



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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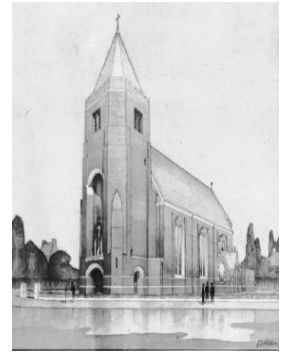
Website: www.stgregoryspreston.org.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Father Ted Gannon

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

Saturday 1st/Sunday 2nd December 2018

First Sunday of Advent - Year C



ADVENT is a time of preparation for Christmas; an opportunity to make room in our hearts for Christ so that He can be with us in His Christmas presence. For this reason the Church asks us to make a special effort to turn to the Lord in prayer during this sacred season.

ADVENT is the most beautiful season of the Church's year in which we celebrate the threefold coming of Christ:-

1. His past coming: As a baby, born of the Virgin Mary; the beginning of the mystery of our salvation.
2. His present coming: At every moment of our lives in Holy Communion; the Body and Blood of Christ; the food of our souls.
3. His future coming: At the end of time when we will all be made new and our happiness will be made complete.

"Lord, as we prepare for Your coming, help us to do good. Let us know Your ways, teach us Your paths and help us to walk in Your truth so that we may worthily praise You as Christ the Lord."

PLEASE NOTE: Will anyone wishing to bring in Christmas food or gifts for the Foxtan Centre, please do so next weekend – staff need sorting time!

LITURGY NEXT WEEK

Monday 3rd

9.00 a.m. Service of the Word

Tuesday 4th

12.00 noon Service of the Word

Wednesday 5th

12.00 noon Mass - Ray Johnson

Thursday 6th

12.00 noon Mass - John Family

Friday 7th

8.30am Mass in School- James Gallagher & Deceased Family Members

Saturday 8th

11.00 - 12.00 noon - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6.30 p.m. First Mass of Sunday - Michael, Catherine & John Calvey

Sunday 9th

10.00 a.m. Mass - The Parishioners

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS DIARY DATES

Friday 14th December from 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. in church: An hour of prayer in the style of Taizé: simple refrains and chants from the Psalms; Scripture; silence. Come and rest in the Lord a while.

Thursday 20th December at 7.00 p.m. in church: Advent Liturgy of Reconciliation with Sacramental Absolution

Saturday 22nd December: Mass at 6.30 p.m.

Sunday 23rd December: Mass at 10.00 a.m.

Monday 24th December: Christmas Eve Mass at 6.30 p.m. (Carols from 6.00 p.m.)

Mass at Midnight

Tuesday 25th December: Christmas Day Mass at 10.00 a.m.

MASS INTENTIONS

Michael O'Leary, Siobhan Taylor, Dorothy & Joseph Hannah and John Walker.

THANK YOU

A sincere thank you for your generous response to collecting women's toiletries/sanitary items for the World Day of the Poor. These gifts have been distributed and gratefully received by various organisations and support services Women's Refuge, Salvation Army, Foxtan Centre, Homeless Outreach and Victims of Human Trafficking.

SCHOOLS' ADVENT SERVICE

This **Tuesday, 4th December** at 6.00 p.m. here in our church - Advent Service for schools in St Gregory's "cluster" of Schools - that is, St. Gregory's, St. Maria Goretti's, Blessed Sacrament, English Martyrs', St Clare's and Corpus Christi. All are welcome.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets will be on sale each week at the back of church. There will be a first prize of £50.00. We would be grateful for donations of other prizes and all proceeds will go towards the Parish Buildings' Fund.

- **THE STALL**, with a selection of Fairtrade goods, will be at the back of church after both Masses next weekend with tea and coffee served after the 10.00 a.m. Mass.
- **NEXT SUNDAY**, 9th December, will be the last day for buying Fairtrade Christmas cards.
- **ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS:** Buy a goat for Rwanda or a CAFOD World Gift from the catalogue. See the notice board.
- **DID YOU KNOW ...** Christine Allen takes up the position of CAFOD's Director in spring 2019 when Chris Bain will retire. Christine's career began as a field worker with the Justice and Peace Commission in the Archdiocese of Liverpool in 1987 and as CAFOD's campaigns coordinator in 1989. In the past thirty years, Christine has held leadership positions at Christian Aid and Progressio. Bishop John Arnold, Chairman of CAFOD said, "I welcome Christine back to CAFOD with great joy. Christine is very much in my prayers and has my full support as she starts this new chapter in her life." Please keep Christine and Chris in your prayers.
- **DO YOU HAVE** any spare or left over coins or banknotes, holiday money or old stamps? All donations are gratefully received and all proceeds go to CAFOD.



YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

For all who are sick; and for Francis Burns, Sam Dowd, Pam Raggett, Betty Whiteside, Eric Grimes, Jackie Lyons, Maureen Hetko, Maria Butterworth, Fred Griffiths, Bernadette Benson, Donald & Ingrid Whiles, Michelle Riley, Rainie Tallon, Hughie Gaille, Joan Muir, Susan Lavelle, Mary Gallagher, Fiona Turnbull, Teresa Flanagan, May Eccles, Marian Roberts and Jim Durnian. 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 John Brown and for Dorothy & Joseph Hannah 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): £726.63
SPECIAL COLLECTION: Youth Services £139.87
SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY: Diocesan Poor Missions
SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: Parish Buildings' Fund
PARISH BUILDINGS' FUND TOTAL TO DATE: £10,983.03
MASS ATTENDANCES: Saturday 6.30 p.m. = 85 Sunday 10.00 a.m. = 126

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Isaiah 35 vv 1-10	Luke 5 vv 17-26
Tuesday	Isaiah 40 vv 1-11	Mathew 18 vv 12-14
Wednesday	Isaiah 40 vv 25-31	Matthew 11 vv 28-30
Thursday	Isaiah 41 vv 13-20	Matthew 11 vv 11-15
Friday	Isaiah 48 vv 17-19	Matthew 11 vv 16-19
Saturday	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
Genesis 3 vv 9-15, 20	Ephesians 1 vv 3-6, 11-12	Luke 1 vv 26-38
Sunday 9 th December - 2 nd Sunday of Advent Year C		
Baruch 5 vv 1-9	Philippians 1 vv 4-6, 8-11	
Luke 3 vv 1-6		

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 3 rd	St. Francis Xavier
Friday 7 th	St. Ambrose
Saturday 8 th	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

NEWS IN BRIEF

- **Sunday 2nd December:** 7.00 p.m. at Our Lady and St. Edward's Church Hall. Global Healing - a film. How our faith helps us care for our common home. Watch, pray and discuss.
- **Saturday 8th December:** Preston Orpheus Choir Christmas Concert. 7.00 p.m. at St. Michael & All Angels, Egerton Road, Ashton. Tickets £10.00 (under 18's £5.00) payable at the door.
- **Wednesday 12th December:** Brownedge Festival's Annual Christmas Concert. St. Mary's, Brownedge at 7.30 p.m. Admission £5.00 inc. refreshments.

ST. GREGORY'S PARISH DRAW

Would you like to be in our monthly draw for cash prizes?
 Don't miss out - take a leaflet from the back of church.

May we remind people who pay annually that their money for Jan.-Dec. 2019 is now due.

Next draw Sunday 9th December after the 10.00 a.m. Mass

THE PARISH BULLETIN is issued every weekend. It is distributed at our Parish Masses, 6.30 p.m. Saturday evening and 10.00 a.m. Sunday morning. It is then available throughout the week on the table at the back of church or you can view it on-line at www.stgregoryspreston.org.uk.