

**URGENT - FAITH REFERENCES**

If you have put your child's name down for St Michael's school, please come to see me so I can put faces to names and can give your child a valid faith reference. I would hate anyone to miss out because I didn't recognise their name.

**ADVENT EVENING OF RECOLLECTION FOR MEN**

This event, organised by the Wigan and District Catholic Men's Society, will take place at St Patrick's Church, Wigan (WN1 3RZ) on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm. The Evening will include a Talk by CMS Chaplain and Parish Priest, Father Ian O'Shea, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; concluding with Night Prayer and Benediction. All men are welcome.

**PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS WITH FR STEPHEN WANG**

Take a break from the hustle and bustle of shopping for Christmas and join us in the meeting room at St Gregory's each **Wednesday evening throughout Advent 7:00pm - 9:00pm** for video presentation and discussion.

- Week 1: Search for Happiness (29th Nov); Week 2: A God who Speaks (6th Dec);
  - Week 3: The Bible (13th Dec); Week 4 - The Power of Prayer (20th Dec)
- For further information please contact Michael Hall on 07548 305615

**GIN TASTING**

St Gregory's will be hosting a gin tasting evening on **Friday 1st December at 7:00pm**. Tickets cost £30 each to include 5 gins and nibbles. Numbers are limited so if you would like to attend, please see Fr Graeme as soon as possible.

**CHRISTMAS JOY TOY APPEAL**

Chorley Buddies in association with Chorley Council and other local schools and parishes are appealing for new toys and gifts to bring some Christmas joy to families who may need some help this Christmas. Donated gifts may be dropped off at the Presbytery.

**NB: It has been requested that the gifts are not wrapped. The last date for donations will be Sunday 3rd December. Thank you for your generous support.**

**CHILDREN'S CORNER**

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

DISCIPLES      SERVANT      THOUSAND  
 COINS          COUNTRY      MASTER  
 MONEY          EARNED        MORE  
 WONDERFUL    FAITHFUL      HAPPINESS



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

Sunday 19th November 2023 - 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A

**REFLECTION**

The Parable of the Talents in today's Gospel isn't about people's financial abilities or how good they are at wheeling and dealing on the stock market but it does point us to something else - the second coming of Jesus. The Gospel today blends well with the message of the 2nd Reading when St. Paul reminds us that our task is not to figure out when Jesus will come again, but to live in such a way that we will be ready when he does come - a warning about our own responsibilities as true disciples of Jesus. St. Paul uses vivid imagery to illustrate this - we can never predict the arrival of a thief in the night or the fact that a pregnant woman can never pinpoint the exact moment in the future when labour pains will begin. Therefore, if it is important to be responsible and prepare for such unforeseen but significant moments in time, how much more responsible must we be in preparing to meet Jesus when he does come again? The perfect wife in the 1st reading is a portrait of responsible readiness and she uses the talents God gave her to respond to the needs of the poor and the powerless. Like this wise woman, two of the servants in Jesus' parable use the talents God gave them wisely but one servant was concerned only to cover himself and preserve what he had. He was rejected for not using his talents to advance his master's interests - it was what he should have done and didn't do that was his sin. We too have been given gifts and talents by God. If we fail to use these gifts, God's judgment on us will be severe. On the other hand, if we make use of these gifts in service to the Kingdom of Heaven, we will be rewarded and entrusted with even more responsibilities. We are now living in a time when we are waiting for the Lord to return - but it's not a case of just simply sit, wait and do nothing. Each of us has been graced in some way by the Lord for the service of others - if we hide the talents the Lord has given us, then we deprive others. Most of us need a bit of encouragement to place our gifts at the disposal of others - so today, let us pray that we may choose a life of faithfulness and fruitfulness which leads to a share in God's joy and may God say to each of us: 'well done, good and faithful servant'.

**ST GREGORY'S RC CHURCH**

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 Chorley, Lancs  
 PR7 3NW  
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**PARISH PRIEST**  
 Fr Graeme M. Dunne

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 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 12th Nov 2023**

Gift Aid: **£95.50**  
 Loose Plate: **£288.72**  
 Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

**The special collection next Sunday will be for Animate Youth**

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

Sheila McGeown - Dorothy Fairclough - Paul Gallery - Christine Zawistowicz  
 Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan - Fr Laurence Mayne - Emily Moss - Teresa Abernethy  
 Angela Helmn - Shirley Langstrath - Margaret Dearden - Fr Jonathan Cotton - Catherine  
 Paul Spedding - Susan Yates - Brenda McGuigan - Barbara Edwards - Jimmy Waddington

*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 Alice Kitching 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

### BAPTISM



Today we welcome in Baptism at St Oswald's  
**Oakley William Lenz**

Please keep him and his family in your prayers as they start out on their faith journey.

*Baptisms take place at St Gregory's at 1:00pm on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month and at St Oswald's at 12:15pm on the 3rd Sunday of the month. If you would like to book a baptism for your child, please see Fr Graeme after one of the Sunday Masses. Thank you.*

### NOVEMBER PIOUS LIST INTENTIONS

All of our Masses during November are traditionally offered for those on the Pious List of Intentions. Forms are available at the back of church.

### ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE—ST GREGORY'S

Just a reminder, our Annual Mass of Remembrance at which we remember all those parishioners who have died in the last twelve months will be held on

**Wednesday 22nd November at 7pm.**

The names of those who have died in the past year will be read out and a candle will be lighted in their memory. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served after the Mass.

### PARISH BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

If anybody would like the name of a loved one included in our Parish Book of Remembrance, please let us know as soon as possible. Thank you.

### LAUDATE SI - LIVE SIMPLY

There will be a meeting on **Tuesday 28th November at 7:00pm** in the presbytery at St Gregory's in response to Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical 'Laudate Si' which remains a profound invitation to everyone on the planet to care for our common home, and to progress our move towards being more environmentally friendly & The CAFOD Live Simply Award.

All are welcome to attend.

## MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

All of the Masses in November will be offered for the intentions of those on the Pious List

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 19 Nov	9:30am	33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Eileen Gallagher (A) Margaret Wrennall (BR)	ST GREGORY'S
	6:30pm		Mary Conroy	
SUN 19 Nov	11:00am	33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Adrian Hart (BR) Ernest Farrimond (BR)	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 20 Nov	10:00am		Mildred Wilcock (LD) Sadie Freymann	
Tues 21 Nov	9:15am		Margaret & Vincent Calderbank Nicholas Eastham (BR)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 22 Nov	10:30am	FUNERAL SERVICE St Cecilia	Alice Kitching	EXPOSITION
	7:00pm		ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE	
Thu 23 Nov	7:00pm	St Clement & St Columbanus	ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 24 Nov	8:30am	St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
	9:15am		EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
Sat 25 Nov	10:00am	St Catherine of Alexandria	Joan Parker (LD)	
SUN 26 Nov	9:30am	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING	Jim & Kath Dunn	ST GREGORY'S YOUTH SUNDAY
	6:30pm		For a successful operation	
SUN 26 Nov	11:00am	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING	The People of the Parish	ST OSWALD'S YOUTH SUNDAY