

## CAFOD TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

In the wake of the terrible earthquakes in Syria and Turkey on 6 February, CAFOD's local experts are already on the ground in Syria and responding to the needs of those affected, providing urgent humanitarian support - food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits - in the worst affected areas. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. There will be a special collection today for the Appeal.

Please place your donations in the envelopes which are available at the back of church.

## THANK YOU - SURVIVE MIVA APPEAL

Many thanks to all parishioners for your very generous donations for the appeal last week by the charity Survive Miva.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Many congratulations to Clare Meredith & David Critchley on being awarded the Benemerenti Medal by the Pope for their many years of loyal service to the Catholic Church and to St Gregory's Parish in particular. Their medals will be presented by Bishop Tom Neylon on Wednesday 3rd May.

## SCHOOL GOVERNOR

St Oswald's primary school has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. Would you be prepared to help and support the school in its Catholic Mission? If you are interested, please see Fr Graeme as soon as possible.

## RCIA NETWORK LENT RESOURCES

With Lent fast approaching, please find a link to some resources for Lent produced by the RCIA Network. <https://rcia.org.uk/resources-for-lent/>

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

ABOLISH	COMPLETE	PURPOSE
KINGDOM	HEAVEN	VIRTUE
ANCESTORS	KILL	ANGRY
ALTAR	THRONE	FOOTSTOOL



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

Sunday 12th February 2023 - 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

### 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:

Edward Brierley

## REFLECTION

Today's gospel reading cuts to the heart of Jesus' message and offers to us a different but complementary challenge. We are called not simply to keep the rules and obey the law, but to live and to act with respect for the dignity, equality, and well-being of every person. From a very early age, we are asked to follow rules - when we are young we listen to and learn from our parents and this continues throughout school.

There are also rules of the road to help us drive safely with care and concern for other drivers, pedestrians and cyclists.

Religion has laws and rules too and this was as true at the time of Jesus as it is today - but, there is always the danger that the letter of the law becomes more important than the spirit of the law and that the law becomes more important than the religion it seeks to guide and uphold. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus went up a mountain, just as Moses did, to receive the law. We know from the gospels that Jesus had many battles and arguments with the Pharisees and Sadducees, the two groups who controlled and organised all the rites and rituals of the Jewish religion. Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them'.

Despite their well-meaning intentions, they had let the letter of the law overtake the heart and spirit of the law. All too easily we can become like the Pharisees and the Sadducees and become slaves to the law of the gospel and miss what its message really means. Jesus tells us that in order to draw closer to God, we must go above and beyond the minimum requirements of the law and practice self-sacrifice. It sounds so easy but it's difficult to choose the path of self-sacrifice because even for baptised followers of Jesus, our souls are tainted by the tendency towards sin that remains with us from conception until death. Just as gravity pulls us towards the earth, it takes effort and strength to move our bodies against it, so too in moral life we experience a constant pull downwards. Wisdom shows us the right path, the path that leads to the kingdom of heaven, but we also need the strength to walk that path - that strength comes to us through God's grace.

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

w/c 5th February 2023

Gift Aid: **£70.30**

Loose Plate: **£394.53**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

*The retiring collection next week will be taken by the SVP*

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

Sheila McGeown - Dorothy Fairclough - Derek Birchall - Paul Gallery - Christine Zawistowicz  
 Hugh O'Daly - Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan - Fr Laurence Mayne - Emily Moss  
 Teresa Abernethy - Angela Helmn - Shirley Langstrath - Margaret Dearden  
 Catherine - Philip Compton - Paul Spedding

*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,  
 especially John Burr

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

### COVID REQUIREMENTS

The following guidelines from the Archdiocese are now in place:

1. **Face-coverings** are recommended for those attending Sunday Mass who are vulnerable.
2. **Sanitiser** - sanitiser is available as you enter the church.
3. **Ventilation** - the church doors will remain closed during all services.
3. **Social Distancing** - there is no designated section of the church with social distancing.
4. **Holy Communion** under both kinds will not be reintroduced at this time.

**NB: Please be cautious and do not attend if you have any symptoms.**

### NORMAL MASS/SERVICE TIMES

MONDAY: **ROSARY** 9:30am, **HOLY MASS** 10:00am (St Gregory's)

TUESDAY: **ROSARY** 8:50am, **HOLY MASS** 9:15am (St Oswald's)

TUESDAY: **DEVOTIONS** 1:00pm - 2:00pm (St Gregory's)

WEDNESDAY: **ROSARY** 8:00am, **HOLY MASS** 8:30am (St Gregory's)

WEDNESDAY: **EXPOSITION** 10:00am - 2:00pm

THURSDAY: **ROSARY** 8:50am, **HOLY MASS** 9:15am (St Oswald's)

THURSDAY: **EXPOSITION** 1:00pm - 2:00pm (St Gregory's)

FRIDAY: **ROSARY** 8:00am, **EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE** 8:30am (St Gregory's)

FRIDAY: **ROSARY** 8:50am, **EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE** 9:15am (St Oswald's)

SATURDAY: **ROSARY** 9:30am, **HOLY MASS** 10:00am (St Gregory's)

### SUNDAY MASSES

**HOLY MASS** 9:30am & 6:30pm (St Gregory's) & **11:00am** (St Oswald's)

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The website for registration for the Sacrament of Confirmation is now open and will close on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Any young person in year 8 can register for Sacramental preparation at [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk). While the registration period is open Animate will visit schools in the diocese to promote the Sacrament. At the same time schools will teach about the Sacrament in their RE classes. If you have a child who attends a non-Catholic school but would like to be confirmed, please speak to Fr Graeme as soon as possible.

## MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 12 Feb	9:30am 6:30pm	6TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Marjorie Joan Critchley (A) Brian Dougan (BR)  Jim Dunn (BR) Bertha Gerard (F)	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 12 Feb	11:00am	6TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Frank Ogden (A & BR) Alan Macdonald (BR)	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 13 Feb	10:00am		Valerie Bretherton Barbara Green & Family	
Tues 14 Feb	9:15am	St Cyril & St Methodius	Bernard Marmion Mary Spedding (A)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 15 Feb	8:30am 1:30pm	FUNERAL SERVICE	Maureen Jackson (LD) Petronilla Molloy (LD)  John Burr	EXPOSITION 10:00am - 2:00pm
Thur 16 Feb	9:15am		Agnes Pendlebury (LD) Bernard Joseph Spencer (LD)	EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 17 Feb	8:30am 9:15am	Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	<b>EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE</b>  <b>EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE</b>	
Sat 18 Feb	10:00am		Stephen Rainford (A) John Walker (F)	
SUN 19 Feb	9:30am 6:30pm	7TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Bert Southworth (A & BR) John & Elizabeth Watmough (A)  Joanna Hardyman (LD)	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 19 Feb	11:00am	7TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Jason Ogden	ST OSWALD'S