

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 26 February <i>8th Sunday of Ordinary Time Day of Prayer for the Unemployed</i>	6pm	Kieran Shannahan RIP
Sunday 27 February	8:30am	Michelle McCabe and family
<i>8th Sunday of Ordinary Time Day of Prayer for the Unemployed</i>	10:30am	People of the Parish
Monday 28 February	10am	Pat Hill Birthday wishes (C Crewe)
Tuesday 1 March <i>St David</i>	10am	Jennifer Coward
Wednesday 2 March <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	10am	Mass with distribution of ashes
Thursday 3 March	10am	Patrick McNulty (K and M McAuley)
Friday 4 March <i>St Casimir Women's World Day of Prayer</i>	12 noon	Sean Taylor RIP (Steve Taylor)
Saturday 5 March <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	6pm	Patrick McNulty RIP (Sue Welsh)
Sunday 6 March <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	8:30am	People of the Parish
	10:30am	Frankie Plant RIP (St Gregory's choir)



Prayer and pastry Thursday 10 March: St Oswald's

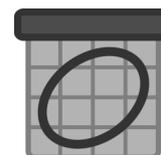
St Gregory's parishioners are warmly invited to get together with the community of St Oswald's, Bollington, for an informal Lenten gathering at 11.15am on Thursday 10 March.

Rev Nancy Goodrich and members of the congregation will welcome us for prayer, coffee and a pastry. It is hoped that St Gregory's will return the invitation to our Christian neighbours during the Easter Season.

World day of prayer 2022

A Service will be held at St Michael's Parish Church, Market Place, Macclesfield at 11am on Friday 4th March. All Welcome.

Dates for your diary



Wednesday 2 March

Ash Wednesday – Beginning of Lent

Tuesdays in Lent: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am in the Parish Hall

Fridays during Lent: Stations of the Cross at 11.30am in the Hall

Thursday 10 March: Prayer and a pastry at 11.15am at St Oswald's

2 and 3 April: Sacrament of Reconciliation during weekend Masses



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Reflection from Fr Martin: Preparing for our Lenten Journey 2022

Our Lenten journey begins this Wednesday and as with any journey we make, it is necessary to prepare for it; to plan, to look at the way ahead and to be ready for the challenge of the journey.

Traditionally the Lenten journey involves prayer, fasting and almsgiving and these are disciplines to help us to look out of ourselves and towards God and others. Lent is a time for 'turning around', a time put right, a time to begin again in our relationship with God and others. It's a time of blessing and growth, a time to return to God, a time to establish new and good habits; a really useful time, which is why it is worth preparing and planning!

**PRAY
FAST
GIVE**

As you begin to plan your journey through Lent, you may wish to focus on **Prayer**.

During Lent we will have the opportunity to gather for Mass, as usual, and you might wish to try to come to Mass one day during the week, as time allows. In addition we will have the opportunity for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 9.30am on Tuesdays before Mass, and for Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 11.30am before Mass.

On the weekend of 2/3 April we will have the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the weekend Masses, as we have in the last year or so.

On 10 March we have the invitation to join the community at St Oswald's Church for Prayer and a Pastry; a good chance to reach out and build community in Bollington.

There are resources available for individuals and families for Lent from 'Celebrate@Home' at: <https://www.celebratetrust.org/celebrateathome>

As you begin to plan for your journey through Lent, you may wish to focus on **Fasting** and follow the advice of Pope Francis:

*Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and trust in God.*

*Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.*

As you begin to plan your journey through Lent, you may wish to focus on **Almsgiving**.

There will be plenty of opportunity to give to those in need, at home and afar.

Friday 11 March is Cafod Family Fast Day and there will be a special collection box and envelopes for Lenten Alms, to support the work of Cafod during Lent.

Happy Lenten Journey!

Fr Martin

Building work



The work on the entrance steps with ramp and accessible toilet will begin on Monday 28 February and last approximately 4 weeks. During this time weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Hall with access round the back of the house.

Weekend Masses will be continuing in church with access via the door at the front next to the presbytery.

Unfortunately, there will be no access to the choir loft, and parking near the presbytery and church will be more limited, if possible at all; I suggest 'drop off' for those who are less able.

Covid 19

We will continue to take our cautious approach to changes which are allowed, especially when we are together in church

Please do not attend church if you have a sore throat, runny nose, a cough or fever or are feeling unwell.

We will continue the good practice to sanitise our hands on entry/exit and before distributing communion, and keep the church well ventilated.

Parishioners **may wish to continue to wear face coverings**. Please be sensitive to the needs of others who may feel more vulnerable.

We will begin by re-introducing the Offertory Procession and coffee in the hall after 10.30 Mass

Offertory collection

Many thanks to all for your continued support.