



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 8th March 2026

Third Sunday of Lent - Year A



TODAY'S GOSPEL tells of a woman who was searching for water that would quench her thirst for happiness. Right 'out of the blue' she

encountered a person who could give her that water; that person was Jesus Christ.

There is a thirst in every human heart. Each of us is like the Samaritan woman. We search for something that will satisfy our longings. The trouble is we often search in the wrong places. We draw water from many wells - the water of praise to quench our thirst for self-esteem - but we still become thirsty; the water of success to quench our thirst for importance - but we still become thirsty. God alone can give us what we are looking for; only He can cause a spring to well up inside us and the water from this spring will sustain us on our journey to eternal life.

"Father You sent Your Son into the world to quench our thirst with the living water of Your Grace. Help us to listen to Him and seek the water of Your Grace into our hearts."

NEXT SUNDAY is Mid-Lent Sunday (Laetare Sunday). It is also Mother's Day.

MASS INTENTION

Mike and Marian Vaughn

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.

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 11th March

Jim Durnian

Sunday 15th March

Vin Riley

Stations of the Cross:

There will be Stations of the Cross in Church on Friday, 13th March at 12.00 noon.

Lenten Meditation Service:

There will be a Lenten Meditation Service in the Liturgy Room at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday 12th March. (Entry by back door.)

The service will include readings, singing, reflections on two works of religious art and prayers of intercession; followed by tea and cakes.

Everyone is welcome as we journey together through Lent.

Lenten Lunch:

A Lenten Lunch will be held in the Parish House on Friday 20th March following the Stations of the Cross.

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.

CAFOD: Thank you to everyone who supported Family Fast Day through prayer, fasting and donating. Envelopes are gratefully received or you can give online anytime if you prefer. Please continue to hold our neighbours in your prayers.

MASS ATTENDANCE

Second Sunday of Lent 121

COLLECTION

Second Sunday of Lent £286.90

CAFOD : Lenten Family Fast £419.50

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.

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.

ST. GREGORY'S '300' CLUB - PARISH DRAW

January 2026

£30	26	J. Durnian	£30	166	Cynthia Maguire
£20	61	Pauline Gibson	£20	106	R. Hargreaves
£10	251	A. Atkinson	£10	35	Sandra McGrath
£10	277	M. Daniels	£10	98	Sue Hirst
£10	163	F. Jeffrey	£10	180	W. Rodrigues

February 2026

There are still a number of members who have not yet signed up for this year. Please do so as soon as possible - £26.00 for each number payable to Denis Rawsthorn or Deacon Jim. New members are also welcome - 50% of each subscription goes to the Parish and 50% in prizes so the more members, the more prizes. We are currently down by 22 members on last year.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday	Kings 5 vv 1-5	Luke 4 vv 24-30
Tuesday	Daniel 3 vv 25, 34-43	Matthew 18 vv 21-35
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 4 vv 1, 5-9	Matthew 5 vv 17-19
Thursday	Jeremiah 7 vv 23-28	Luke 11 vv 14-23
Friday	Hosea 14 vv 1-9	Mark 12 vv 28-34
Saturday	Hosea 6 vv 1-6	Luke 18 vv 9-14

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Samuel 16 vv 6-7, 10-13A Paul/Ephesians 5 vv 8-14
John 9 vv 1 - 41



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.

CAKE SALE

Thank you to all who supported the monthly Cake Sale. Last week you helped to raise **£153.60** with teas and coffees too. It was so good to see so many people enjoying a cuppa and a chat after Mass.

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/>