

Catholic Community in Cheltenham

Served by Clifton Diocese Registered Charity Number 1170168

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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7TH APRIL 2019

Readings: Isaiah 43; 16-21; Philipians 3:8-14

Readings: Gospel: 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her' (John 8:1-11)



www.40daysforlife.com

Seeking God's help this Lent

To end abortion through

***Daily Prayer*Fasting*Witness**

Join us for Peaceful Prayers outside

Cheltenham General Hospital

Every Friday

8am-1pm

during Lent

St Gregory the Great 10 St James Square, GL50 3PR ☎01242 523737

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 10.00am-1.00pm

Parish Priest: Fr David Mills

Attached Priest: Fr David McDonald

Deacon: Rev. Robin Littlewood

Parish Website: www.stgregorys.org.uk

Email Address: cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com

St Thomas More Princess Elizabeth Way, GL51 7RA ☎01242 573128

Assistant Priest: Fr Tony Pazhayakalam

Website: www.stthomasmorechurch.org.uk

Schools: St Gregory's RC Primary School, St James Square GL50 3QG

St Thomas More RC Primary School, Lewis Road, Hesters Way GL51 OHZ

All Saints' Academy, Blaisdon Way, Cheltenham GL51 OWH

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary - Parish Priest: Fr Mark Moran

Parish Website: www.sacredhearts.org.uk

Moorend Rd, Charlton Kings, GL53 9AU ☎01242 524932

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Day of Special Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments

7th Sunday

5.00pm (Sat) St Thomas More
 5.30pm (Sat) Sacred Hearts
 8.00am St Gregory
 8.15am Sacred Hearts
 9.30am St Gregory
 10.30am Sacred Hearts
 11.15am St Gregory
 2.30pm Sacred Hearts
 5.00pm St Gregory
 6.00pm St Gregory

Sheila Williams RIP
 Ann Coughlan RIP
 Wallace & Aston Families RIP
 People of the Parish
 Jose Luchel Pansacala RIP
 Tony Daly RIP
 Private Intention
 Stations of the Cross
 Stations of the Cross
 People of the Parish

8th Monday

Weekday of Lent

9.30am St Gregory
 1.30pm Sacred Hearts

Bernard Thomas Mulligan RIP
 Funeral Service for Diana Trimby RIP

9th Tuesday

Weekday of Lent

9.30am St Gregory
 7.00pm Sacred Hearts

Private Intention
 Neil Herlihy RIP

10th Wednesday

Weekday of Lent

9.30am St Gregory
 10.00am Sacred Hearts
 7.00pm Sacred Hearts

Private Intention
 Paul Burgess RIP
 Prayer around the Cross

11th Thursday

Weekday of Lent

9.15am Sacred Hearts
 9.30am St Gregory
 12noon Sacred Hearts
 6.30pm St Thomas More

Tom Flanagan RIP
 Private Intention
 Funeral Service for Jozefa Field RIP
 Private Intention

12th Friday

Weekday of Lent

9.15am Sacred Hearts
 9.30am St Gregory
 6.00pm Sacred Hearts

Intentions of Doreen Maitland
 Edward Pattenden RIP
 Stations of the Cross

13th Saturday

Weekday of Lent

NO MORNING MASS OR CONFESSIONS AT SACRED HEARTS
 9.30am St Gregory Patrick Wallace (Jnr) RIP

Daily Mass at Nazareth House: 10.00am

Baptisms

By arrangement with the Parish Office.

Cheltenham Young Catholic Adults

All forthcoming events will be advertised at: <http://cheltenhamcatholicadults.blogspot.com> Contact Margaret 07515 805015 or Damian 07908 105787.

Legion of Mary

Mondays 5.00-6pm in the Old Priory Library. For info. ring Lucy Costelloe on 261441 or Mick Slevin on 513453.

SVP

For help please email svpchelt@gmail.com or contact the parish office.

Bingo at St Thomas More

Every Thursday evening in Hall, 8.00pm; in support of STM Development Fund.

55 Club

After 9.30am Mass, Old Priory (alternate Thursdays). Next meeting: 11th April.

Confessions

St Gregory's: Saturdays 10.00-11.00am.

St Thomas More: Saturdays 4.30-4.45pm.

Sacred Hearts: Tuesdays 6.15-6.40pm (when there is an evening Mass)

Palm Sunday Service

This year we will mark the beginning of Holy Week with a special service of Sung Evening Prayer, Palm Sunday, 14th April, at 5pm. (This service will replace Stations of the Cross on that day.) The 9.30am and 11.15am choirs will participate in this reflective service of scripture and prayer. The service will close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Come and join us!

Finance

Last week's offertory collection came to £1,130.32 (SG); £288.94 (STM); Bingo £160.00 (STM); Cake Sale £260.00 (STM). Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Collection for Church Flowers

There will be a retiring collection taken at all Sunday Masses today for church flowers.

Lenten Alms

During the season of Lent, Lenten Alms are offered for distribution by the Bishop. Place your offerings in the box marked Lenten Alms, next to the side door of the Church.

EASTER OFFERING

Traditionally the Easter Collection, along with that at Christmas, are the only collections given to the Priest during the year and is an important way in which the parishes support the unsalaried priests of the diocese. Envelopes into which offerings may be placed, are on the table at the back of Church. Thank you.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

We live in a world where the desire to punish those who offend us is ever more prevalent. If rules and laws are broken people must be called to account. Even if we are not directly affected, we may find ourselves promoting and supporting this way of thinking. Today, we learn from Jesus that the God we believe in is a loving and forgiving God, a God who is merciful and keeps on forgiving. How easy do we find it to forgive? If we can see how much we need forgiveness, it might make us more ready to forgive others. Is there someone in my life who needs forgiving? Can I reach out in forgiveness to them this week?

300 Club Winners

The March draw took place after the 9.30am Mass last Sunday. The winners are: Mrs C.G. Parker (£100); Pamela Higgs (£50) and Mr & Mrs S. Cross (£25). Congratulations, and cheques are on their way.

2019/2020 Offertory Envelopes

The gift aid and non gift aid envelopes for 2019/2020 are ready for collection from the table at the back of SG's and the newspaper table at STM's. Thank you to all of you who give your offertory donations by gift aid; the tax relief we receive makes a huge difference to our parish finances. For every £1 donated we receive 25p back from Inland Revenue and last year we received £15,542 (SG) & £4,255 (STM) - a real gift from the Exchequer! If you are a UK tax payer and do not already give your offertory donations by gift aid, please consider doing so and contact Ann Greenwood in the parish office.

Junior Youth Group

The next Group will meet on the 14th April and then on the 28th. Please come and join us for an hour after the 9.30am Family Mass! christine.fletcher@talktalk.net

Stations of the Cross for Families

This service will take place on Good Friday, 19th April at 11.30am and everyone is invited to attend. Children are welcome to come along in a costume from biblical times. If you would like more information, please ring Anne Holbrook on 01242 352033.

Traidcraft

The next Traidcraft sale will be on Sunday 14th April. Please come along and support us.

WELCOMERS

More required. First impressions matter more than we think; we don't get a second chance to make a first impression on those we know, those who come occasionally, visitors. We need reliable Welcomers, at all our Masses, particularly the Sunday 9.30am Mass. We are the Church. Let us make the difference and welcome all who come. If you would like to help, please join us for tea/coffee in the upstairs room of the Old Priory after the 9.30am Mass today. Cakes on us! All are welcome! *'Anyone who welcomes a stranger welcomes me'* - Mt 25:42-46. Contact Johannes on 07815 496902 for more details.

Prinknash Abbey

13th April: Retreat Day led by Abbot Martin & Dr Sarah Richards. Mass in Abbey Chapel 9.30am. 10.45am-12.30pm in Meeting Room, "Praying with the Psalms". 3-3.30pm Adoration and Benediction in Chapel to finish. All welcome.

Community Matters Scheme - St Thomas More

Waitrose have chosen STM as one of the three local causes to support under their "Community Matters" scheme for the month of April. Support us by placing your Waitrose green shopping tokens in our box.

Where we are: Our Environment

Pope Francis' invitation in *Laudato Si'*, asks us "to work with generosity and tenderness in protecting this world which God has entrusted to us". What might God be calling St Gregory's as a parish, and us individually to do now in response to the Holy Father's invitation? If you would like to join other parishioners in responding to this question, come to a meeting on Thursday, 25th April at 7pm in the Old Priory. Light refreshments will be provided.

St Thomas More Church Fete

This will be held on Saturday, 18th May from 11am to 1pm in STM Church Hall. Draw tickets on sale - £1 each. We are looking for donations of raffle prizes, bottles, nearly new items, toys, books & quality bric-a-brac.

Outing to Burnham-On-Sea

The 55 Club invites you to join them on a coach trip to Burnham-on-Sea on Friday, 24th May. Fr Frank Wainwright will celebrate Mass for the group at 11.30am at Our Lady and the English Martyrs Church, Burnham. Return at 4pm. Cost of the coach is £10 per person. To book a place, please give your name, contact details and payment to Mary Flood at STM, or to Joanna Vials at STG. (jo.vials@hotmail.co.uk) or leave your request at the Parish Office.

Sick: We pray for all the sick of our parishes.

Deceased: John Morgan RIP.

Anniversaries: Theodorus Verhaeg, Edward Corvan, Mary Gertrude ffield, Peter Walter, Bernadette Mander, Ted Pattenden, Mildred Owens.