

WELCOME!

We are pleased to welcome into the church, Christopher Inman and Simon Melling. We wish them every blessing and assure them and their families of our prayers as they both take this important step on their faith journeys.

CELEBRATION MASS FOR LOURDES CENTENARY YEAR

On Sunday 25 June at 5pm, there will be a celebration Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral to mark the centenary pilgrimage to Lourdes. The Mass is a chance for pilgrims past and present to come together to celebrate this milestone. All are welcome to attend.

MASS TO CELEBRATE THE CORONATION

On Friday 5 May at 5pm there is a vigil Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty the King Charles III. All are welcome to attend.

On 7th May, the morning Mass at both St Gregory's (9:30am) & St Oswald's (11:00am) will be a Celebration of King Charles Coronation.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST

The CAFOD Lenten Family Fast appeal will be closed this weekend and your kind donations will be sent to families around the world to help them cope with climate crisis.

Thank you for your generous support.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEERS

Can you spare some time to help? Hospital Chaplaincy volunteers are being sought at both Chorley & South Ribble and Royal Preston Hospitals. NO experience necessary as full training and support will be provided. If you would like to know more about this richly rewarding voluntary work, please contact Simon Gilbertson on 01257 247171 or Martin McDonald on 01772 522350.



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

Sunday 2nd April 2023 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A

ST GREGORY'S RC CHURCH

Weldbank Lane
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PR7 3NW
Tel: 01257 262462

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Graeme M. Dunne

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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

REFLECTION

As we enter into Holy Week, today's readings invite us to reflect on the depth of Jesus' sacrifice and the meaning of his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We see Jesus as a humble king, riding on a donkey, surrounded by crowds of people who wave palm branches and shout his praises. This image reminds us of Jesus' identity as a powerful and beloved leader who comes to save us from sin and death whilst at the same time, we are also reminded of the cost of Jesus' sacrifice. His entry into the city begins on a huge wave of optimism and hope - as the people line the streets they put their cloaks and garments on the ground and they shout out his name. This was an ancient Roman tradition which used to welcome soldiers and armies home after their success in battle. The crowd shout out, 'Hosanna, Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord'. The Gospel reading describes the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion, including his betrayal by Judas Iscariot, his arrest and trial before the high priest, his denial by Peter, and his sentencing by Pilate. We see Jesus' selflessness and obedience, even in the face of intense suffering and humiliation. The theme of feeling abandoned is also present in the readings. Jesus' cry of 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' reminds us of the depth of Jesus' suffering and his identification with all those who have ever felt abandoned or alone. As we celebrate Palm Sunday and begin our journey through Holy Week, we are called to ask ourselves who and where we are in the crowd?. Perhaps we would have been among those singing Hosanna, or maybe we would have been complaining about these demonstrators who were disrupting our preparations for the Passover. We might have been sitting next to Peter, denying we even know the Lord, fearful and afraid. Or we might have been among the crowd calling for the crucifixion of Jesus. This is a week to pray and then decide what kind of followers of Christ we are and are going to be. So as we journey through Holy Week, let us take time to reflect on the depth of Jesus' sacrifice and the meaning of his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. May we be inspired by his selflessness and obedience, and may we be strengthened in our commitment to follow him, even in the midst of adversity.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

E	S	Y	C	S	A	O	K	S	E	MOUNT
C	G	E	L	E	N	C	O	L	T	OLIVES
L	N	K	O	H	N	E	O	E	N	VILLAGE
O	I	N	A	C	A	C	H	V	U	DONKEY
A	S	O	S	N	S	P	O	I	O	COLT
K	S	D	M	A	O	I	L	L	M	CLOAKS
S	E	O	T	R	H	A	I	L	P	BRANCHES
L	L	N	P	B	U	V	E	A	O	HOSANNA
I	B	K	O	R	E	T	V	G	R	SON
V	A	E	Y	S	A	N	S	E	P	BLESSINGS
										TURMOIL
										PROPHET

**WEEKLY COLLECTION
w/c 26th March 2023**

Gift Aid: **£46.00**
Loose Plate: **£437.65**
Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

Sheila McGeown - Dorothy Fairclough - Derek Birchall - 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

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 Pauline Critchley & Fr Michael O'Dowd 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

RETURN TO A NEW NORMAL?

As of Maundy Thursday the Bishop's of England and Wales have said that Communion under both kinds can be re-introduced at Masses.

Thank you to all those who expressed an opinion in response to my request for views on this last week. Whilst there was a wide range of views, the over riding majority was to start at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday. A number of people expressed their desire to receive communion under both kinds and so this will be offered, however, please can I emphasise that this is an option and no one including Eucharistic Ministers should feel that they have to receive from the chalice.

I will reintroduce the phrase 'Let us offer each other the sign of peace' and again people are free to offer that sign in whatever way they feel comfortable. As for coming forward for communion, each Mass is different and so a flexible approach will be adopted until new norms develop. However, I don't feel there is a need for stewarding of people to communion but it would be nice if the slow and dignified queuing continued. The Ministry of Welcome which has grown since Covid will be retained.

HOLY WEEK 2023

There are some leaflets detailing the times of the Holy Week services at the back of church, do please take one for yourself and also you may like to pass one on to a neighbour or a friend who might also like to attend. Please note, in addition to the services previously advertised, there will also be Stations of the Cross at St Oswald's on Good Friday at 11:00am. All are welcome to attend.

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 2 Apr	9:30am 6:30pm	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	Margaret Roberts (LD) Richard Power (LD) People of the Parish	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 2 Apr	11:00am	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	L.I.S.C.F	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 3 Apr	10:00am	REQUIEM MASS	Hugh O'Daly	
Tues 4 Apr	9:15am 12:30pm	REQUIEM MASS	Iain Macdonald (BR) Pauline Critchley	
Wed 5 Apr	8:30am		Margaret Dickinson (BR) In Thanksgiving (TG)	
MAUNDY THURSDAY	7:00pm	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	The sick & housebound	
GOOD FRIDAY	3:00pm	THE PASSION OF THE LORD		THE SACRED TRIDUUM
HOLY SATURDAY	8:30PM	EASTER VIGIL	People of the Parish	
SUN 9 Apr	9:30am	EASTER SUNDAY	Pauline Critchley (LD)	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 9 Apr	11:00am	EASTER SUNDAY	Deidre Holding (for a safe operation)	ST OSWALD'S