

St. Gregory's Newsletter

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

11th February 2018

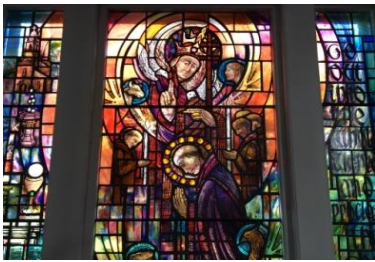
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The Parish Office is staffed on
 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
 09.00 to 13.00.

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Archdiocese of Liverpool Registered Charity
 No. 32709



A Prayer

*Lord, increase our
 faith,
 Strengthen our hope,
 Keep us safe in your
 love,
 Make us always
 grateful for the gift
 of life that we share,
 and generous in
 sharing your gifts
 with all around us.*

*(from the official family prayer
 for World Meeting of Families
 2018 in Ireland)*

Reflection & Appeal

Today we are reminded of Jesus' concern for the sick and for those who are excluded by illness from taking a full part in society or the Church.

Jesus was not afraid to reach out and touch the leper, quite an amazing thing to do, because we so often step back from our brothers and sisters who have a disease or need assistance. Jesus shows us how to relate to such people who need our help, and to do it willingly.

In our archdiocese those who are sick or need assistance take pride of place at the heart of the annual pilgrimage of over 1300 people to Lourdes. This includes over 500 young people who willingly travel overland to help our assisted pilgrims. Without the support and generosity of service of you, the people in the archdiocese, our sick people would not be able to experience a pilgrimage. But in order to sustain our pilgrimage into the future we need you, the people in our parishes, to join us in giving of your time to serve those who are frail. In so doing we follow our Lord, reaching out to those for whom He has a special care. Making the pilgrimage is a personal sacrifice, but we gain more than we give....

Many of our faithful helpers have now had to step back from active participation as the years pass, and we urgently need more help. We need you and what you have to offer, to bring new life to all our teams (hospitality, music group, St. Bernadette Team, youth pilgrims)...

We are 'One Archdiocese' and this 'One Pilgrimage' in the year brings our family together. Please be generous..... and I pray that you will have the courage to respond

Children's Corner

Extracts from Archbishop Malcolm's pastoral letter

I	E	Y	H	E	A	L	I	N	G	LEPER
T	N	V	S	O	M	L	E	S	N	PLEADED
A	N	G	I	O	Y	E	T	E	I	HEALING
P	D	W	S	D	R	R	P	E	R	EVIDENCE
L	P	E	O	R	E	P	O	N	E	RECOVERY
E	S	N	R	T	V	N	E	K	F	TOWN
A	E	K	C	U	O	H	C	L	F	STRETCHED
D	N	H	O	H	C	U	A	E	O	HAND
E	E	R	E	P	E	L	C	N	N	TOUCH
D	E	R	E	D	R	O	S	H	D	KNEES
										CURED
										OFFERING



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Day of Prayer for the Sick and those who care for them and Day for the Unemployed

11th February – Our Lady Of Lourdes

9:30am Jean Livesey (LD)
11:00am Ellen Noblett
6:30pm Pat, Bernadette & Chris Tynan

Weekday Mass

Monday, 8:30am Valerie Bretherton
Tuesday 8:30am Bryan Dougan (1st A)
Ash Wednesday 9:30am Helen Owen
7:00pm For The Parish
Thursday 8:30am Derek Parker (A)
Friday 8:30am Ronald Parsonage (sick)
Saturday 10:00am Teresa Critchley
Weekly Confession: Saturday after morning Mass

18th February

9:30am Bert Southworth
11:00am Mary Spedding (A)
6:30pm Susan Clapham & Catherine Beesley
3:00pm Holy Hour

Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Rosary: 20 minutes before weekday Mass

Please Pray For Our Sick Brothers And Sisters

Margaret Wood, Bill Burns, Margaret Bower, Margaret Brindle, Winifred Calderbank, Hugh O'Daly, Victoria Mary Birkett, Lois Chiasson, Mildred Bridge, Agnes Martindale, Robert Stretton, Bill Barnes, Maureen Jackson, Olive Farnworth, Theresa Kershaw, Gerard McGuigan, Julie Hurley, Thomas Moss, Paul Spedding, Maureen Hill, Fred Simpson, Thomas and Joan Woodruff

PARISH NEWS

Baptism

Today we welcome in Baptism Stanley Reegan Astin and wish him and his family every blessing as they start out on their new faith journey.

Ash Wednesday - Lent

Lent starts this Wednesday when ashes will be blessed and distributed at morning and evening mass, reminding us of our mortality. As we begin our forty days of preparing for Easter with this day of fasting and abstinence, we focus on greater charity through prayer, penance and repentance.

During the Sundays of Lent, starting next Sunday, there will be a **Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament at 3:00pm**. We will use the resources for the Holy Hours in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress in September and for the Synod.

Traditionally the **Stations of the Cross** are prayed on the Wednesdays or/and Fridays of Lent. Volunteers willing to lead these when Father Graeme is not available would be very helpful, please see him ASAP. If people wish to follow the devotions privately, resources will be available in Church, but please do not remove them. *The first communal celebration of the Stations of the Cross will be on Friday after the first Sunday in Lent, 23rd Feb., then on Wednesdays and Fridays.*

Celebrating Family Life

On Ash Wednesday you may pick up a beautifully produced card 'Amoris Laetitia'/'The Joy of Love' in preparation for the World Meeting of Families in Dublin. We will say this prayer daily at the end of Mass during Lent to strengthen spiritual life in our families.

The Annual Celebration of Marriage and Family life at the Cathedral will take place on Sunday 11th March at 11.00am, with Archbishop Malcolm presiding and refreshments following. All are most welcome, especially couples preparing for marriage and those who help them prepare the newly married and all who will be celebrating significant anniversaries in 2018. See poster and take a card to invite any who don't come to church but may wish to take part in this 'wonderful and uplifting celebration'.

Parish Ministry - Volunteers still wanted please - last call

A reader at the 11am Sunday Mass - Please contact Fr. Graeme or Nora Ball.

Minibus Service – Two, preferably three drivers and one assistant urgently needed

As you can see we are looking for volunteers for both the Minibus and Readers. Can I take this opportunity to thank all those volunteers who give of themselves so generously, they deserve our respect and thanks for all that they do. Father Graeme

Collection

Thank you for last week's collection of £1092.55 and for your SVP support. See also a thank you letter from Shelter (Christmas List) in the porch.

Dedication of Memorial for Father Firth – Save the date!

Please return the slip at the bottom of the invitation to the box provided. Invites are still available at the back of church.

Scripture Group – starting at 7:30pm on 21st February

This will start at 7:30pm, not 6:30 as usual, next week, due to the Ash Wednesday evening mass this week.

MINISTERING TO THE ASSEMBLY

Counting 12th February John and Mary Mark

S.A.S. 18th February Margaret Scard

Readers “ Jack Knight

Eucharistic Ministers “ Clare Meredith

David Chadwick

Marian Knight

Dial a Ride TBC

Ryan Norse

Linda Walmsley

Paul Thompson

Sharon Hobin

Ulrika Yeomans

David Porter

Anthony Hooson