

## *Parish of Ribbleton*

St. Mary Magdalene (SMM) The Ascension (ASC)

*Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
Mothering Sunday*



*Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

*Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

### **PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross  
drew the whole human family to himself:  
strengthen us in our daily living  
that in joy and in sorrow  
we may know the power of your presence  
to bind together and to heal;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and  
the child was young.  
Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the  
child to Eli.  
And she said, 'Oh, my lord!  
As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing  
here in your presence, praying to the Lord.  
For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the  
petition that I made to him.  
Therefore I have lent him to the Lord;  
as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.'  
She left him there for the Lord.

### **FIRST READING (1 Samuel 1.20–28)**

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son.  
She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him  
of the Lord.'  
The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer  
to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow.  
But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband,  
'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him,  
that he may appear in the presence of the Lord,  
and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite  
for all time.'  
Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to  
you, wait until you have weaned him;  
only—may the Lord establish his word.'  
So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she  
weaned him.  
When she had weaned him, she took him up with her,  
along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a  
skin of wine.

### **Praying in Lent with Ribbleton Parish**



#### Prayer service

Every Monday evening in St Mary Magdalene  
27th Feb - 3rd Apr, 7.30pm - 8.30pm

#### Prayer walking:

1st Mar. 11am. St Mary Magdalene to Greenlands  
7th Mar. 1pm. Church of the Ascension to Brookfield  
15th Mar. 3.30pm. St Mary Magdalene to Moor Nook  
21st Mar. 7pm. St Mary Magdalene to Trees  
26th Mar. 4pm. St Mary Magdalene to Grange

Please join Rev Linda as she walks our parish  
and prays for our communities during Lent

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Psalm 34.11–20)

*The response to the Psalm is:*

**Glorify the Lord with me: let us exalt his name together.**

Come, my children, and listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.  
Who is there who delights in life  
and longs for days to enjoy good things? **R/**

Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from lying words.  
Turn from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it. **R/**

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous  
and his ears are open to their cry.  
The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth. **R/**

The righteous cry and the Lord hears them  
and delivers them out of all their troubles.  
The Lord is near to the brokenhearted  
and will save those who are crushed in spirit. **R/**

Many are the troubles of the righteous;  
from them all will the Lord deliver them.  
He keeps all their bones,  
so that not one of them is broken. **R/**

**SECOND READING** (2 Corinthians 1.3–7)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation,  
who consoles us in all our affliction,  
so that we may be able to console those who are in any  
affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves  
are consoled by God.

For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us,  
so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.  
If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and  
salvation;  
if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation,  
which you experience when you patiently endure the  
same sufferings that we are also suffering.  
Our hope for you is unshaken;  
for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also  
you share in our consolation.

**GOSPEL** (Luke 2.33–35)

The child Jesus's father and mother were amazed at what  
was being said about him.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary,  
'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of  
many in Israel,  
and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner  
thoughts of many will be revealed –  
and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'



## ***Intercessions***

God of compassion and mercy, you are ready to forgive and restore us long before we repent. Fill your church with your gracious love and create in us a generous heart, as you are generous.

Bless all who lead and guide your people, may they walk in the paths of faithfulness and service. Among them, we pray for our bishops, Philip and Jill.

We pray for your church throughout the world. Comfort and encourage our brothers and sisters who face persecution and death because of their love for you: we pray today for your church in Pakistan and in Indonesia.

We ask your blessing, on Rev Linda, Pete and Fr Chris, as they minister to our parish, and give thanks for the work and witness of our PCC members.

We pray for the congregation of Freedom Church and for the person you are calling to serve you there. May they hear your voice and respond with joy.

We hold before you Emily and her family. Let your love surround them and your Spirit fill them.

*Lord in your mercy      Hear our prayer*

God of compassion and mercy, you provide abundantly for the needs of all your children. Release us from the selfishness and greed that would distort our relationships and destroy your creation.

Inspire the hearts and minds of those entrusted with governing the nations. May they renounce all that denies the basic human rights of your children and destroys the hopes of our poorest and weakest citizens.

Comfort and encourage your children who live in danger and poverty because of the greed and hatred that distorts our world. We hold before you the people of Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen and Turkey, and all who are separated from home and family. May we respond in love to their needs.

We hold before you the families of Ukraine and Russia, devastated by that conflict, and we pray together the diocesan prayer for peace in Ukraine.

*Lord in your mercy      Hear our prayer*

God of compassion and mercy, you weep when your children quarrel and are beset by grudges. Set us free to delight in your gift of redemption and reconciliation, and the rich bounty of your world. Transform our relationships with those you have given us as family, workmates and neighbours.

We give thanks for those who live and work in our parish and those who care for their needs. May we witness to your love among them.

We pray today for the residents of the Trees estate and for the pupils and staff of Brookfield & St Maria Goretti schools.

We hold before you our neighbours who are in need or difficulty, especially the increasing numbers who need to use the Parish Pantry and foodbanks in our city. Give us compassionate hearts to serve and support them.

*Lord in your mercy      Hear our prayer*

God of compassion and mercy, you hear the cry of the distressed and destitute, and you welcome and renew us when we turn to you in our anxiety and fear.

Pour out your love on those who cry for release from need and suffering.

Bring light and hope to those living in the darkness and despair of loneliness and fear.

Comfort and encourage those who are close to death, and those who grieve.

Bless those who work to bring healing and wholeness of body, mind or spirit to your people.

We bring to you those who need your healing touch: those named on our prayer list, those known to us and those among us here today. May your Spirit fill them and free them to sing your praises.

*Lord in your mercy      Hear our prayer*

God of compassion and mercy, in Christ you redeem us and reconcile us to yourself. Flood our lives with the radiance of your unending love, remove our doubts and renew our commitment to look to the coming of your kingdom.

We commit to your mercy all who have died, and we bring our prayers for those who have died this week in the ongoing conflicts and disasters of our world, for those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversary of death about this time.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace and rise in glory

*Lord in your mercy      Hear our prayer*

God of compassion and mercy, our Father and our Mother, you hold us in your love and you care for our every need.

We bring our thanks for our mothers and those who have shown us a mother's love.

Hear now the silent prayers of our hearts: for our own needs and hopes and for those we love and care for.

*Lord in your mercy      Hear our prayer*

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Diocesan prayer for Ukraine

*Almighty God,  
seated above all the affairs of humankind  
and sovereign over nations and leaders,  
hear our prayer for Ukraine at this time of war;  
that lives may be spared,  
that national boundaries be respected  
and that forces of aggression be restrained.  
Grant, Lord God,  
peace in your world in our time.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

9:00am Coffee at The Ascension  
9:30am Eucharist at The Ascension  
11:00am Eucharist at St. Mary Magdalene's

**Readings**

*Ezekiel 37.1-14; Psalm 130;  
Romans 8.6-11; John 11.1-45*

**Mid-week services and activities**

Monday 7:30pm – Prayer Service at SMM  
Tuesday 10am – 12 noon – Community Pantry at ASC  
Tuwsday 11am – Eucharist at Preston Private  
Wednesday 10am – Eucharist at SMM

**Dates for your Diary:**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April

**Bingo Night** for parish funds

Doors open 6:30pm at The Parish Hall  
– eyes down 7:00pm

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April

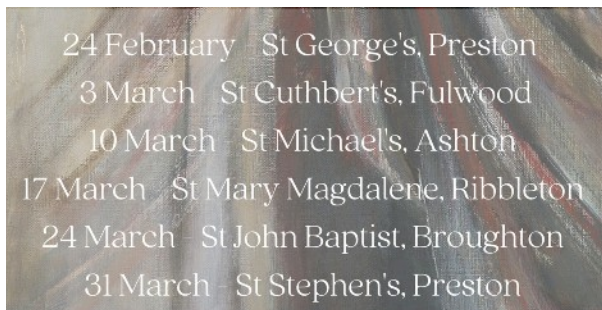
**PCC meeting** 7pm at The Rectory

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May

**APCM**

**Deanery Stations of the Cross:**

7:00pm, Friday evenings during Lent -  
all welcome



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