

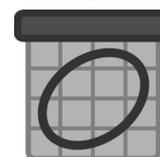
# St Gregory's Bulletin

## 'Rebuild my Church .... Rebuild the Community'

Mass intentions: Fr Martin will be saying mass each day for our intentions. Please phone or text a message leaving your mass intentions to Fr Martin on 07754 057074

Saturday 16 April <b>Holy Saturday</b>	8pm	Intentions of the McNulty Family (Church cleaners)
Sunday 17 April <b>Easter Sunday</b>	8:30am	
	10:30am	People of the Parish
Monday 18 April	NO MASS	Avril Carrol (Church cleaning friends)
Tuesday 19 April	NO MASS	Jean Holmes special int. (Church cleaning friends)
Wednesday 20 April	NO MASS	Fr Bob Coupe SDB (M and K McAulay)
Thursday 21 April	NO MASS	Fr Tony Fernandes SDB (M and K McAulay)
Friday 22 April	NO MASS	Margaret Bowden RIP and Agnes Bann RIP (M Bann)
Saturday 23 April		
Sunday 24 April	8:30am	People of the Parish
	10:30am	People of the Parish

### Dates for your diary



**Tuesdays:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 9.30am in the Hall

**Sunday 24 April:** Divine Mercy Sunday: Service at 3pm

**Saturday 7 May:** Confirmation Preparation Day at Savio House

**Sunday 8 May:** St Gregory's Parish at Savio House

**Thursday 26 May:** Prayer and pastry after Mass

**Saturday 11 June and 18 June:** 1st Communion celebration

**Friday 1 July:** Confirmation celebration in St Alban's at 7pm



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Fr Roman Szczypa SDB  
07903 710045

Secretary: Liz Murphy  
[churchoffice@stgregorysbollington.org.uk](mailto:churchoffice@stgregorysbollington.org.uk)

Parish safeguarding (Julie Taylor):  
01625 572331

### Emergency appeal: Help for Ukraine

*Thank you for your generosity, so far we have raised £55,000, the appeal remains open to raise more funds.*

If you would like to contribute directly to the Salesian work please either:

**Send a cheque** to Mrs. N. Howell at the Provincial Office, Sharples Park, Bolton, Lancashire, BL1 6PQ clearly marked UKRAINE. All cheques should be made out to SDB Trustees.

Access the **Salesian Just Giving page** and make a contribution online, using the link : <https://www.justgiving.com/SalesianGBRProvince>.

Please also keep the Ukrainian people and our Salesian brothers, who are remaining with the people they serve, in your prayers.

Thank you for your support! *Salesians of Don Bosco UK - GBR Province*





## Reflection from Fr Martin

Our celebration of the Easter Triduum, from Holy Thursday till Easter Sunday, is one continuous celebration: the Mass of the Last Supper, the Passion of Jesus and the Easter Vigil. While part of one celebration, each element presents different events and aspects of Jesus and invites us to continue to walk with Jesus in these special days.

On Holy Thursday we meet Jesus at the Passover Feast with his disciples, and we see him at his most intimate with them. This feast recalled the saving action of God in the history of the people of Israel, and as a faithful Jew, Jesus and the apostles celebrate the feast. But Jesus is now the embodiment of the saving action of God; the Passover meal is transformed into His gift of self for the world: 'This is my body; this is my blood; do this in memory of me'. And the self-giving of Jesus is dramatically shown when he washes the feet of his disciples, normally the task of the servant. Jesus is the 'servant-Messiah, the servant-King'.

On Good Friday we meet Jesus on the way to the cross and we see him at his most vulnerable; bruised and broken, sweating and bleeding, suffering and dying. We are challenged to stand and face the cross when others have abandoned it. We are challenged to share in this act through our own suffering and pain. We are challenged to see beyond the death and destruction of the cross.

On Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday, we meet the resurrected Jesus, alive and present to his followers, and we are challenged 'to believe' in his resurrection and the promise of eternal life for all who believe. At the Easter Vigil Jesus is presented as 'the light of the world', as 'the living water' bringing new birth and life to the church. We are invited to renew our baptismal commitment, to declare our faith in Jesus and to walk in his light. This is the Easter joy which we celebrate, that light overcomes darkness, love conquers all evil, and new life is found in Jesus.

Our liturgies and these Easter themes always speak very powerfully to us, but this year they are all the more poignant in our suffering world, especially in Europe and in Ukraine. Yet it is only through faith in the power of God who raised Jesus from the dead, and only through the hope that it offers, that we can face the evil threats of our current situation; only love and the power of God can conquer. Let's continue to pray for peace this Easter, peace in our own hearts and lives, and peace in Ukraine and the world.  
Fr Martin



Thank you for your great generosity to the Easter Flowers, and thank you to so many parishioners who have helped prepare for our celebration of Easter, and for all their hard work throughout the year: Church cleaners, flower ladies, altar servers,

readers, Eucharistic ministers, 1<sup>st</sup> communion children and confirmation candidates, Paul and the choir, Alistair and Liz, Frs Joe, Graham and Roman, and everyone who has been involved in any way.

Thank you, in anticipation, for your generosity in the Easter collection, which goes to support the Savio House Community.

## Divine Mercy Sunday

**Sunday 24 April at 3pm**

You are invited to come and celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy.

Fr Roman will lead a service of devotions, this will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and a short talk. This service will take approximately 30 - 40 minutes.

## Welcome

This weekend we welcome Anthony Jones and his children, Holly and Alex into the church community as celebrate Anthony's reception and Holly and Alex's baptism. Congratulations and welcome!

## Sunflowers

Today we planted all the first communion children's sunflowers that they sowed in



January. Oisin, Sophie and Sky helped us plant them by the fence near the church entrance. Hopefully they will be flowering for their first communion Masses. They are all labelled so the children can watch their flower growing and we can remember to pray for the children at this special time.

## Easter week—no masses

The Savio House Community are on retreat this Easter week so there will be no weekday Masses in St Gregory's; Mass intentions will be offered on the retreat. The weekend Masses next weekend will be as normal.

**There will be no newsletter next week 23-24 April.**

## Please pray for...

Please remember in your prayers Ernest Hyde, husband of Maureen, and Dennis Gibbons, brother of Phil, who died recently. May they rest in peace.