

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY 2023

Next Friday, **6th October** is CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day. In today's gospel, we hear the story of two sons. One says he will help his father, but doesn't. The other refuses at first, but then goes and does what he is asked. We are all called to consider which child of God we are.

Are we the one who says the right thing, who is full of good intentions, but doesn't quite manage to follow through? Or are we the one who might make a mistake, but ultimately does what we know to be right? Let's think today about how we can put our faith into action, not simply paying lip service to the Lord, but answering his call to serve him and to love our neighbours as ourselves. There are envelopes at the back of the church for your kind Donations to the Harvest Appeal which we will keep open until the end of October.

Thank you for your support.

AFTERNOON TEA IN AID OF MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

St Gregory's will be hosting an afternoon tea on **Saturday 14th October at 2:30pm** to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. Tickets for this event are £7 each (or £11 to include a glass of fizz) and are available from St Gregory's presbytery or Tel: 01257 262462.

Any donations of raffle prizes would be very gratefully received. Thank you.

FAMILY FORGE - APPEAL FOR BICYCLES

The Family Forge is a registered charity based in Skelmersdale on the edge of the Merseyside Region. Skelmersdale houses a significant share of the regions' allocation of asylum seekers and refugees. The Family Forge group are engaged in work to support family life through education of people from many nationalities, cultures and religions, including families, married and single men and women. They are currently appealing for unwanted bicycles so if you find you have one that you don't need any more, please do get in touch with them:

Email: info@familyforge.org or FB: [family forge](https://www.facebook.com/familyforge) or Website: www.familyforge.org

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

CHIEF PRIESTS ELDERS
OPINION SONS VINEYARD
SECOND FIRST TAX
COLLECTORS KINGDOM PATTERN



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 1st October 2023 - 26th 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:

Waiting Appointment

WEEKLY COLLECTION

w/c 24th Sept 2023

Gift Aid: **£137.40**

Loose Plate: **£337.68**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

There is a collection box at the back of church for your Harvest Fast envelopes

REFLECTION

Today's Gospel from St Matthew is very short and to the point and poses the question - do we truly seek to do God's will in our lives? It challenges us to align our words and actions in ways that reflect our genuine commitment to God. We are presented with two examples: the one son who says that he will not work, but in the end does work and the other son who says he will work, but in the end does not - neither son matches their words with actions!

The old proverb, 'Actions speak louder than words' reminds us of the inconsistencies that are present in the lives of all of us. Keeping our word is so important both in our family life and in our work environment. We all need to be assured that a promise to pick up the children after school, show up for a doctor's appointment, or follow through with a business client will actually happen! We depend on other people keeping their promises in areas that are of importance to us.

There are those people who answer 'yes' without having understood what they are agreeing to. There are also sincere people who say 'no' because they are not convinced and want to understand better. Their 'no' is just a polite way of asking for an explanation and to say that they want to see things more clearly. The same inconsistencies can also be demonstrated in our Christian lives when we see ourselves as fervent believers, always faithful to our devotions and religious observances, but with little practical demonstration of our following of Christ. Those who answer 'yes' to God immediately perhaps do not fully realise or understand who they are, or what God is asking of them. But no matter how many times we have said 'no' to God, we can still change and seek to do God's will - God forgives us our faults! But if we are always saying good things and doing nothing, then we are not doing the God's will. Today we stand in front of God. Who are we? Do our words and actions indicate our obedience to God? Will we say 'yes' to God and not do anything? Will we say 'no' to God and yet in the end at least try? Saying 'yes' to God means giving up our own thoughts and accepting his. Let us pray today that we will all seek to do God's will both through our words and our actions.

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

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 Edmund Hunt 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

ANNUAL MASS COUNT - WEEK 2

As part of the pastoral statistics that we compile every year, the total number attending Mass in each parish will be recorded over four successive Sunday's.

BAPTISMS

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

If your child is in Year 4 and not in any of our Catholic primary schools, please contact Fr Graeme as soon as possible to register your child for First Holy Communion and preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you.

SVP - APPEAL FOR NEW MEMBERS - REVISED DATE

There will be a short address by the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) at all Sunday Masses this weekend to appeal for more volunteers at St Gregory's and to form a new SVP group at St Oswald's. Similar addresses are taking place elsewhere in the deanery this weekend. There will be a follow up meeting at St Gregory's RC Church, Weldbank Lane, Chorley, Lancs PR7 3NW on **10th October 2023 at 19:00/7pm** and an online Zoom meeting on October 12 2023 at 19:00/7pm **Meeting ID: 867 5817 0654 Passcode: 349125** to provide further information. For further details, please contact preston@svp.org.uk

YORK PILGRIMAGE WEEKEND

During the weekend of the 21st-22nd October 2023, Young Catholic Adults and the Traditional English Association of Catholic History will be organising a pilgrimage to York and will visit the shrine of St. Margaret Clitherow, York Oratory, the Bar Convent and St. Mary's Abbey. This event is aimed at Young Catholic Adults and Catholics interested in history.

For details of how to book onto this free weekend and for more info see:-
<https://bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-yorkpilgrimage2023>.

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 01 Oct	9:30am 6:30pm	26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Bernard Marmion Jim & Kath Dunn People of the Parish	ST GREGORY'S ROSARY SUNDAY
SUN 01 Oct	11:00am	26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Special Intention	ST OSWALD'S ROSARY SUNDAY
Mon 02 Oct	10:00am	The Guardian Angels	LISCF	
Tues 03 Oct	9:15am		EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 04 Oct	8:30am 12:30pm	St Francis of Assisi FUNERAL SERVICE	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE Edmund Hunt	EXPOSITION 10:00am - 12:00
Thur 05 Oct	9:15am	St Faustina Kowalska	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 06 Oct	8:30am 9:15am	St Bruno	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
Sat 07 Oct	10:00am	Our Lady of the Rosary	Canon Brendan Alger	
SUN 08 Oct	9:30am 6:30pm	27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish Rose Anne Gerard (F)	ST GREGORY'S DAY OF PRAYER FOR PRISONERS & DEPENDANTS
SUN 08 Oct	11:00am	27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Private Intention	ST OSWALD'S DAY OF PRAYER FOR PRISONERS & DEPENDANTS