

## MASS OF WELCOME

Today 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.

## THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all who supported 'The Live Simply' weekend. £50 was raised for CAFOD as well as fairtrade items being sold.

## 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. As we will need to hold part of the event outside in the church grounds, the date for this milestone celebration has been set as the weekend of **27th & 28th July**. Please put this date in your diaries.

## CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY 2024

Thousands around the world face the same question: 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 in the past, but they had nothing to give now. He risked everything to go out onto the water. Five fishermen a month were dying at sea. Just like him, they couldn't afford the safety equipment needed to stay safe and get a good catch. With our support more people like him will get the chance to feed their families and to achieve their plans and dreams. There are envelopes at the back of church for your kind donations.

## The Mass explained

This year we have 3 people preparing to be accepted into the church at Easter. As part of there preparation I will be explaining the mass and what and why we do certain things to them. This will be on Tuesday 5th March at 7pm in St Gregory's and is open to everyone.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

R	S	C	Y	S	H	E	E	P	T	JERUSALEM	PASSOVER	PIGEONS
Z	E	D	O	S	M	C	B	E	F	WHIP	MARKET	SANCTUARY
W	O	V	N	C	E	O	K	L	O	ZEAL	BODY	COINS
B	H	S	O	S	L	R	N	A	R	SHEEP	MONEY	HOUSE
E	O	I	G	S	A	Z	E	E	T			
C	N	G	P	M	S	R	S	Z	Y			
S	A	N	C	T	U	A	R	Y	S			
J	E	S	O	T	R	B	P	P	I			
K	U	P	I	G	E	O	N	S	X			
E	S	U	O	H	J	S	G	I	P			



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

Sunday 3rd March 2024 - 3rd 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 25th Feb 2024

Gift Aid: **£87.70**

Loose Plate: **£353.35**

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 how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus's action we must first understand the activities that were going on in the temple area at that time. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice - merchants sold animals to worshipers, moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax. Jesus's action at the Temple is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus's arrest and Crucifixion. St John's Gospel however, places this event much earlier in Jesus's public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels as the event occurs at the very beginning of his ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana and it tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities. It reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection.

Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus's miracles are called signs, and the people looked to these signs for proof of his authority - the greatest of these being the prediction of his own passion, death, and Resurrection. Jesus is himself the Temple that will be destroyed, but in three days God will raise him up again. During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. Today's Gospel invites us to reflect upon our worship of God and gives us an opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In prayer we seek to deepen our relationship with God and in worship we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of his son, Jesus Christ and its significance in our lives. Jesus promises us all that he will be present with us whenever and wherever we gather together in prayer.

### 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.

#### A WORD FOR LENT

Join Fr Denis McBride & Sr Janet Fearn this Lent as they invite you on a journey, a journey with Jesus. Pause for reflection and deeper personal prayer travelling through the Lenten Sunday Gospel with A Word for Lent. If you would like to join this video retreat please go to:

<https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/a-word-for-lent-retreat-2024-online-streaming>

#### 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

'Ask, and it will be given to you'

Matthew 7:7

## MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 03 Mar	9:30am 6:30pm	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT	Mary Robinson (BR) Madge Critchley (BR)  Dorothy Jackson (LD)	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
Mon 04 Mar	10:00am		Callum John Larkin (A) Sheila Cox (A)	
Tues 05 Mar	9:15am		Private Intention	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 06 Mar	8:30am		Jack Critchley (A)	
Thur 07 Mar	9:15am		Angela & Gerard Grindley (A)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 08 Mar	8:30am 9:15am		EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
Sat 09 Mar	10:00am		Margaret Dearden (BR)	
SUN 10 Mar	9:30am 6:30pm	4th SUNDAY OF LENT	Stephen Rainford Derek Smith (BR)  Catherine Ball (PI)	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 10 Mar	11:00am	4th SUNDAY OF LENT	L..I.S.C.F	ST OSWALD'S