



# 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 1<sup>st</sup>/Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C**



This coming Wednesday 5th March is Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting and Abstinence. Our Mass will be said at 10.30 a.m. and will be for Frank Jeffrey. Ashes will be distributed at this Mass.

On Tuesday 4th March there will be a Requiem Mass at 11.00 a.m. for Douglas Holme.

Please continue to pray for a solution by Bishop Paul to resolve the ongoing situation in our parish so that we can return and welcome everybody back to our Sunday celebration of Mass.

**WEDNESDAY OF THIS WEEK** sees the beginning of the great season of Lent, during which we prepare for Easter, entering the wilderness with Our Lord. It is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving; a time to renew our commitment to follow Christ; a commitment which will be promised anew at Easter.

Jesus shows us how to live; how to conduct our relationships; how we treat other people. Jesus shows us what our priorities should be and where we should invest our time and attention. He shows us what it is to be fully human - and every time our actions, our behaviour and our lifestyle cannot find a reflection in Jesus' lifestyle and behaviour - shows us what incomplete human beings we really are.

Let our Lenten journey help us to understand ourselves in an intimate and personal way in the light of the words of Jesus and realise that we are all all cherished children of God. The whole season of Lent is a penitential time and, as with anything in life, the more we put into it the more we will receive from it.

## Lenten Schedule

Throughout Lent the church will be open for private prayer:  
Times as follows:

10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon Monday to Friday.  
9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon Sunday.

- On Fridays 7<sup>th</sup> March, 21<sup>st</sup> March and 11<sup>th</sup> April there will be Stations of the Cross in church at 12.00 noon followed by a Lenten Lunch in the Parish House at 12.30 p.m. £1.00 for a bowl of soup and a bread roll.
- On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March: A Lenten Meditation at 7.00 p.m. in the Liturgy Room.
- On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April: A Taizé Evening of Prayer and Music at 7.00 p.m. in the Liturgy Room.

The church is still open for Baptisms and Funerals. Please contact either Fr. John Mark or Deacon Jim.

**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.

### 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. Boxes at the back of church.

### OFFERINGS TO THE CHURCH

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.

### THE POPE'S INTENTION FOR MARCH 2025

#### For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness; rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

### MASS INTENTIONS FROM CHRISTMAS

Mark McGrath, Cynthia Maguire, Martin Joseph Haythornthwaite, 56<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, Richard Michael & Kathleen 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](mailto:marianvaughn362@gmail.com), leave them at the Parish House, or contact Deacon Jim.

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 23<sup>RD</sup> TO 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY

We have been issued with an invitation to join Bishop Paul Swarbrick in this centenary year. The Pilgrimage covers a full itinerary and the cost is £949 per pilgrim sharing. Single rooms are an extra £40 per day. If there are any youth interested the cost is £795.

If you require further details then please contact Deacon Jim or Sandra McGrath.

### READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Ecclesiasticus 17 vv 24-29	Mark 10 vv 17-27
Tuesday	Ecclesiasticus 35 vv 1-12	Mark 10 vv 28-31
Wednesday	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Joel 2 vv 12-18 Paul/Corinthians 5 v 20 to 6 v 2 Matthew 6 vv 1-6, 16-18	
Thursday	Deuteronomy 30 vv 15-20	Luke 9 vv 22-25
Friday	Isaiah 58 vv 1-9	Matthew 9 vv 14-15
Saturday	Isaiah 58 vv 9-14	Luke 5 vv 27-32
	<b>1<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent - Year C</b> Deuteronomy 26 vv 4-10 Paul/Romans 10 vv 8-13 Luke 4 vv 1-13	



### 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, especially Douglas Holme and Teresa (Terry) Southworth; 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.*

The Requiem Mass for Terry Southworth will be at Our Lady and St. Michael's, Alston Lane on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 1.15 p.m. followed by Cremation.

### PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

Almighty Father,

We come to You in prayer for Francis, our Pope, who is suffering from grave illnesses. Help him to bear his pain with grace and help him to get well.

Heal him, Lord and inspire him to continue his vocation as Vicar of Christ.

We ask this in Your Holy Name.

*"St. Francis, pray for him."*

### POSTAGE STAMPS COLLECTION

Thank you to everyone who has collected used stamps. They have been sent to Age UK. Please continue to save them, with a 1 cm. border around the stamp. Thank you.