

## ST GREGORY'S WELD BANK 1774 - 2024

This year, St Gregory's will celebrate its milestone 250 year anniversary. Whilst the exact date of the Anniversary falls in November, in order to assist us in making this a whole parish celebration we will need to hold part of the event outside in the church grounds and for this we will rely on the help of the warmer weather! The date for this milestone celebration has therefore been set as the weekend of **27th & 28th July**. Further details to follow but in the meantime, please put this date in your diaries.

### CONFIRMATION 2024

The website for registration for the Sacrament of Confirmation will remain open until the **15<sup>th</sup> March**. For those young people in Year 8 attending Catholic High Schools in the Liverpool Archdiocese, preparation and registration will be coordinated through the school. Any young people in Year 8 attending non-Catholic High Schools can register for Confirmation preparation at [www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk](http://www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk). They will then be invited to take a part in a 'catch up' session that will try to cover what they have missed in the RE classes of our diocesan Catholic schools. There is a poster in the church porch which contains a QR code which candidates from non-Catholic High Schools can scan in order to register.

### LIVE SIMPLY WEEKEND

There will be a Fair Trade stall & refreshments at St Gregory's during the 2nd weekend of Lent (24th/25th Feb) as we look again at how we aim to achieve the Live Simply Award. Further information to follow in due course.

### WATER

Please note: the water supply to the cemeteries has now been turned off until the Spring to prevent burst pipes. Please be aware, during this period you will need to supply your own water for flowers/pots on graves. Thank you.



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

Sunday 28th January 2024 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

### REFLECTION

Today we continue our reading from St Mark's Gospel with a description of what was likely to have been a typical day in Jesus' ministry. We clearly see for ourselves the impact of Jesus' words put into real concrete action. A man possessed with an unclean spirit called out to Jesus for help. As we see in this example and throughout St Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus well and are often fearful of him. Jesus ordered the unclean spirit to be quiet and drove it out of the man. Our understanding of illness today is very different to that at the time of Jesus when all illnesses were perceived to be signs of evil and sinfulness. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe certain types of physical and mental illnesses we recognise today. There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first century Palestine and Jesus appears to be like these healers, but his ability to heal those possessed by demons was also an indication of his power over evil and the unique authority given to him by God. When Jesus tells somebody that they are healed, the person is actually healed. When he tells somebody that their sins are forgiven they are actually forgiven - this is real power and authority! Jesus exercises his power to heal, liberate and forgive people, not to enslave them. He uses his authority to lift people up, not to put them down. Sadly, not all people exercise their authority with such care and concern for others. Even in our own relatively recent history we have witnessed many dictators who have abused not only their authority but also those they were meant to serve. As Christians we are called upon to follow the example of Jesus - to listen closely to the teachings of Jesus is every Catholic's responsibility. It is easy to hear the Scriptures proclaimed each time we go to Mass, but it can be more difficult to listen with a receptive ear and a willing heart, and harder, still, to put those lessons into practice. No matter who we are, each of us have some power and authority. The question for us is how we exercise this authority. Do we follow the example of Jesus and use it to serve others, to help and support them, to lift them or to put them down? As always, the choice is ours.

### 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](http://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 21st Jan 2024

Gift Aid: **£44.00**

Loose Plate: **£414.54**

Standing Orders: **£369.92**

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

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

F	O	N	N	R	T	I	T	P	S	CAPERNAUM	SABBATH	SYNAGOGUE
Q	O	A	S	E	B	I	R	C	S	TEACH	SCRIBES	UNCLEAN
U	M	L	I	C	R	I	A	H	S	SPIRIT	DESTROY	HOLY
I	N	U	L	I	R	P	Y	T	R	QUIET	ORDERS	OBEY
Y	Q	C	P	O	E	Y	E	A	E			
O	L	S	L	R	W	A	E	B	D			
H	H	O	N	E	C	E	R	B	R			
M	N	A	H	H	A	O	R	A	O			
E	U	G	O	G	A	N	Y	S	N			
M	Y	O	R	T	S	E	D	E	O			

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

Sheila McGeown - Dorothy Fairclough - Christine Zawistowicz - Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan  
Fr Laurence Mayne - Teresa Abernethy - Rita Compton - Angela Helmn - Shirley Langstrath  
Catherine - Paul Spedding - Susan Yates - Brenda McGuigan - Jimmy Waddington - Sarah O'Connor

*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



### BAPTISMS

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

### VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (IN THEIR 20s & 30s)

**Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life**

**Dates: 16-18 February 2024**

**Location: Liverpool**

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).  
If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more, why  
not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday  
for the day. There will be an opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, a chance to ask  
questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne FCJ at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com)  
or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

### IRENAEUS COME & SEE DAY

Irenaeus are hosting a 'Come and See' Day at the Irenaeus Centre (32 Great Georges Road  
L22 1RD) on 'The Power of Art' with keynote speaker, Christine Dodd (former Adult Education  
Advisor for the Diocese of Hallam). Irenaeus advise all attending to bring a packed lunch.

For further details please email [jenny@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or call 0151 949 1199.

### REVIEW OF PARISH LIST OF THE SICK

After the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (2nd February), we will renew the list of those  
who are sick in our parishes as included on our Parish Newsletter. If you would like to add or  
remove any names from the list, please could you let us know asap. Thank you.

### SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Those who humble themselves will be exalted'

*Matthew 23:12*

## MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 28 Jan	9:30am	4th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Ken & Barbara Edwards Derek Parker (A)	ST GREGORY'S DAY OF PRAYER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE
	6:30pm		People of the Parish	
SUN 28 Jan	11:00am	4th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	LISCF	ST OSWALD'S DAY OF PRAYER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE
Mon 29 Jan	10:00am		Edward Dunne (A) Margaret Dearden	
Tues 30 Jan	9:15am		EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 31 Jan	8:30am	St John Bosco	NO SERVICE	EXPOSITION 10:00am -12:00noon
Thurs 01 Feb	9:15am		EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 02 Feb	8:30am	The Presentation of the Lord	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
	9:15am			
Sat 03 Feb	10:00am	St Blaise & St Ansgar	The Bond Family (F)	
SUN 04 Feb	9:30am	5th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Tom & Sheila Grady Madge Critchley (A)	ST GREGORY'S
	6:30pm		Kevin Fishwick (LD)	
SUN 04 Feb	11:00am	5th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Bryan Dougan (BR)	ST OSWALD'S