



ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Parish Priest: Rev. Father Ted Gannon

Deacon: Rev. Jim Maguire - Tel: 01772 860980

Saturday 3rd/Sunday 4th March 2018

Third Sunday of Lent - Year B



WE CONTINUE, THROUGH LENT, with readings to encourage us as we journey towards the heart of our faith - our relationship with God.

In today's Gospel, John portrays Jesus as causing 'scandal' (literally 'stumbling block' in Greek). Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem (recorded in all four Gospels) is often acknowledged to be among the events which led to His Crucifixion and how His disciples came to believe in Him.

This Lent we pray that, like His disciples, we might come to believe ever more deeply that He is the Lord, with the 'message of eternal life'.

"O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness who, in fasting, prayer and almsgiving has shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by Your mercy."



A New Headteacher for St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that the Governors of our Primary School have appointed a new Headteacher. He is Mr. Matthew Quigley. Matthew, Julie and their children are members of the Eucharistic Community here at St Gregory's. Matthew is a Reader for our Sunday morning Mass and has at times lead the music when Peter Cobb has been away. "Mr Quigley" will be taking up his appointment as our Headteacher at the beginning of June and we look forward to deepening the relationship between our school and the wider parish community.

Fr Ted

MASS INTENTIONS

George Richardson

LITURGY NEXT WEEK

Monday 5th

9.00 a.m. Service of the Word

Tuesday 6th

12.00 noon Mass

Wednesday 7th

12.00 noon Mass

Thursday 8th

12.00 noon Mass

Friday 9th

12.00 noon Mass

Saturday 10th

6.30 p.m. First Mass of Sunday - Thomas Yates

Sunday 11th

10.00 a.m. Mass - The Parishioners

Lenten Schedule

- **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.
- On **Friday 9th March** there will be a Taizé Prayer Evening at 7.00 p.m. in Church.
- Our Parish Liturgy of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter will be on **Tuesday 20th March** at 7.00 p.m. in Church.
- **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.

PLEASE CONTINUE to bring in clothes/bedding for the Rwanda Group Trust charity shop. These can be given in any condition as those not suitable for sale can be weighed in for cash. There is a box in the church porch.



- **THE STALL**, with a selection of Fair Trade goods, will be at the back of church after both the Masses next weekend. Tea and Coffee will also be served after the 10.00 a.m. Mass.
- **DID YOU KNOW ...** this year, Pope Francis encourages us all to ‘welcome our brother and sister migrants and refugees with arms wide open’ and to call on world leaders to do the same when they develop new agreements on refugees and migration at the United Nations? Inspired by this, CAFOD would like to invite you to join our Share the Journey campaign by organising a Share the Journey walk within your parish, or to simply encourage people to take part in a ‘Walk to Church Sunday’. Your walk can be as long or as short as you like. Together we’ll symbolically share the journey with those who have been forced to flee their homes. Find out more: cafod.org.uk/sharethejourney.

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.



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 George Richardson 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): £785.57
SPECIAL COLLECTION - CAFOD Lenten Fast £364.15
SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY: Rwanda Group Trust
SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: Bishop Michael’s Retirement Gift
PARISH BUILDINGS FUND TOTAL TO DATE = £7225.03
MASS ATTENDANCES: 6.30 p.m. Vigil = 70 10.00 a.m. = 178

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Monday	Kings 5 vv 1-15	Luke 4 vv 24-30
Tuesday	Daniel 3 vv 25, 34-43	Matthew 18 vv 21-35
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 4 vv 1, 5-9	Matthew 5 vv 17-19
Thursday	Jeremiah 7 vv 23-28	Luke 11 vv 14-23
Friday	Hosea 14 vv 2-10	Mark 12 vv 28-34
Saturday	Hosea 5 v 15 to 6 v 6	Luke 18 vv 9-14
Sunday - 4 th Sunday of Lent - Year B (Laetare Sunday)		
	Exodus 20 vv 1-17	Corinthians 1 vv 22-25
	John 2 vv 13-25	

Bishop Michael’s Retirement

Bishop Michael’s resignation from the Office of Bishop of Lancaster has been accepted and he retires on 9th April once Bishop-elect Paul is ordained. The Canons of our Diocese ask Parishes to take a collection as a retirement gift to Bishop Michael. The opportunity for you to contribute is next weekend, when the aptly named “Retiring Collection” will be for this purpose



The Music Group will meet in the Parish Social Centre on Monday 12th 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.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Friday 16th March: Stations of the Cross at St. Clare’s at 7.00 p.m. Each station will be accompanied by a story and reflection around one of the countries in which the ‘Aid to the Church in Need’ works.

Tuesday 20th March: Lenten Vigil at Cardinal Newman College at 6.30 p.m.

Walsingham 2018: Now from 2nd to 5th October 2018. Led by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Paul Swarbrick. Cost £280. Closing date 25th June 2018.

See posters on the Notice Board in the Church porch.

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.