

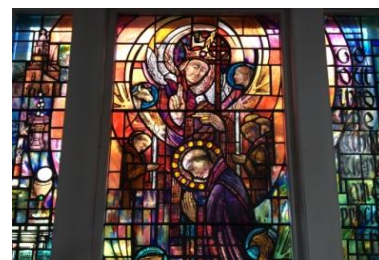
St. Gregory's Newsletter

19th February 2017 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Parish Mass Book page 139



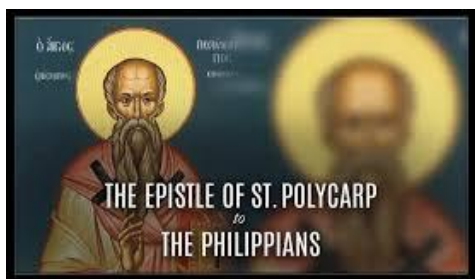
The Parish Office is staffed on
Monday, Wednesday and Friday from
9.00am to 13.00pm.

Website www.stgregoryschorley.org.uk
Telephone 01257 262462
e-mail stgregorys.weldbank@btinternet.com
Archdiocese of Liverpool Registered Charity
No. 32709



Saint of the Week Saint Polycarp

As a disciple of the apostle John, Polycarp (69 – 155) was bishop of Smyrna as well as a friend of Ignatius of Antioch. St. Polycarp is a most important 'link' between the time of the Apostles and the earliest Christian Fathers. As a boy Irenaeus knew Polycarp and praised his gravity, holiness, and majesty of countenance. Polycarp's letter to the Philippians was so esteemed that it was read in the churches of Asia during the lifetime of Jerome. Polycarp suffered martyrdom in the city stadium. When asked to renounce Christ he said; 'I have been a servant of Christ for eighty-six years and no evil has come near me; how can I now speak against my king who has saved me?'



Reflection

☐ "Love your neighbour as yourself."

☐ These are words we associate so clearly with the teaching of Jesus and the way of life the Gospel calls us to. But it may be a surprise to some people to hear that these words come first from the Old Testament, in the mouth of Moses himself. Moses was instructing the community of the people of Israel in flight from Egypt in their long sojourn in the wilderness. God's instructions were about how that community had to work without grudges, resentment or vengeance, but with love and forgiveness and tolerance.

When Jesus comes with the message of the Kingdom of heaven, it is the same instruction for a perfect, God-guided society, which depends on how each of us lives with others.

The wisdom of this world, which Saint Paul mentions in the Second Reading, will not teach us this: the world will believe in vengeance, and friendship only for your friends.

Each of us must ask how we can embrace the apparent folly of Jesus' teaching:

"But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike..... You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Must we really aspire to be perfect?

Fortunately it is not all down to us alone, but it is God's love in us which gives us the hope and even certainty that in His mercy we can live up to His standards. For it is written also:

"When anyone obeys what Christ has said, God's Love comes to perfection in him."

So to love, to treat everyone as a brother or sister and not to wait for others to make a move, but be the first to reach out, joyfully, immediately.

Childrens' Corner

E	O	K	A	O	L	C	T	O	M	EYE	TOOTH	WICKED
N	C	L	W	O	R	R	O	B	E	RESISTANCE	CHEEK	TUNIC
A	I	E	Y	E	E	U	O	L	E	CLOAK	BORROW	LOVE
T	N	D	D	N	E	O	T	H	T	NEIGHBOUR	ENEMY	CREDIT
S	U	I	E	V	I	B	H	O	O			
I	T	M	O	K	A	H	O	K	O			
S	Y	L	O	M	I	G	H	E	T			
E	C	N	A	T	S	I	S	E	R			
R	E	C	H	K	E	E	W	H	O			
S	I	N	U	T	I	N	I	C	E			

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19th February 2017

Sunday 19th February

9:30am Bert Southworth
11:00am Luke & Hayley Brabin
6:30pm Sienna Stapleton-Thomas

Weekday Masses

Monday 8:30am Special Intention (Our Lady of Lourdes)
Tuesday 9:00am Requiem Mass for Roy Ainscough
Wednesday 9:30am Requiem Mass for Brian Dougan
2:00pm Requiem Mass for Hilda Haworth
Thursday 8:30am Laurence & Mary Quigley
Friday 9:00am Requiem Mass for Ronald Fisher
Saturday 10:00am Susan Leadbetter

Weekly Confession Saturday after morning Mass

Please Pray For Our Sick Brothers And Sisters

Kitty Ellison, Jayne Hodge, Kathleen Reynolds, Brigid Cain, Mary Patten, Agnes Martindale, Robert Stretton, Mildred Bridge, Margaret Wood, Harold Sutton, Margaret Bower, Thomas Moss, Gerard Baker, Hugh Daly, Margaret Dearden, Maureen Jackson, Maureen McIver, Bill Burns, Lois Chiasson, Gerard McGuigan, Moya Jones, Teresa Kershaw, Teresa Critchley, Mary Ellison, Canon Richard Firth

Sadly we record five deaths this week: Roy Ainscough, Brian Dougan, Hilda Haworth, Ronald Fisher and Frances Dickinson. Their funerals will be held over the next two weeks. We pray for these brothers and sisters of ours who have died in the Lord, may they rest in peace, and may their families find comfort and peace.

Collection

Thank you very much for last week's collection of £1030.

Bingo Night for Lourdes

Darryl Hobin, who is going to Lourdes in the summer, reminds us of the bingo night at St. Mary's on Thu. 23rd Feb. 7pm which includes a raffle, so plenty of prizes to be won. Please support the fundraising efforts of our young people.

Canon Firth

Clare has gone to Ireland to visit Father Firth who is in hospital after a fall. He is in very good spirits as always, and we pray for his steady recovery and send him our very best wishes.

Hand-crafted olive wood ornaments

Next Sunday we welcome Rana and her team who will be selling olive wood ornaments crafted in the Holy Land. This is a good way of supporting Christians in Bethlehem, all the proceeds go to improve the lives of Palestinian orphans.

Food Bank

Thank you for your immediate response to the new parish initiative supporting the *Living Waters* Food Bank. After watching the film 'I Daniel Blake' with its message about the current situation of so many people in our country lacking basic necessities such as food and shelter, Anne Rawlinson is coordinating a collection of food and – importantly – toiletries. If you wish to contribute, please leave your donation in the box which is now placed permanently in the porch and will be emptied weekly and delivered to the food bank, "feeding local people in crisis".

Parish Statistics

Our diocesan return this year shows 47 baptisms, 7 weddings, 43 funerals and an average mass attendance of 449.

Is The Lord Calling You To Be A Priest?

Please see the posters in the porch about monthly discernment days held at St. Charles, Aigburth on the first Saturday each month.

Commemorating Luther 500

There is information on the notice board about a *Mobile Story Truck touring Europe*, - visiting Liverpool on Tuesday 21st February.

Ministering to the Assembly

Counters 20th February Eileen Snape and Rita McIntyre

Rotas 26th February, 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

S.A.S. Margaret Scard

Dial a Ride Tommy McGuigan and Paul Thompson

Readers Louise Cogan David Fairclough Ulrika Yeomans
Ash Wednesday morning: Christine Crossen evening: TBA

Euch. Ministers Richard Jackson Margaret Scard Anthony Hooson
David Chadwick Sharon Hobin TBA
Chris Huddy Clare Meredith

Sunday 26th February

9:30am William, Ann & Elizabeth Frearson
11:00am Fred & Bessie Fowler
6:30pm Frank Smith (A)

Saints of the Week

St. Peter Damian
See of St. Peter
St. Polycarp

Rosary 20 minutes before weekday Mass