



# ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Priest: Rev. Father Ted Gannon

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year B**



**FEW SIGHTS ARE AS BEAUTIFUL** as that of a field filled with young stalks of wheat. To watch them swaying in the wind and dancing in the sun brings joy to the heart but how strange is the process by which these stalks come into being. The grain of wheat has to be buried in the cold, damp earth as in a tomb. If it didn't die, no new life would come forth. When it does die, from the grave of the old grain a shoot of new wheat miraculously springs forth. It is an amazing paradox - "life coming from death".

Just as the grain of wheat has to die in order to bear fruit, so we must die to self if we are to live fully and fruitfully and realise our potential as human beings and children of God.

Every act of humility involves dying to pride.  
Every act of courage involves dying to cowardice.  
Every act of kindness involves dying to cruelty.  
Every act of love involves dying to selfishness.

Thus, the false self dies and the true self made in God's image is born and nurtured. It is by giving that we receive; it is by forgiving that we are forgiven; it is by dying that we are born to eternal life.



**The  
Episcopal  
Ordination of  
Fr Paul Swarbrick  
9<sup>th</sup> April**

Fr Paul will be ordained as our Bishop at 11.30am on Monday April 9<sup>th</sup> in St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster. Because of the size of the Cathedral admission is by ticket only and places are limited to **two** per parish. If you would like to be present at the Ordination Mass, please write your name and phone number on a piece of paper and give it to me or Deacon Jim. Alternatively, you can email your name to the parish email – address in the Newsletter banner above. We will then have a draw to select who goes!

*Fr Ted*

### FEAST NEXT WEEK

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March

St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### MASS INTENTIONS

Hugh McKeivitt, Patricia Masterson, Walter & Isabelle Dyke and Nicholas Paul Oulton.

### LITURGY NEXT WEEK

#### Monday 19<sup>th</sup>

9.00 a.m. Service of the Word

#### Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>

9.00 a.m. Mass - George Richardson

#### Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>

12.00 noon Mass - Patricia Masterson

(We will be joined by a class from St. Gregory's school)

#### Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>

12.00 noon Mass - Walter & Isabelle Dyke  
and Nicholas Paul Oulton

#### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>

12.00 noon Mass - Hugh McKeivitt

#### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>

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

#### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>

10.00 a.m. Mass - Rita Farry

## Lenten Schedule

• Our Parish Liturgy of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter will be on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 p.m. in church.

- **Each Wednesday evening** there will be Stations of the Cross and Benediction at 7.00 p.m. followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 8.00 p.m.
- **Each Friday** there will be a Lenten Lunch in the Parish House following the 12.00 noon Mass. £1.00 for a bowl of soup and a bread roll. All proceeds will go to the Rwanda Group Trust.
- **Each Saturday** morning there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Parish House from 11.00 a.m. until 12.00 noon.
- **The church** will be open for private prayer on weekdays from 8.00 a.m. until dusk.

- **THE STALL**, with a selection of Fair Trade goods, will be at the back of church after both Masses on the second weekend of every month. Tea and Coffee will also be served after the 10.00 a.m. Mass.
- **DID YOU KNOW ...** CAFOD works in more than 40 countries worldwide; supporting over 300 partners who work with local communities in the global South? We work on behalf of the Catholic community in England and Wales who commit to building a more just and equitable world through prayer, action, giving and reflection. We are a member of Caritas Internationalis; a group of over 160 Catholic sister agencies across the world, known as 'the helping hand of the Church'. Together we strive to eradicate poverty, to address and challenge its root causes and to empower people to bring about change for themselves.

### Liturgy During Holy Week and Easter

You will have seen that the white board is in the Porch with a list of all the Ministries required for our Easter Liturgy. I ask all Ministers of the Word and of Communion to please make sure all those Ministries are covered. We also need volunteers for the other Ministries.



### YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

For all who are sick; especially Francis Burns, Sam Dowd, Pam Raggett, Betty Whiteside, Eric Grime, Joe Meehan, Peggy Fletcher, Jackie Lyons, Maureen Hetko,

Maria Butterworth, Bernadette Benson, Donald & Ingrid Whiles, Michelle Riley, Fred Griffiths, Rainie Tallon, Hughie Gaille, Susan Lavelle, Fr. Joe Maley, Mary Gallagher, Joan Muir, Grace Fernando, May Eccles and Fiona Turnbull.

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 and for Walter & Isabelle Dyke, Nicholas Paul Oulton, Hugh McKeivitt, Rita Farry 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): £675.20

**SPECIAL COLLECTION - Bishop Michael's Retirement** £91.80

**SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY:** Church Buildings' Fund

**SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEK:** CAFOD

**PARISH BUILDINGS FUND TOTAL TO DATE = £8,238.73**

**MASS ATTENDANCES:** 6.30 p.m. Vigil = 72 10.00 a.m. = 181

### READINGS NEXT WEEK

|           |                               |                            |
|-----------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday    | <b>St. Joseph</b>             | Samuel 7 vv 4-5, 12-14. 16 |
|           | Romans 4 vv 13, 16-18, 22     | Matthew 1 vv 16,18- 21, 24 |
| Tuesday   | Numbers 21 vv 4-9             | John 8 vv 21-30            |
| Wednesday | Daniel 3 vv 14-20, 24-25      | John 8 vv 31-42            |
| Thursday  | Genesis 17 vv 3-9             | John 8 vv 51-59            |
| Friday    | Jeremiah 20 vv 10-13          | John 10 vv 31-42           |
| Saturday  | Ezekiel 37 vv 21-28           | John 11 vv 45-56           |
|           | Sunday - Palm Sunday          |                            |
|           | Isaiah 50 vv 4-7              | Philippians 2 vv 6-11      |
|           | Passion - Mark 14 vv 1-15, 47 |                            |

**PLEASE CONTINUE** to bring in clothes/bedding for the Rwanda Group Trust charity shop, any condition accepted. There is a box in the church porch.

### ST. GREGORY'S SOCIAL CENTRE

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March - 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 or 07539 611952 (mobile)



The Music Group will meet in the Parish Social Centre on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March** at 7.00 p.m. to look at music for Holy Week. Anyone who wishes to join them will be very welcome even if they do not wish to be part of the group. A special invitation to any instrumentalists who wish to come and play.



### ST. GREGORY'S '300' CLUB

#### PARISH DRAW

#### MARCH WINNERS

|      |     |   |
|------|-----|---|
| £100 | 65  | Marian Ryan - Blackpool Road                  |
| £50  | 115 | Bernadette Roberts - Sansdale Avenue          |
| £30  | 293 | Mrs. W. Cottam - Ronaldsway                   |
| £10  | 201 | Michael Doody - Ash Holme                     |
| £10  | 48  | George Daniel - Victoria Road                 |
| £10  | 96  | Jayne Gartland - Rose Lane                    |
| £10  | 273 | Fiona Stewart - Daisy Lane                    |
| £10  | 82  | Marie Redmond - Rose Lane                     |
| £10  | 282 | Jo Haythornthwaite - Rodney Avenue            |
| £10  | 15  | Pauline Dowd - Cromwell Road                  |
| £10  | 32  | Maria Rawsthorn - Sharoe Green Lane           |
|      |     | Next Draw - Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2018 |