



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priest in Charge: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980



Sunday 15th March 2026
Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A
Laetare Sunday

TODAY we say a special "thank you" to all mothers.

We have a Mother's Day for a Mother's Life.

The life of a mother is, by and large, a sacrifice of love and service.

She is the one who is



always present to us; the one on whose love we can rely; the one to whom we can entrust our secrets and confide our fears; the one to whom we can always cry out and who will keep on supporting us when the rest of the world is against us. Fathers have their virtues too and so have others who are not mothers at all but today is Mother's Day so let us give them the recognition and celebration that is their due and wish all mothers a very joyful day.

One thing that may surprise you - "Mother's Day" owes its origin to Mother Church!!

On this fourth Sunday of Lent, every year, on what we call "Laetare" or "Rejoicing" Sunday, the Church celebrates her "motherhood" as mother of many nations and peoples. The Church is not an impersonal institution. She is a universal mother and, like any good mother, she serves her children with faith, with forgiveness. The Church is so much a mother that, in English tradition, this Sunday became known as "Mothering Sunday".

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 18th March

Philip Wallace

Sunday 22nd March

Rita Farry

Stations of the Cross:

There will be Stations of the Cross in Church on Friday, 20th March at 12.00 noon.

Lenten Lunch:

A Lenten Lunch will be held in the Parish House on Friday 20th March at 12.30 p.m. following the Stations of the Cross. £1.00 (or donation) for a bowl of soup and a bread roll. Proceeds to CAFOD.

FEASTS NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 17th

St. Patrick, Patron of Ireland

Thursday 19th

St. Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Third Sunday of Lent 121

COLLECTION

Third Sunday of Lent £318.85

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.

BAPTISM: If you have a child who requires the Sacrament of Baptism, please speak to Deacon Jim for an initial meeting before being registered for Baptism.

NEXT PARISH EVENT

'More Tales of a Customs Officer' - a Talk by Brian Topping. Followed by tea and cakes.

This will be held in the Social Centre on Tuesday 17th March at 2.00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to this very entertaining Talk.

Admission £4.00 by ticket only, available after Sunday Masses or from the Social Team - Dee, Claire, Sandra, Anne, Pete or Alan.

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	Isaiah 67 vv 17-21	John 4 vv 43-54
Tuesday	St. Patrick, Patron of Ireland	
	Peter 4 vv 7-11	Luke 5 vv 1-11
Wednesday	Isaiah 49 vv 8-15	John 5 vv 17-30
Thursday	St. Joseph	
	Samuel 7 vv 4-5, 12-14, 16	Paul/Romans 4 vv 13, 16-18, 22
	Matthew 1 vv 16, 18-21, 24a	
Friday	Wisdom 2 vv 1, 12-22	John 7 vv 1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday	Jeremiah 11 vv 18-20	John 7 vv 40-52
	Fifth Sunday of Lent	
	Ezekiel 17 vv 12-14	Paul/Romans 8 vv 8-11
	John 11 vv 1-45	



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, 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 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.

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/>