



Sunday 22nd March 2026 – 5th Sunday of Lent

Today's Gospel presents us with the intimate story of Jesus raising His close friend Lazarus from the dead. Today, illness does not often result in death, but given the limited medical knowledge in Jesus' time, death from illness was far more common. There was grave concern when someone became sick with a fever. Martha and Mary, out of their concern, sent word to Jesus about Lazarus' illness, "Master, the one you love is ill" ([John 11:3](#)). When Jesus heard this, He said to the apostles, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it" ([John 11:4](#))

As we continue to journey toward the end of Lent and continue to ponder our sin and our need to repent, use this story as a reminder that it is the same Jesus Whose heart is exploding with compassion for you and Who calls you out of sin. Continue to examine your conscience honestly, humbly, and thoroughly. Jesus loves you as He loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. As you experience your own sin, pain, confusion, or even despair at times, Jesus responds with holy sorrow, with weeping, and with compassion. At the end of time, He will be the Judge of all. For now, He is pure mercy and compassion, longing to say to you what He said to Lazarus, "Lazarus, come out!" and "Untie him and let him go" ([John 11:43-44](#)). Come out of your sin. Be set free from all that burdens you. Rise to the new life of grace.

Mass Times This Week (23rd Mar- 29th Mar 2026)

Monday - Friday: 8.30am Adoration, 9am Mass.

Saturday: 9.30am Mass, 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Confessions: 5.50 pm – 6.10 pm
Stations of the Cross 8.45am

Sunday: 9.30am Mass, Syro-Malabar Mass in Malayalam 11am followed by Catechesis

Hymn Numbers: 96, 273, Acc2, 681, 303

Legion of Mary Group: Meets this **THURSDAY** evening in the Blue Room at 7pm and alternate **FRIDAY** mornings after Mass. New members' welcome!

Prayer Group: Friday 27th March 2026 - 7pm – All welcome!

Our Lady of Lourdes Men's Group: Meet every **WEDNESDAY** in the Blue Room at 7pm.
ALL WELCOME!

Meeting for all Mission Volunteers: Tuesday 24th March at 7pm.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: There will be 24-hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this weekend, Saturday 21st March from 10am (after 9.30am Mass) until 9am on Sunday 22nd March, all welcome to come and spend some time in quiet prayer and meditation.

Mass Intentions

Lately Dead:

Birthday: Stephen Matthew

Birthday Memorial: Eileen Shaughnessy

Memorial: Vera O'Connell (Mother's Day), Wyre & Ward Families RIP, Patricia Bowles (Mother's Day), Catherine Worrall (Mother's Day)

Anniversary: Paul Wentworth- Walker

Special Intentions: Gorton, Edwards & Holland Families, a private intention, Ajay Edgar.

Easter Hamper Raffle

Tickets will be on sale in Church for the next two weeks priced £2.00 for a strip of five numbers. Hampers have been made from previously donated items plus a few Easter goodies! Please support your parish!



LITTLEWAY
HEALING MINISTRIES

Little Way Healing Retreat – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Thursday 23rd April 2026-Sunday 26th April 2026
here at Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gregory's Church.

**Planning and information meeting on Tuesday
24th March at 7pm.**

Farnworth & Kearsley Foodbank: During Lent, please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below and placing them on the Sanctuary table.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA 10TH AUGUST 2026.

Fr David will be leading a Pilgrimage from the Parish to Fatima on 10th August 2026. If you would like to come please put your name on the form at the back of Church as an expression of interest. There is a timetable to view, further details and booking forms to follow.

Gift Aid Envelopes: The new gift aid envelopes are available this weekend, these start on 12th April which is the first Sunday in the new financial year, please use up old envelopes before then. There are still boxes of envelopes available so if you wish to sign up to donate using the gift aid scheme, please contact Fr David or Julie. If you pay UK tax the Parish can claim 25% tax refund without it costing you anymore and you can sign up any time during the year.

Ministry Prayer Radiating God's Love

*Dear Jesus, help me to spread Your fragrance
everywhere I go.*

*Flood my soul with Your spirit and light.
Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly,
That all my life may only be a radiance of Yours.*

*Shine through me and be so in me
that every soul I come into contact with may feel Your
presence in my soul.*

*Let them look up and see no longer me, but only
Jesus.*

*Stay with me, and then I shall begin to shine as You
shine,*

*so to shine as to be a light to others;
The light dear Jesus will be all from You,
none of it will be mine.*

*It will be You shining on others through me.
Let me praise You in the way You love best,
by shining on those around me.*

*Let me preach You without preaching,
not by words but by my example,
by the catching force,*

*the sympathetic influence of what I do,
the evident fullness of the love my heart bears for You.
Amen.*

Church Collection: 8/3/26 -£505.39, 15/3/26 -
£525.85 an average of £203.00 per week received in
standing order donations in February. Thank you for
your generosity.

Gift Aid: Thank you to those who signed up to join the Gift Aid Scheme, new envelope packs will be available soon to start at the beginning of April. If you opted to set up a standing order and had difficulty with long payee name online, please use 'TSDT' as payee, it will work with online set ups.

Sort Code:20-55-34

Account No:00099309

Payee: TSDT

Please use the correct reference so that it is clear what the money is for - choose from these references

1. Gift Aid
2. Donation (if not gift aided)
3. Piety

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