Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gregory the Great

# news

## Sunday 18th October 2026 – 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time

*In the readings, we are challenged to reflect on where our deepest allegiance lies. In the Gospel (Matthew 22:15-21), the Pharisees attempt to trap Jesus by asking whether it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar. His brilliant reply: "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God," transcends politics. Jesus points out that the coin bears the image of Caesar, meaning it belongs to the earthly ruler. However, as St. Augustine famously reflected, humans are stamped with the image and likeness of God. While we have civic duties to fulfil, our entire being, our heart, and our life belong uniquely to our Creator.*

*This truth is echoed in the first reading from Isaiah 45, where God uses Cyrus, a foreign king who did not even know Him, to free His people. It reminds us that God is the sovereign Lord of history, working through earthly systems to accomplish His divine will. Meanwhile, in the second reading, St. Paul commends the Thessalonians for their "work of faith and labour of love," proving that true allegiance to God manifests in active, joyful discipleship.*

*Living out this message means rendering our daily responsibilities with honesty, while ensuring that the world never commands what belongs only to God. We must ask ourselves: does our daily life reflect the divine image we carry?*

## Mass Times This Week (19th October- 25th Oct 2026)

**Monday -9am Eucharistic Service**

**Tuesday – Friday 8.30am Adoration, 9am Mass**

**9.30am Mass, 6.30pm Vigil Mass**
**Confessions: 5.50 pm – 6.10 pm**

**Sunday- 9.30am Mass.**
**11.30am Syro-Malabar Mass in Malayalam**

## Changes to Mass times this week:

**Eucharistic Service on Monday 19th October**

## Mass Intentions

**Lately Dead:** Delia Dagnall RIP, Sheila Veronica Gillard RIP.
**Anniversary:** Alice & Thomas Jackson.
**Wedding Anniversary:** Denis Ugwuanyi




**Birthday:** Leena Varghese.
**Special Intentions:** Gorton, Edwards & Holland Families, Wyre & Ward Families, Intentions of Lynne & Bethany, Tom Walsh, Zoe Leadbetter, Ajay Edgar.

**Hymn Numbers:*240, 122, Acc:1, 681,413,453***

**Legion of Mary Group:** The Legion of Mary Group meets on **FRIDAY MORNINGS** after the 9am Mass. New members' welcome!

**Prayer Group:** Friday 23rd October 7pm, all welcome.

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




**Sunday 18th October 2026**

**9.30am Mass for children at Our Lady of Lourdes School and St Gregory's School.**

**Children from other schools who have registered for the programme should go to the Blue Room with Sylvia at 9.15am.**

**Memorial Book:** The parish Memorial Book will be updated at the end of October, if you would like an entry for a relative in the Parish who you wish to remember, please complete a form and leave in an envelope with your donation (Suggested donation minimum £10 per name). Memorial book forms are available in the Sacristy. **Please have forms in by 26th October.**

## Sacrament of Confirmation

**The second preparation session is on Tuesday 24th November at 6.30pm.**

Children registered at Mount St Joseph School with have their preparation class in school at 3pm.

This year there are 20 young people preparing for Confirmation including those at Mount St Joseph, we will keep them all in our prayers.

**Wrap up Bolton for Winter 2026**: Many people in Bolton will be struggling to keep warm this coming winter as they go out and about. It has been decided to repeat "Wrap Up Bolton" which has been very successful in previous years. Coats collected will be distributed to organisations and charities in Bolton and surroundings including schools in our parish community. The Wrap Up Bolton collection starts on Sunday 4th October and will run until **Sunday 18th October**. Please place your coats for men, women and children in the box at the back of church.

**World Mission Day 2026**: A reminder that World Mission Day 2026, falls on 18 October. Pope Leo says, 'Your prayers and practical support, particularly on World Mission Sunday, will be a great help in bringing the Gospel of God's love to everyone, especially the poorest and those most in need. Every gift, no matter how small, becomes a meaningful act of missionary communion. I renew my heartfelt gratitude for everything you will do to help me help missionaries throughout the world.' **Our collection for Missio will be next weekend 24th & 25th October 2026.**

**DONA Charity this week: MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL.**

**Charity Collections:** There are several charity collections in the coming few weeks. While we realise it is not always possible to give to them all, please give what you can to your chosen charity.

**17th & 18th October – Missionary Society of St Paul –** visiting Mission Priest will celebrate Mass.
24th& 25th October - World Mission (Missio)
31st Oct & 1st November – SVP – Local charity

**SICK & RETIRED CLERGY**: £140.15 was collected last weekend, thank you.

**Church Collection**:11/10/26- £507.71 an average of £225.50 per week received in standing order & electronic donations in September. Thank you for your generosity.

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