#### ANNUAL BEER FESTIVAL & CONCERT IN THE GARDEN

Tickets are now available for our Annual Beer Festival & Concert in the Garden at St Gregory's Weld Bank.

#### Friday 11th August 7:00pm - 11:00pm; Saturday 12th August 1:00pm - 11:00pm Sunday 13th August 2:00pm - 8:00pm (Concert in the Garden & BBQ)

This year, there will be a selection of 18 beers and 5 ciders. Tickets cost £5 each and include a souvenir programme & glass plus a free glass of beer. Wine and gin will also be available to purchase. Food from our Pit Stop Café will be available throughout the festival.

If you would be interested in sponsoring the event, please see Fr Graeme.

#### CHORLEY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FESTIVAL 2023

Sunday 3rd September, 12pm - 4pm, St Gregory's, Weldbank This is a free event with lots of stalls, live music, games, tombola, BBQ & refreshments Lots of fun for all the family. All welcome.

#### CHURCH CLEANING

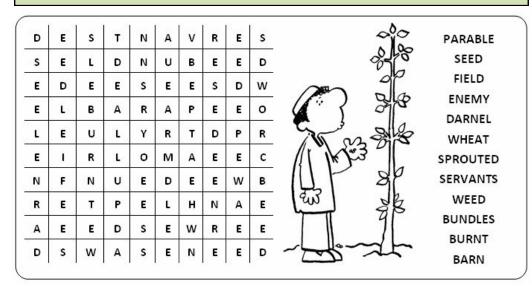
A big thank you to the cleaning teams in our parishes who do such a great job of keeping our churches clean and tidy. New helpers are always welcome. If you are interested in joining one of the teams, please let us know.

#### CHILDRENS LITURGY



A big thank you to our Children's Liturgy Team as they start their summer break. The group will start again in September. We need to make sure we have enough volunteers with a current parish DBS. If you would like to get involved in supporting our younger parishioners during the Sunday morning Masses at either church, please see Fr Graeme.

## CHILDREN'S CORNER





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

Sunday 23rd July 2023 - 16th 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 16th July 2023

Gift Aid: **£57.50** Loose Plate: **£297.70** Standing Orders: **£186.25** 

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

#### Reflection

The parables found in today's Gospel, offer us a great insight into the power of God's Kingdom in our lives. These parables challenge us to reflect on our hearts, the choices we make and to recognise the hidden potential within each of us. They invite us to acknowledge our imperfections and nurture the good within us. We all have moments of goodness and

weakness, love and selfishness but recognising we have imperfections humbles us and challenges us to reflect on our thoughts and actions. In the first parable of the wheat and the weeds, Jesus urges us to protect the wheat within us and to uproot the weeds – that is we must nurture the good within

us whilst striving to grow, repent and change. When we embrace this process, we create space for God's grace to transform us, thus bearing abundant fruits of love, mercy, and compassion. Next. he uses the image of the tiny mustard seed which when nurtured will grow into the largest of bushes to

illustrate that small acts of faith and love can have a significant impact on others. It challenges our perception of value, reminding us that God's kingdom works humbly.

Hence, from small beginnings come great and wonderful things. Simple acts of kindness, compassion, and faithfulness can ripple through the lives of others, thus contributing to the growth of God's kingdom. At the end of the gospel, Jesus says the Kingdom of God is like a woman who takes the yeast and mixes it with flour to produce bread. Flour on its own is simply flour but when the active power of the yeast is added, it is transformed into something quite different - bread. Just as the yeast is the 'active ingredient' in

the flour, so too, we as followers of Jesus are called and challenged to be the 'active ingredient' in our modern world. Without the seed, there is no mustard tree; without the yeast there is no bread. Without each of us and our efforts, no matter how small, the Kingdom of God will not grow and spread. Today, as followers of Jesus, we are called to be actively engaged in bringing the message of the gospel into all areas of life. If the small mustard seed and the yeast can be powerful agents of change, so can we!

#### 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 Catherine - Paul Spedding - Susan Yates - Brenda McGuigan

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

#### ARCHDIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

Would anybody be interested in joining the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council? If you would like further information on the work of the Pastoral Council and how you could help shape and progress the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, please see Fr Graeme.

### CAFOD: FIX THE FOOD SYSTEM CAMPAIGN

A big thank you to all those who signed the letter from Salina which will be taken to the meeting of the World Bank in October. Your support is essential in addressing the issue of abuse amongst the small farming communities of the world.

#### GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE?

The **Alpha Course** could change your life! It's an opportunity to explore the meaning of life. **ALPHA** is an eleven week series of interactive sessions that explore the big questions of life

through the lens of the Christian faith, in a relaxed and safe environment. **Alpha** is for anyone at any age, who is curious to find out more about faith. It's designed for those who are exploring and questioning; it's open to cynics, sceptics and the open-minded. This Alpha Course will be run in the Catholic tradition. We'll begin on **14th September 2023** 

at 7pm at St Bede's Parish Centre in Clayton Green and meet every Thursday for eleven weeks. Please pass on this information to family members and friends who you think might be interested in coming along. For further information or to register your interest please contact either Sr. Dorothy or Julie.

#### Phone: Sr Dorothy - 07530 238222 or Julie - 07943 874257 Email: <u>dorothyhindle234@gmail.com</u> or <u>julieannebrown1971@hotmail.co.uk</u>

BAPTISM

Today we welcome in Baptism at St Gregory's **Noah Alec Prescott** Please keep him and his family in your prayers as they start out on their faith journey.

# MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

| Date         | Time                    | Dedication                                 | Intention  | Notes                                |
|--------------|-------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| SUN 23 July  | 9:30am<br>6:30pm        | 16th SUNDAY OF<br>ORDINARY TIME            | Mary Robinson (A)<br>Bernard Marmion<br>Pat Murphy (LD)<br>William Moore (F) | ST GREGORY'S                         |
| SUN 23 July  | 11:00am                 | 16th SUNDAY OF<br>ORDINARY TIME            | The Hayden Family (F)<br>Adrian & Dorothy Hart<br>(60th Anniv R)             | ST OSWALD'S                          |
| Mon 24 July  | 10:00am                 | St Sharbel<br>Makhluf                      | Phyllis Barton<br>Patricia Bond  |                                      |
| Tues 25 July | 9:15am                  | St James                                   | Special Intention  | DEVOTIONS<br>1:00pm - 2:00pm         |
| Wed 26 July  | 8:30am<br><b>1:30pm</b> | St Joachim &<br>St Anne<br>FUNERAL SERVICE | Geoff Cunliffe (LD)<br>Elizabeth Burgess                                     | EXPOSITION<br>10:00am -<br>12:00noon |
| Thur 27 July | 9:15am                  |  | LISCF  | DEVOTIONS<br>1:00pm - 2:00pm         |
| Fri 28 July  | 8:30am                  |  | EUCHARISTIC SERVICE  |                                      |
|              | 9:15am                  |  | EUCHARISTIC SERVICE  |                                      |
| Sat 29 July  | 10:00am                 | St Mary, St Martha<br>& St Lazarus         | John & Olive Farnworth (F)<br>Margaret Connolly (A)                          |                                      |
| SUN 30 July  | 9:30am<br>6:30pm        | 17th SUNDAY OF<br>ORDINARY TIME            | Jim Parkinson (BR)<br>Catherine & Cecil De Lacy<br>Bridget & Austin          | ST GREGORY'S                         |
| SUN 30 July  | 11:00am                 | 17th SUNDAY OF<br>ORDINARY TIME            | McManus<br>People of the Parish  | ST OSWALD'S                          |