Lent:

"Something special for Lent?"

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 21st March in the church house at 7pm. Everybody welcome. Please come and join us if you can.

Faith and dementia conference

On Wednesday 17 May, Liverpool Dementia Action Alliance will be hosting a faiths and dementia conference at the St Margaret Clitherow Centre.

More details can be found on the attached posters or on this link: <u>www.faithsanddementia23.com</u>.

Lourdes centenary year - we need your help

As you know, this summer will mark 100 years since the archdiocese's first pilgrimage to Lourdes. We would like to mark this special occasion by asking people across the archdiocese to share their memories of the archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes

If you have anything you are happy for us to share publicly then please email any details to <u>communications@rcaol.org.uk</u> and <u>lourdespilgrimage@rcaol.org.uk</u> and include your name, parish and year(s) you travelled to Lourdes. More details can be found here: <u>Lourdes centenary year – we need your help!</u> | <u>News (liverpoolcatholic.org.uk</u>)

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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SIGHT

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DEVOUT

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

Sunday 19th March 2023 - 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A (Laetare Sunday)

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: Awaiting Appointment

WEEKLY COLLECTION w/c 12th March 2023

Gift Aid: £59.00 Loose Plate: £545.80 Standing Orders: £186.25 Sincere thanks for your kind and generous weekly donations which go towards the upkeep of the church. The special collection today

will be for Nugent

REFLECTION

For those of us who are blest to have our sight, we can't even begin to imagine what it must be like to live in a world of blindness and total darkness. At the time of Jesus, to be sick in any way was seen as a punishment from God. Those who were sick; the blind, the crippled, the dumb, the lepers and many others were seen as the worst of sinners. They were not allowed to eat with others and they were kept out of the Temple and the synagogues by the Pharisees. They were outcasts and were made to feel worthless. But Jesus does not let this stop him from speaking to and touching this blind man - he reaches out to heal this man and to make him whole again. He not only gives him back his sight,

he restores his dignity and allows him to return to his community and family. The blindness that Jesus cannot heal however is the narrow mindedness, jealousy and anger of the Pharisees who refuse to let go of their dislike for Jesus. They claim that Jesus cannot be from God because he does keep the Sabbath and that a sinner like Jesus could not heal the sick. Their eyes are closed and blind to seeing Jesus for who he really is. Today, the gospel challenges us to look honestly at ourselves, our attitudes and our own behaviour.

Often we are very quick to see the faults, failings and shortcomings of other people. But generally we are not so quick to notice and admit our own weaknesses. In some ways, each of us is blind. Our own prejudices about other people may prevent us from seeing them as they really are. We can sometimes make quick, but wrong decisions about others. We need to avoid the behaviour and attitude of the Pharisees who often judged people incorrectly. Jesus wants to heal us of all that blinds us, as when we are blind, we cannot see the light that Jesus not only offers, but the light that Jesus is! He is the light of the world, but if our hearts and eyes are closed to this light, we are living in darkness. As we journey through Lent, let our prayer be that we may see the light of Christ once again.

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 - 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 Angela Grindley & Philip Compton 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

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: **ROSARY** 8:50am, **HOLY MASS** 9:15am (St Oswald's) FRIDAY: **ROSARY** 8:00am, **EUCHARISTIC SERVICE** 8:30am (St Gregory's) FRIDAY: **ROSARY** 8:50am, **EUCHARISTIC 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)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated in each Parish every week during Lent and will be led by Parishioners.

St Oswald's - Thursday at 6:30pm St Gregory's - Friday at 6:30pm

LENTEN SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

There will be a Service of Reconciliation with individual confessions on **Sunday 26th March 2023 at 3:00pm at St Gregory's, Weld Bank.** All are welcome to attend.

EASTER SERVICES 2023

Maundy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm - St Oswald's Good Friday, the Passion of the Lord 3:00pm - St Gregory's

Easter Vigil Service 8:30pm - St Gregory's Easter Sunday 9:30am - St Gregory's, 11:00am - St Oswald's

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 19 Mar	9:30am 6:30pm	4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	The Walmsley Family (F) Harry & Doreen Ainscough John Critchley (A) Agnes & Brian Pendlebury	LAETARE SUNDAY ST GREGORY'S
SUN 19 Mar	11:00am	4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	Anthony Crilly (A)	LAETARE SUNDAY ST OSWALD'S
Mon 20 Mar	10:00am	St Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin	Mary Clague & Family Henry & Mary Agnes Hunter (F)	
Tues 21 Mar	9:15am		Jane Burns (F)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 22 Mar	8:30am		Petronilla Molloy	EXPOSITION 10:00am - 2:00pm
Thur 23 Mar	9:15am 6:30pm	St Turibius of Mongrovejo	The Neary Family (F) STATIONS OF THE CROSS	HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 24 Mar	8:30am 9:15am 6:30pm		EUCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCHARISTIC SERVICE STATIONS OF THE CROSS	
Sat 25 Mar	10:00am	The Annunciation of the Lord	Chorley Buddies 3rd Anniversary	
SUN 26 Mar	9:30am 3:00pm 6:30pm	5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	Maureen Carrington (BR) Valerie Bretherton Shaun McGeown (A)	ST GREGORY'S SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION
SUN 26 Mar	11:00am	5TH SUNDAY OF LENT	Brian Finnigan (LD)	ST OSWALD'S