



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priest in Charge: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

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Sunday 22nd February 2026
First Sunday of Lent - Year A



LAST WEDNESDAY the Church invited us to embark on a journey, the journey of Lent which is a journey towards Easter.

We are a baptized people but have not yet lived fully the life of a Christian. Lent calls us to a change of heart and a fuller living of the Gospel.

In today's Gospel we see Jesus struggling against temptation because He, too, shared our human weaknesses yet He did not sin. He remained faithful and true to His Father. Through His Grace we, too, can resist temptation and overcome sin.

"Support us, O Lord, in all that we have undertaken and help us to support one another. Let Your Word guide us and Your Holy Spirit strengthen us so that, having died with Christ to sin, we may rise with Him to a new and glorious life at Easter."

FAMILY FAST DAY

Friday 27th February is Family Fast Day. Our support on this day will help our neighbours facing hunger because of droughts and floods. CAFOD projects are helping families grow food where it once seemed impossible.

Please take an envelope and return it next week.

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.

MASSES AND SERVICES NEXT WEEK

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

MASSES WILL BE SAID FOR

Wednesday 25 th	Special Intention
Sunday 1 st March	Martin Haythornthwaite

There will be Stations of the Cross on Friday, 27th February at 12.00 noon in Church.

MASS INTENTIONS

Philip Wallace, Rita Plunkett, Anne Bramhall and Fr. Peter Foulkes

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

POPE'S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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.

MASS ATTENDANCE

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time 109

COLLECTION

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time £409.00

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.

CAKE SALE

The usual Cake Sale will be next Sunday, 1st March. Enjoy tea or coffee after Mass and have a friendly chat too.

ST. GREGORY'S PARISH DRAW 300 CLUB

The draw for January and February will take place today. New members are very welcome. Numbers cost £26.00 for the year with 50% going to prizes and 50% to parish funds.

Your support is much appreciated. Please place the money in an envelope with your name, address and how many numbers and give to Deacon Jim or Dennis Rawsthorn or place it in the collection basket marked 'St, Gregory's 300 Club.'

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. There is a box at the back of church.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday	Leviticus 17 vv 1-2, 11-18	Matthew 25 vv 31-46
Tuesday	Isaiah 55 vv 10-11	Matthew 6 vv 7-15
Wednesday	Jonah 3 vv 1-10	Luke 11 vv 29-32
Thursday	Esther 4 v 17	Matthew 7 vv 7-12
Friday	Ezekiel 18 vv 21-28	Matthew 5 vv 20-26
Saturday	Deuteronomy 26 vv 16-19	Matthew 5 vv 33-38

Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 12 vv 1-4 Paul/Timothy 1 vv 8-10
Matthew 17 vv 1-9



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, especially Deacon Tom Butler (St. Anthony's); 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.

YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE

- **13th to 15th March:** Faith & Fitness Weekend. 18+ Women only. Tickets from £99.00 - a fitness weekend for women with a faith-based twist. A chance to make friends and have an active weekend in the Lake District!
- **20th to 22nd March:** Training Weekend (Apologetics). Standard Ticket £45.00 with reductions for volunteers - to learn a little bit about how to defend your faith. What are the questions people ask of Christians and Catholics, and how can we best respond?
- **27th to 29th March:** Weekend Family Retreat. £160-£230 per family. Our family retreat is back by popular demand. There will be streams for different ages and fun activities for everybody.
- **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/>