

ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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St. Clare's Church: Tel: 01772 719604

Priest in Charge: Rev. Fr. John Mark Agulefo

Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Stephen Talbutt

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

Saturday 16th/Sunday 17th September 2023

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



TODAY'S GOSPEL deals with a subject that concerns us all - forgiveness.

Jesus was a brilliant teacher. He used stories a lot because it was a simple way to get across His message. Peter asked Him a question. He asked: "How often should I forgive my brother". Peter went on to hazard a guess by suggesting seven times. In this he thought he was being generous and he probably expected to receive Jesus' approval but to his amazement, Jesus replied "not seven times but seventy seven-times." This was an expression among the Jews, meaning endless or indefinitely.

Forgiveness clears a path for God to forgive us. The only obstruction we can put in the way of God's forgiveness of our sins is our inability to forgive the sins of others. God will indeed "write off" our debt but there is a catch. If we want forgiveness for our sins from God, we must forgive those who offend us.

"All-powerful and merciful God, grant that we who always stand in need of Your forgiveness and love may be always ready to forgive and show mercy and compassion to others."

MASS INTENTIONS

Sheila Miller, Peter Hamon & Martin Cooke

If anyone wishes to have Masses said for any particular intentions, can they pass them on to Fr. John Mark, Fr. Stephen or Deacon Jim or put them through the letter box of the Parish House. If you want the Masses said on any special day please put the date and, if possible, the Mass will be said then.

MASSES NEXT WEEK

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Mass at 10.15 a.m.

Saturday - Mass at 6.30 p.m.

Sunday - Mass at 10.00 a.m.

MASSES WILL BE SAID AS FOLLOWS

Monday 18 th	Sick & Housebound of the Parish
Wednesday 20 th	School Mass
Friday 22 nd	Peter Hamon
Saturday 23 rd	The Parishioners
Sunday 24 th	Martin Cooke

FEAST NEXT WEEK

Thursday 21st St. Matthew, Apostle

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 plus 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 is a box at the back of church.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions will be heard each Saturday from 6.00 p.m. to 6.25 p.m. and anytime on request.

Please let us know of anyone who is sick or housebound and cannot get to church so that we can make arrangements to visit them and take the Sacraments to them.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM - PREPARING FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR IN FAITH AND PRAYER

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday is next Sunday and there is a mandated Second Collection for this work (as it supersedes Home Mission Sunday). The day calls us to be joyous in proclaiming our faith. "Evangelii Gaudium" is Latin for "Joy of the Gospel". The day supports the work carried out by the Mission Directorate on behalf of the Bishops' Conference. The Holy Father has invited the whole Church to prepare for the Jubilee in the two years prior through:

- Reflecting on the four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council in 2023.
- Deepening our prayer life, with a special focus on the Lord's Prayer, in 2024

MASS	Saturday	6.30 p.m.	34
ATTENDANCES	Sunday	10.00 a.m.	88
COLLECTIONS	Offertory	£542.39	
	Catholic Education	£82.34	
	Services		

TODAY: Special Collection for Home Missions

NEXT WEEKEND: Special Collection for Bishop's Administration Fund

THANK YOU for an anonymous donation of £500.00 to Parish Funds.

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.

FULWOOD FARMERS' MARKET

The next Fulwood Farmers' Market will be on Saturday 23rd September from 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. at Fulwood Methodist Church, Watling Street Road. Come and stock up on fresh local produce and Fairtrade products, and stay for a drink and a snack. The 'New to You' stalls will also be open. Hope to see you there.

ST. GREGORY'S PARISH DRAW - AUGUST RESULTS

Prize	Number	Winner
£50.00	62	Helen Sullivan
£30.00	164	C. Maguire
£10.00	166	C. Maguire
£10.00	60	Marek Nikodem
£10.00	98	Susan Hurst
£10.00	219	Tony Maguire
£10.00	249	S. McGrath
£10.00	212	Penelope O'Donnell
£10.00	174	Anthony Moriarty

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Paul/Timothy 2 vv 1-8	Luke 7 vv 1-10
Tuesday	Paul/Timothy 3 vv 1-13	Luke 7 vv 11-17
Wednesday	Paul/Timothy 3 vv 14-16	Luke 7 vv 31-35
	St. Matthew, Apostle	
Thursday	Ephesians 4 vv 1-7, 11-13	Matthew 9 vv 9-13
Friday	Paul/Timothy 6 vv 2-12	Luke 8 vv 1-3
Saturday	Paul/Timothy 6 vv 13-16	Luke 8 vv 4-15

Next Sunday - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 55:vv 6-9 Paul/Philippians 1 vv 20-24, 27
Matthew 20 vv 1-16



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, Robert Swan, John Allen. Maureen Sharrock, Harry Oulton, John Monty Black, Martin Gee, Cynthia Maguire, Margaret Nuttall, Agnes Partington, Teresa Durnian, Agnes Jordan 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.

For all who are battling the Coronavirus and those risking their own lives and safety to care for them.

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

For all who have died recently; for Fr. M. Kirkham, Fr. G. Muir and all others 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.

SEASON OF CREATION

We have just started this year's Ecumenical Season of Creation, (1st September - 4th October) when Christians in the world join in prayer for Creation.

In the joint statement from Pope Francis, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury, it is said:

"Future generations will never forgive us if we miss the opportunity to protect our common home. We have inherited a garden; we must not leave a desert for our children."

In the same spirit our parish will have:

- a 'Laudato Si' Parish Celebration with Laudato Si Children's Liturgy and sharing of plants after the 10.00 a.m. Mass at St Gregory's on the 24th September.
- the Screening of 'The Letter', the movie where Pope Francis is one of the protagonists, at St Clare's on Thursday 28th September, 7.00 p.m.-9.00 p.m.

All Welcome!