

St Gregory's Bulletin

Mass intentions: Fr Martin will be saying mass each day for our intentions. Please phone or text a message leaving your mass intentions on the church mobile 07831 457442

Sunday 13 September
24th Sunday of Ordinary
Time

Monday 14 September
The Exaltation of the Holy
Cross

Tuesday 15 September
Our Lady of Sorrows

Ursula Hamilton RIP (McAulay)

Wednesday 16
September
Sts Cornelius and Cyprian

Ursula Hamilton RIP

Thursday 17 September
St Robert Bellarmine

Ursula Hamilton RIP (Biggar)

Friday 18 September

Ursula Hamilton RIP (Bann)

Saturday 19 September

Margaret Meehan RIP (Taylor)

Sunday 20 September
25th Sunday of Ordinary
Time

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

11.30AM



As the church is still closed for mass, please come and join

other parishioners for a coffee and a chat on zoom.

You can join and leave at anytime between 11.30am and 1pm this coming Sunday.

Pope Francis explains the Gospel to us...

This Sunday's Gospel passage offers us a lesson on forgiveness which does not deny wrongdoing, but recognizes that human beings, created in God's image, are always greater than the evil they commit. Saint Peter asks Jesus: "*Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?*" (v. 21). To Peter, forgiving the same person seven times already seemed the maximum possible.



And perhaps to us it may already seem too much to do so twice. But Jesus answers, "*I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven*" (v. 22), meaning always. You must always forgive.

And he confirms this by telling the parable of the merciful king and the wicked servant, in which he shows the inconsistency of the man who was first forgiven and then refused to forgive. The servant's inconsistent behaviour is the same as ours when we refuse to forgive our brothers and sisters.

Whereas the king in the parable is the image of God who loves us with a love that is so rich in mercy as to welcome us, love us and forgive us continuously.

God's forgiveness is the symbol of his "overflowing" love for each of us.

May the Virgin Mary help us to become ever more aware of the gratuitousness and the greatness of the forgiveness received from God, to become merciful like him, Good Father, slow to anger and great in love.



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Parish Council minutes

The PC have been meeting by zoom every couple of weeks, dealing with the many church issues that still exist even though we are not back in church together. Here is a summary of the last meeting

- * The diocese are considering the roof and have 2 quotes which involve retiling both the church and the house roofs. If a safe tunnel can be set up next to the scaffolding, weekend masses with social distancing could recommence while the work is being done.
- * Due to recent breakins at the house an intruder alarm system is being installed.
- * PC elections were discussed as usually these take place in October when we have our AGM which obviously can't take place. The main issue was the matter of sufficient parish involvement. This is going to be discussed at the next PC meeting and a proposal put forward to the Parish.
- * First Communion group and the impact of the church closure and communicating by zoom was discussed. The important thing is to keep the process alive as last years group have not made their first communion and this years group should be starting soon.
- * There was an update on the governance of the school and plans to involve parishioners in various activities. A callout for more volunteers for issues of educational attainment, school finance and facilities and environment was needed as well as thanks to those who have volunteered already.
- * Father Martin gave an update on the community at Savio House. Fr Graham has re-joined the community, plus two brothers and three volunteers. We all agreed that we look forward to when the Salesian parish and community can be meeting face to face especially restarting our successful socially distanced and safe Masses at church.

THE FULL MINUTES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE UNDER PARISH COUNCIL

First sacraments



Dear Parents,

We would like to invite the next cohort of children to be prepared to take their first sacraments in 2021. This usually occurs in year 3 or above. Please register your interest with myself (01625 614275 or 07729 706795). You will need your child's baptism certificate if you have it, otherwise the details of the date and place of baptism.

Looking forward to hearing from you, Barbara Crack (1st Sacraments Catechist).

Dear Parishioners,

There has been some progress on the roof repair/replacement this week; it has been approved in principle and will be ratified by the time you read this. It will be a complete replacement of the roof of the church and presbytery, with new tiles and felt.

The Diocese has shortened the tendering process of 4 weeks by approaching 2 companies to quote to the same specification and will appoint as soon as possible; both companies will need a lead -in time of about at least 3 weeks.

We had hoped that alongside the scaffolding, the construction of a protective tunnel would have allowed for the safe re-opening of the church at an early stage of the project, but this is not the case. The weight of the roof sections mean that this will not be possible. It may be possible to re-open safely once the roof has been stripped and before the work is complete, but that is not guaranteed.

In reality I think it will be at least 6 weeks or longer before we will be at the stage of considering opening the church safely, hopefully towards the end of October. As with all building projects, timescales can slip and unforeseen issues can arise.

I will keep you up to date, week by week, as I know any information.

Fr Martin.

Offerory collection

Many thanks to all for your continued support.