

*Memento, homo,
quia pulvis es
et in pulverem
reverteris.*



Remember, man,
that thou art dust,
and unto dust
thou shalt return.

Services for the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time (OF) – The Week of Quinquagesima & the Beginning of Lent (EF)
15th – 21st February 2026 February – The Month of the Holy Family

Saturday 14th February, St Cyril, Monk, & St Methodius, Bishop, Patrons of Europe (OF) – Our Lady on Saturday (EF)
Holy Mass, 9.30 am John Rixon
Holy Hour & Confessions, 10.00 - 11.00 am, Benediction, 11.00 am

Saturday 14th February, Vigil of Sunday
Confessions, 5.15 pm Michael Delapp RIP
Holy Mass, 6.00 pm

Sunday 15th February, The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OF) – Quinquagesima (EF)
Holy Mass, 8.00 am The People of the Parish
Solemn Mass, 10.30 am Rina & Angiolino Stellardi RIP
Holy Mass, 12.00 noon (Extraord. Form) Joy Smith RIP

Monday 16th February, Feria (OF, EF)
Holy Mass, 9.30 am, followed by Confessions, 10.00 – 10.30 am (visiting priest) Meseret Woldesenbet (recovery)

Tuesday 17th February, The Founders of the Order of Servants of Our Lady (OF) – Feria (EF) - Shrove Tuesday
Holy Mass, 9.30 am, followed by Confessions, 10.00 – 10.30 am (visiting priest) Michael O'Donoghue RIP
Votive Mass of the Holy Face, 6.00pm (Extraord. Form) Paula
Confessions, 7.00 – 7.30 pm

Wednesday 18th February, Ash Wednesday - Day of Fasting and Abstinence (OF, EF)
Holy Mass, with Blessing & Imposition of Ashes, 8.00 am The Madziara family
Holy Mass, with Blessing & Imposition of Ashes, 9.30 am Barbara Tanzer RIP
Confessions, 5.00 – 6 pm (English, German, Italian, Spanish, visiting priest)
High Mass, with Blessing & Imposition of Ashes, 6.00 pm (Extraord. Form) The Hartland family

Thursday 19th February, Thursday after Ash Wednesday (OF) – Feria (EF)
Holy Mass, 9.30 am Eileen Healy RIP
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 4.00 – 5.00 pm
Confessions, 4.15 – 5.00 pm, Benediction, 5.00 pm

Friday 20th February, Friday after Ash Wednesday (OF) – Feria (EF)
Holy Mass, 9.30 am, followed by Stations of the Cross Zbigniew Perczynski RIP
Holy Mass, 6.00 pm (Extraord. Form), Confessions, 7.00 – 7.30 pm Joy RIP

Saturday 21st February, Saturday after Ash Wednesday (OF) – Feria (EF)
Holy Mass, 9.30 am Lucile de Krassinlinko-Powell RIP
Holy Hour & Confessions, 10.00 - 11.00 am, Benediction, 11.00 am

Saturday 21st February, Vigil of Sunday
Confessions, 5.15 pm The People of the Parish
Holy Mass, 6.00 pm

Sunday 22nd February, First Sunday of Lent (OF, EF)
Holy Mass, 8.00 am Michael McLoughlin RIP
Solemn Mass, 10.30 am Grateful thanks to the Choir
Stations of the Cross & Benediction, 5.00 pm

Father John writes:

Second Collection this Weekend: LIFE

The Life Charity offers counselling and housing support to expectant mothers.

This Tuesday: Devotions to the Holy Face

One of our projects during the pandemic was the restoration and reframing of our painting of the Holy Face of Jesus, which is a copy of the original by Franz Ittenbach (1813-1879), a German painter of the Nazarene school. In the mid-nineteenth century, especially in France, there was a flowering of devotion to the Holy Face, which was taken up by SS. Louis and Zélie Martin, the parents of St Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face. It was the founder of our parish, Charles Robertson, who donated the painting to us in 1914. **This Tuesday, Shrove Tuesday, at 6.00 pm we shall have a Votive Mass (in the Latin Extraordinary Form) of the Holy Face, followed by special prayers.**

This Tuesday: Prayer Group

The prayer group, started and led by parishioners, will be meeting this Tuesday, 17th, at 7:30 pm. The meeting includes Evening Prayer and intercessions (held in the Presbytery sitting room). All are welcome.

This Wednesday – Ash Wednesday:

Day of Fasting and Abstinence

- **Fasting** on Ash Wednesday means that **all adults (those aged 18 to 60) are obliged to fast**. This means having only one complete meal, with other food taken during the day amounting to less than one complete meal. **This law does not apply to the sick, nor to expectant and nursing mothers.**
- **Abstinence** means abstaining from meat or, for vegetarians, some other principal food. **Abstinence is for those over 14, not for younger children.** We fast and abstain as an act of penance motivated by love of our Lord Jesus Christ, who fasted and was crucified for our salvation.

This Thursday: Talk on Consecration to Our Lady

The 33-Day preparation for the Consecration to Our Lady on the feast of the Annunciation begins this Friday, 20th February. There will be an introductory talk in the Glass Room at **7 pm this Thursday, 19th**. In the narthex you will find the CTS booklet, *33 Day Consecration to Jesus through Mary*, by John Pridmore and Niall Slattery, with prayers and readings, price £4.95.

Lent Begins - Time for Confession

There are several additional times for Confession this week, several of them with visiting priests. **Every Catholic has the obligation to go to Confession at least once a year. The best time to fulfil the obligation is Lent.**

Lenten almsgiving

- Our parish Lenten alms will once again be given to Aid to the Church in Need for its work in the Middle East and

Ukraine. The 2025 *World Watch List*, published by Open Doors, said that, although Christianity is the world's largest religion, with 2.3 billion adherents and continued growth, one in seven Christians face persecution. The report said this figure rises to one in five in Africa and two in five in Asia.

- By way of almsgiving, you might like also to contribute to the **Food Bank** boxes (for the Cutteslowe Community Larder) in the narthex or Presbytery porch. Donations must be dry goods only. Why not bring a couple of items with you to Mass on Sundays?

A piano for Uganda: A Lenten challenge for St Gregory's

- Our parishioner Paul Lokubal tells me that St Mary's Seminary in Nadiket, Uganda, is in urgent need of a piano. A suitable instrument, the Yamaha CVP 701, costs about £3000. I invite parishioners to make donations to cover this cost. **If you would like to donate by card, you will find a dedicated button on the card-reader marked 'Piano Project'.**
- The Church in Africa is spiritually rich, with packed churches and many vocations to the priesthood, but materially poor. The Guinean Cardinal, Robert Sarah, not long ago made this stirring affirmation of Catholic Africa's fidelity to Christ: The Church in Africa, he said, will 'firmly oppose any rebellion against the teaching of Jesus and the Magisterium'.

Advance Notice: Second Collections

- Good Counsel Network: 22nd February
- Cathedral Maintenance: 8th March

Safeguarding: Existing parish volunteers

If you volunteer in the parish in any capacity, for example, arranging flowers, making coffee, counting the collection, serving at Mass etc, please pick up a copy of the volunteer form at the back of church and return the completed form to the Presbytery in an envelope, marked 'Volunteer form for the attention of the Parish Safeguarding Representative'. We would be grateful if this could be done as soon as possible.

Please pray for all persecuted Christians.

Please pray for the protection of the Jewish people.

Please pray for peace in Ukraine, Gaza, and Israel.

Please pray for the sick and housebound

Patrick Curran, Anne-Marie, Maureen Dalton, Peter Howell, Aneta Gawrysiak, Joyann Green, Sr. Joseph Andrew OP, Jill Kelly, Emily Long, Fiona McLaren, Alice Murphy, Anthea Watson, Becky White, Dennis White, and Fr Michael White.

Please pray for the faithful departed

Please pray for Mary Butters, John Francis O'Neill, and Jack Renforth Scarr, whose anniversaries fall at this time.

**+ Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.**



The Parish of SS Gregory and Augustine is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church.

We work closely with the Archdiocese of Birmingham Safeguarding Team to create a safe environment for children, young people, and adults at risk.

Our Safeguarding Officer is Claire Harrington, sg.stgregory-augustine.Oxford@rcaob.org.uk.
For further information please click on <https://www.ssgregoryandaugustine.org/safeguarding>