



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Website: www.stgregoryspreston.org.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Father Ted Gannon

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

Saturday 13th/Sunday 14th May 2017

Fifth Sunday of Easter



JESUS, in the Gospel passages, is building up His eleven companions on the solid foundation of faith in Him. Shortly before He was betrayed and tortured to death, He encouraged them not to be anxious and afraid. Only by trusting in Him will they find assurance that their home in heaven will be prepared for them.

Thomas and Philip struggle with the implications of what he says despite being His close disciples for several years. Their questioning of Him shows that there is nothing special, nothing super human about Jesus' followers. It is God's work in them alone that enables them to achieve great things.

The questions they ask enable Jesus to explain His unique role in God's plan.

Lord, Jesus Christ, the night before You died, You said to Your friends, "Do not let your hearts be troubled; trust in God still and trust in me." In the midst of all our anxieties and uncertainties, help us to go on trusting in the Father and in You, so that we too may enjoy the peace and unity of Your home in Heaven.

PLEASE LET US KNOW of anyone who is in hospital or in a nursing/care home so that arrangements may be made to visit them. Likewise, if you know of anyone who is ill or housebound and cannot get to church; we can make arrangements to have the Sacrament of the Eucharist taken to them.

A REMINDER

- Each week there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturday morning from 11.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon, specifically to pray for vocations.
- The church is open all day from 8.00 a.m. to dusk for private prayer.
- Please continue to bring in food to help the Food Bank at the Foxton Centre (especially tea, coffee, sugar, UHT long life milk, meals in a tin and meals for people with no cooking facilities). There are boxes at the back of church. Please also bring in clothes/bedding for the Rwanda Group Trust Charity Shop; any condition as those not fit for sale can be weighed in for cash. There is a box in the church porch.

Of Bricks and Mortar, Pounds and Pence

First of all, I wish to thank you for your most generous and immediate response to my appeal some time ago for everyone to try to increase the weekly donation by £1 per adult person. You are to be commended for keeping that increased level of donation going as well. This increase, along with some sizeable donations means that our Buildings Fund now stands at £15,195. We have got to keep this going, if we can. Following a recent electrical inspection, the lights in the porch, main body of the church and on the sanctuary have been replaced with lower energy LED lights – cost £4,727. The roof to the Parish House is to be replaced this summer – cost £12,700. We have applied for permission to replace completely the heating system in the church – cost £72,000 which we will be borrowing. That's our target then (£89,427) whilst still managing to pay for the day to day expenses of the Parish and cope with whatever unforeseen emergencies may arise. Again I thank you, and ask that you continue your financial support in whatever way you can manage.

Fr Ted

PARISH SPIRITUAL DAY

The next Spiritual Day will be held in the Social Centre on **Thursday 25th May** starting at 10.30 a.m. It will be led by Sr. Cecilia O.P. Sr. Cecilia belongs to the same Dominican Congregation as the late Sr. Maureen, Parish Sister here for many years. Fr. Ted will conclude the day with Mass at 2.30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. There is a list for names on the table at the back of church.

LITURGY NEXT WEEK

Monday 15th

9.00 a.m. - Service of the Word

Tuesday 16th

9.00 a.m. Mass - Mary Traynor

Wednesday 17th

12.00 noon Mass - William Ryan

Thursday 18th

12.00 noon Mass - Gerald Topping

Friday 19th

12.00 noon Mass - Hugh McKeivitt

Saturday 20th

6.30 p.m. First Mass of Sunday - The Parishioners

Sunday 21st

10.00 a.m. Mass - A.M. John & Jerv John



- **THE STALL**, with a selection of Fair Trade goods, will be at the back of church after both Masses this weekend with tea and coffee available after the 10.00 a.m. Mass.
- **DID YOU KNOW ...** at CAFOD, we speak out together with our sisters and brothers living in poverty, listening to them and amplifying their voices? In the UK, we have a voice and a vote, rights lacked by many around the world. Will you use yours to speak up against poverty and injustice? Here are two ways you can make a difference:
 - Arrange to meet your newly-elected MP during the Climate Coalition Speak Up Week of Action (1-9 July). Find out more: cafod.org.uk/speakup
 - Join CAFOD's network of MP Correspondents. Write to your MP three or four times a year. Find out more and sign up: cafod.org.uk/mpc
- **PLEASE REMEMBER** to save all used postage stamps. There is a box on the table at the back of church. Please leave some space round the edges.

ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Sainsbury's are no longer issuing these but schools are able to redeem them until 30th June 2017. Please bring in any you have as soon as possible. There is a box at the back of church for them.



YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

For all who are sick; especially Francis Burns, Sam Dowd, Tom Marsden, Betty Whiteside, Eric Grime, Joe Meehan, Peggy Fletcher, Jackie Lyons,

Aleyamma Thomas, Maureen Hetko, Maria Butterworth, Gus Murray, Bernadette Benson, Pam Raggett, Donald & Ingrid Whiles, Michelle Riley, Catrina Smithson, Fred Griffiths, Raine Tallon, Kath Williams, Richard Rosbotham, Marie Nickson, Frank Madden, Noel Hammond, Hughie Gaille, Susan Lavelle, Frank Baron, Fr Joe Maley, Kathleen Healey, and Mary Gallagher.

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.

Our Lady, our Mother, comfort of the afflicted, pray for them.

For all who have died recently and for A.M. John, Jerry John and all others whose anniversaries occur about this time.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



COLLECTION LAST WEEK (including Buildings Fund): £821.80

SPECIAL COLLECTION: Ecclesiastical Education Fund £116.30

SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY: Parish Buildings Fund

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: CAFOD

PARISH BUILDINGS FUND TOTAL = £15,195.60

MASS ATTENDANCE: Saturday 6.30 p.m. = 95 Sunday 10.00 a.m. = 220

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Acts/Apostles 14 vv 5-18	John 14 vv 21-26
Tuesday	Acts/Apostles 14 vv 19-28	John 14 vv 27-31A
Wednesday	Acts/Apostles 15 vv 1-6	John 15 vv 1-8
Thursday	Acts/Apostles 15 vv 7-21	John 15 vv 9-11
Friday	Acts/Apostles 15 vv 22-31	John 15 vv 12-17
Saturday	Acts/Apostles 16 vv 1-10	John 16 vv 11-15

6th Sunday of Easter

Acts/Apostles 8 vv 5-8, 14-17 Peter 3 vv 15-18 John 14 vv 15-21

THANK YOU from Bea Robinson to all who attended Michael's Funeral Mass and for all the donations to St. Catherine's Hospice. The total raised was £345.00.



ST. GREGORY'S '300' CLUB PARISH DRAW

The next draw will take place after the 10.00 a.m. Mass today, Sunday 14th May. Prizes of £100, £50, £30 and eight of £10. New members always welcome. See Steve Jordan who will be happy to enrol you.

You've got to be in it to win it!!!

MASS INTENTIONS

A.M. John and Jerry John

CARING FOR CARERS

Are you caring for someone? Have you recently been a carer for someone?

You are invited to a mini-retreat morning on Thursday 18th May from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. at Tabor Retreat Centre, Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood

Please contact us if you would like to attend
Phone: 01772 723568 (Cathy York)

ST. GREGORY'S SOCIAL CENTRE

Saturday 20th May - Artist Assured

Bingo - Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday lunchtime

The Centre is available for hire for private functions
Bookings can be made by contacting the Secretary or the Stewardess on 01772 798336

Why not visit our friendly club?