

## MASS OF WELCOME

Next Sunday at both morning Masses, we welcome the children who are to be baptised over the next few months. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they take this first step on their faith journeys.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

Booking forms are now available for First Holy Communion 2024 in both parishes. If your child is making their First Holy Communion this year, please collect a booking form from Fr Graeme after Mass. We will try to accommodate individual preferences but places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Thank you.

## ST GREGORY'S WELD BANK 1774 - 2024

This year, St Gregory's will celebrate its milestone 250 year anniversary. Whilst the exact date of the Anniversary falls in November, in order to assist us in making this a whole parish celebration we will need to hold part of the event outside in the church grounds and for this we will rely on the help of the warmer weather! The date for this milestone celebration has therefore been set as the weekend of **27th & 28th July**. Please put this date in your diaries.

## CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY 2024

Thousands of women and men around the world face the same question: without a way of getting enough food throughout the year, how do you make sure your family can eat? This was the question that James, a fisherman in Liberia, found himself asking. His family hadn't eaten for two days. Their neighbours had helped them through hard times in the past, but they had nothing to give now. He risked losing everything to go out onto the water. Five fishermen a month were dying in storms at sea. Just like him, they couldn't afford the safety equipment needed to stay safe at sea and get a good catch. With our support more people like him will get the chance to feed their families safely throughout the year and to achieve their plans and dreams. There are envelopes at the back of church for your kind donations.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Y	E	L	I	H	A	J	I	L	E
L	M	O	S	E	S	C	I	P	N
G	T	O	M	S	E	R	R	O	V
N	I	H	U	T	S	E	T	O	W
I	B	N	R	N	S	H	I	O	H
L	B	G	Z	E	T	C	D	N	I
Z	A	N	N	T	E	A	O	W	T
Z	R	C	O	D	H	E	I	O	E
A	E	A	H	S	A	L	O	N	E
D	E	V	O	L	E	B	O	K	T



MOUNTAIN  
PRESENCE  
BLEACHER  
WHITE  
ELIJAH  
MOSES  
RABBI  
THREE  
TENTS  
SHADOW  
BELOVED  
VOICE



# THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 25th February 2024 - 2nd Sunday of Lent, Year B

## ST GREGORY'S RC CHURCH

Weldbank Lane  
Chorley, Lancs  
PR7 3NW  
Tel: 01257 262462

**PARISH PRIEST**  
Fr Graeme M. Dunne

### EMAIL:

stgregory@rcaol.org.uk

### WEBSITE:

www.stgregoryschorley.org.uk

### FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Religious-Organization/St-Gregorys-Weldbank-177113458975673/>

## ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL

Registered Charity No: 1199714

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon/Wed/Thurs 09:00 - 16:00

### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

Christine Booth

### SAFEGUARDING REP:

Waiting Appointment

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

w/c 18th Feb 2024

Gift Aid: **£49.00**

Loose Plate: **£372.85**

Standing Orders: **£369.92**

*Sincere thanks for your kind and generous weekly donations which go towards the upkeep of the church.*

## REFLECTION

In today's gospel, we hear that Jesus took his disciples up a mountain away from the business of the marketplace. This was not unusual in itself as we know from the gospels that Jesus himself often went up the mountain to pray on his own, but while they were on the mountain, something very unusual happened - Jesus was transformed beyond all recognition. His face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Imagine the surprise and shock of those who were with Jesus at this time. As Jesus continued his journey towards Jerusalem, he knew what he was facing - he would be betrayed, denied, condemned and crucified. Perhaps he felt and sensed the disciples fear and anxiety and wanted to reassure them. By revealing himself to them in all his glory, he gave them a glimpse of things to come. Like the disciples, we too are often at a loss and wonder what is happening to us - so where is God in the midst of our confusion and darkness? Pope Francis said, *'Loving actions change history: even the ones that are small, hidden, every day. For God guides history through the humble courage of those who pray, love and forgive. There are so many hidden saints, who are next-door, who with little acts of love, change history'*. We can see examples of this every day in the work of our fire fighters, police, paramedics & other hospital staff, carers, those who work in the foodbanks....the list is endless and some are more visible than others. Maybe that brief glimpse of Jesus in all his glory seen by his disciples is also meant for us today. Perhaps like the disciples, we too need to be encouraged and strengthened by Jesus. As we continue our journey through Lent, we too need know that our prayer, fasting and sharing with the poor is not an end in itself or that it is all done in vain. The experience of Jesus transformed offers each of us a taste of what lies ahead of us. This is the hope in which we are asked to have faith as we make our way through Lent. When we are tempted to give up or give in, let us look to Jesus transformed and let us do what the voice of God says to each of us; *'This is my Son, The Beloved, Listen to him.'*

### Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

Fr Laurence Mayne - Dorothy Fairclough - Christine Zawistowicz - Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan  
 Sheila McGeown - Teresa Abernethy - Rita Compton - Shirley Langstrath - Jimmy Waddington  
 Catherine - Paul Spedding - Susan Yates - Brenda McGuigan - Sarah O'Connor - Angela Helmn  
*Heal thy servants, O Lord, who are sick and send them comfort from thy holy place. Amen.*

Please remember and keep in your prayers all those who have died recently  
 and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
 May they rest in peace. Amen.*

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

### LENT 2024

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated in both parishes each week during Lent and will be led by Parishioners. Our grateful thanks to those who have volunteered to lead the prayers. If people wish to follow the devotions privately, resources will be made available in Church, but please do not remove them. The times for the communal celebrations are:

St Oswald's - Thursday at 6:30pm

St Gregory's - Friday at 6:30pm

#### CELEBRATING LENT WITH ART

Come along and join us in the Parish Meeting room at St Gregory's each Wednesday evening throughout Lent. With the help of a different painting each week we'll be reflecting on different stages of Jesus' journey leading to the events of Easter. Starting this Wednesday, 7:00 to 8:00pm and finishing the week before Palm Sunday. You can come for just one of the sessions or as many as you wish. All are very welcome to attend.

#### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024

World Day of Prayer is celebrated on the first Friday of March each year to encourage Christian women to engage in personal prayer and lead communal prayer within their mission auxiliaries and associations. To mark this occasion, the churches in Coppull are joining together to celebrate an ecumenical service at Christ Church, Charnock Richard on **Friday 1st March beginning at 6:00pm**. Refreshments will be served after the service.

All are welcome to attend.

#### LENTEN ALMS

Our Lenten Alms collection during this season of Lent will be offered to  
 'The children of Gaza and the Holy Land'  
 Please place your donations in the box provided. Thank you.

#### SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'All things are possible with God'

Mark 10:27

## MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 25 Feb	9:30am 6:30pm	2nd SUNDAY OF LENT	Teresa Hamer Paul McManus	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 25 Feb	11:00am	2nd SUNDAY OF LENT	Brian Finnigan (A) John Ormesher (A)	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 26 Feb	11:00am	REQUIEM MASS	Francis Derek Threlfall	
Tues 27 Feb	9:15am		Maureen Hooson (A)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 28 Feb	8:30am 11:00am	FUNERAL SERVICE	Barbara Edwards (LD) Kathleen Pressler	
Thurs 29 Feb	9:15 am 9:30am	Requiem Mass	Eucharistic Service Sarah Connor	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 01 Mar	8:30am 9:15am	St David	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	Women's World Day of Prayer
Sat 02 Mar	10:00am		Tim & Eddie Donegan Thomas Brown	
SUN 03 Mar	9:30am 6:30pm	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT	Mary Robinson (BR) Madge Critchley (BR)	MASS OF WELCOME ST GREGORY'S
SUN 03 Mar	11:00am	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT	People of the Parish	MASS OF WELCOME ST OSWALD'S