above, with separate streams for teens and young adults. Cost is £85.00 but anyone struggling is invited to get in touch.
- Young Adults' Retreat: 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> May - open to anyone aged 18-30. Our theme will be 'What do Catholics believe?'; a basic grounding in Catholic Church teaching; with guest speakers, karaoke, an afternoon out.
- Discount to self-led groups on these weekends:  
2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May;      16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May