



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priest in Charge: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

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Sunday 22nd March 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year A

The
Season
of
Lent



IN TODAY'S GOSPEL we see a scene which is all too common in our own world; people weeping over the death of a loved one. Jesus is at the heart of this sad scene for it is His friend, Lazarus, who has died.

In the midst of darkness, Jesus shines a ray of hope. He tells the sisters of Lazarus that those who believe in Him will never die.

"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, even if he dies, he will live." Do you believe this? He gives the very same message to us.

"Lord God, through the Resurrection of Your Son, You have kindled in our hearts the hope of eternal life. Guard this hope within us with Your Grace and bring it to fulfilment in the Kingdom of heaven."

POPE'S INTENTION FOR MARCH

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

FEAST NEXT WEEK

Wednesday 25th The Annunciation of the Lord

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.

Lenten Schedule

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

MASSES WILL BE SAID FOR

Wednesday 25th March

Billy Griffiths

Sunday 29th March

Rita Plunkett

Stations of the Cross:

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

St. Gregory's Primary School

is performing the Stations of the Cross (with actors, readers and songs) on Friday 27th March at 2.00 p.m. in the school hall. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

MASS INTENTIONS

Deacon Tom Butler, Arfan Jones, Mark Farnworth
Hugh McKeivitt and Frank McKeever

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.

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent 119

COLLECTION

Fourth Sunday of Lent £341.00

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.

SOCIAL AFTERNOON

Thank you to all who came along to the Social Afternoon with the 'Tales of a Customs Officer' and Afternoon Tea.

The event was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone. Look out for the next one.

CAKE SALE

The next Cake Sale will be on Sunday next, 29th March with an Easter theme! There will also be teas and coffees so do come along and meet up with friends.

FULWOOD FARMERS' MARKET

The next Market of 2026 will be held on Saturday 28th March from 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. at Fulwood Methodist Church. Come and stock up on fresh local produce and Fairtrade products, browse the 'New to You' stalls and stay for a drink and a snack.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday Daniel 13 vv 1-9, 15-17, John 8 vv 1-11
19-31, 33-63

Tuesday Numbers 21 vv 4-9 John 8 vv 21-30

Wednesday **The Annunciation of the Lord**
Isaiah 7 vv 10-14 Hebrews 10 vv 4-10
Luke 1 vv 26-38

Thursday Genesis 17 vv 3-9 John 8 vv 51-59

Friday Jeremiah 20 vv 10-13 John 10 vv 31-42

Saturday Ezekiel 37 vv 21-28 John 11 vv 45-56

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50 vv 4-7 Paul/Philippians 2 vv 6-11
Matthew (Passion) 27 vv 11-54



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; for Hugh McKeivitt, Frank McKeever 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.

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,

YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE

- **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/>