



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 22nd/Sunday 23rd March 2025
3rd Sunday of Lent - Year C



In today's Gospel, Jesus is trying to draw His hearers into the middle of things.

Rather than looking on and debating why this is happening, He asks them

to look at themselves, at their own situation and to become more concerned with what is happening there. He uses an illustration to show them how many chances they are getting, how patient and tolerant God the Father is with them. He goes on to say that this will not go on indefinitely and sooner or later they will be responsible and will be held responsible for what they have done and what they have failed to do.

These words were addressed to His contemporaries then and they are addressed to us in today's Liturgy:

"God of Grace, You are the careful, patient gardener who can produce fruit from the most unpromising of trees. Help us, by Your Grace to produce in our lives fruit of true repentance, as we prepare for our Easter celebrations."

FEAST NEXT WEEK

Tuesday 25th March The Annunciation of the Lord

LADIES' GROUP

The Ladies will next meet in the Social Centre at 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday 25th March. All Welcome.

MASS INTENTIONS TO BE SAID

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

Mass Intentions are still being accepted and the Masses will be said as soon as possible. Please email requests to marianvaughn362@gmail.com, leave them at the Parish House or contact Deacon Jim.

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

- Monday 24th March: the church will be cleaned and there will be an outdoor litter pick, weather permitting. 1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. All welcome to drop in and help.
- Wednesday 26th March: our Parish Mass will be at 10.15 a.m. and will be said for a 56th Wedding Anniversary.
- Thursday 3rd April: a 'Taizé Evening of Prayer and Music' at 7.00 p.m. in the Liturgy Room.
- Friday 11th April: the last of our Lenten Stations of the Cross in church at 12.00 noon followed by a Soup Lunch in the Parish House - all donations to CAFOD.

Thanks to all who attended the recent Quiz Night, donated to CAFOD Fast Day and took part in the CAFOD Walk and Cream Tea Afternoon. All were very enjoyable. Watch this space for more Social Events aimed at bringing the Parish together.

Fr. John Mark met with Bishop Paul last week and another meeting has been arranged for Thursday 3rd April with Bishop Paul, Fr. John Mark, Deacon Jim and Ged McKeivitt, Chair of our Parish Council, to discuss a return to Sunday Mass. Please pray for a successful solution and that we can all return to normal for the benefit of the Parish.

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. They are not, however, allowed to accept alcoholic drinks. There are boxes at the back of church.

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.

Christmas Offerings - £4,448.57 (Christmas Eve Mass)
January - £1,380.00 February - £970.00

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.

CAFOD

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Family Fast Day through prayer and donations.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped with our Parish walk last Sunday. It was a lovely Spring walk.

THE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION will take place on Sunday 22nd 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 MARCH

For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Kings 5 vv 1-15	Luke 4 vv 24-30
Tuesday	The Annunciation of the Lord Isaiah 7 vv 10-14 and 8 v 10 Paul/Hebrews 10 vv 4-10 Luke 1 vv 26-38	
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 4 v 1-9	Matthew 5 vv 17-19
Thursday	Jeremiah 7 vv 23-28	Luke 11 vv 14-23
Friday	Hosea 14 vv 2-10	Mark 12 vv 28-34
Saturday	Hosea 5 v 15 to 6 v 6	Luke 18 vv 9-14
	4th Sunday in Lent (Laetare Sunday) Joshua 5 vv 9-12 Paul/Corinthians 5 vv 17-21 Luke 15 vv 1-3, 11-32	



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, Aiden 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

Website: www.rwandagrouptrust.org

Bank Account: Rwanda Group Trust

Sort Code 09 01 29 Account No. 08478395

CASTLERIGG NEWS

- Easter Retreat: 17th to 20th April - open to anyone in Year 7 or above, with separate streams for teens and young adults. Cost is £85, but anyone struggling is invited to get in touch.
- Young Adults' Retreat: 9th to 11th 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:
2nd to 4th May; 16th to 18th May
Open to family groups, parishes, schools, clubs, societies etc. £60 per person with Minimum Group size 10; under 2's free.