

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

A very Happy Christmas to you all and I hope you all have an enjoyable time.

Please note the altered times of the Masses next week.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those many people who have worked so hard within and for the Parish throughout the year. Your dedication is much appreciated.

It only remains for me to wish you all a very Happy & Blessed New Year.

God Bless you all.

Fr Graeme

CEMETERIES

Please note: all Christmas wreaths/pots will be removed when dead or after the **2nd Feb 2023**. Any ornamental pots removed from graves will be kept in the Sexton's office.

A MESSAGE FROM LIVING WATERS FOOD BANK

A big thank you for your ongoing support to our Food Bank and your generous donations, we can never find words to express how grateful we are.

We pray that God will bless you abundantly as you bless so many others.

CHORLEY BUDDIES

SVP Chorley Buddies would like to say a massive thank you to all our parishioners for the fantastic response to the Christmas Joy New Toy Appeal. Your generosity will make such a difference to those families most in need this Christmas.

WARM SPACE

St Gregory's Presbytery will be open for tea/coffee and biscuits after Mass (10:00am) this Wednesday. All welcome.



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank



Sunday 25th December 2022 - The Nativity of the Lord, 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/

Part of the ARCHDIOCESE of LIVERPOOL

Registered Charity No: 232709

Church Office Hours:

Mon/Wed/Thurs 09:00 - 16:00

Parish Administrator:

Christine Edwards

Safeguarding Rep:

Edward Brierley

WEEKLY COLLECTION w/c 18th December 2022

Gift Aid: **£92.50**

Loose Plate: **£370.65**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

REFLECTION

The angel said to the Shepherds, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you good news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord'.

These words continue to be as important today. A saviour was born to us that would change the world and change all of our lives. This is the second time in recent weeks that we have heard the words 'Do not be afraid' - the Angel Gabriel told Mary not to be afraid just as the angel told the shepherds the same. We need to listen to the angel - the message may not come to us directly, but the voices of the angel and the voices of the Lord tell us all not to be afraid. The shepherds overcame their fear and went on to be led by an angelic host to witness the miracle that was the birth of Jesus. We may not be consoled by a host of angels but those words continue to resonate today as we see the devastation of war, violence, famine and poverty in our world. This Christmas, Pope Francis especially urges us not to forget the many children in Ukraine suffering without electricity and heating and without many of the basic things needed to survive amid the devastation of war. For a lot of people, Christmas has become just an opportunity for commerce; for others, it is a time to travel because of the holidays and for children most especially, Christmas is a season of receiving gifts from loved ones. This year as we look down at the baby lying in the humble manger, let us be reminded of those children who bear the tragedy of war, who won't be opening any presents on Christmas morning; those children who won't be travelling to be with loved ones and for those children who have had to leave their homes and families to seek refuge in foreign lands. Today, let us pray for peace in our world and especially for an end to the war in the Ukraine.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

CHRISTMAS TREE
DECORATIONS
HOLLY
REINDEER
TINSEL
MANGER
BABY
JOSEPH
JESUS
SHEPHERD
KINGS
STAR
STABLE
SANTA CLAUS

ADVENT
CAROLS
ANGEL
CRIB
HOLY
NOEL
MARY
BALTHAZAR
MELCHIOR
CASPAR
GOLD
FRANKINCENSE
MYRRH



Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

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

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 Mary Spear

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** - please sanitise your hands before entering the church.
3. **Ventilation** - with the onset of the recent cold weather, the church doors will now remain closed during Sunday 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.

CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS

This year the Christmas Mass offerings of **£570.00** will be donated in your name to the charity 'DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal'.

St Gregory's - £425.00

St Oswald's - £145.00

Thank you all for your generosity.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY FAMILY

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 25 Dec	9:30am	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	Parish Christmas List Intentions & People of the Parish	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 25 Dec	11:00am	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	Parish Christmas List Intentions & People of the Parish	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 26 Dec	10:00am	St Stephen	Altar Servers	
Tues 27 Dec	10:00am	St John	The Hayden Family	NO EXPOSITION TODAY
Wed 28 Dec	10:00am	The Holy Innocents	John Calveley Francis Meredith (A)	EXPOSITION 12:00 - 2:00pm
Thur 29 Dec		St Thomas Becket	NO MASS TODAY	NO EXPOSITION TODAY
Fri 30 Dec	8:30am 9:15am	The Holy Family	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
SAT 31 Dec	10:00am	St Sylvester	The Guardian Angels Teresa Hamer (A) Gwen Leslie (A)	
SUN 01 Jan	9:30am 6:30pm	MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD	Thomas & Winifred Booth Mary & Joseph Kenyon Kath & Jim Dunn Harry & Doreen Ainscough Ken Wareing (A)	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 01 Jan	11:00am	MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD	In Thanksgiving (CR)	ST OSWALD'S