

A NEW YEAR MESSAGE

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas celebration. May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their cards, gifts, generosity, support and kind words not only over Christmas but throughout the year. Your kindness is very much appreciated. We now look forward with hope and confidence to the New Year knowing that God will journey with us through the highs and the lows. May you all have a happy & blessed New Year.

Fr Graeme

ARE YOU CONSIDERING BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

If you are wishing to be received into the Church this Easter, would you please confirm with Fr Graeme as soon as possible as the preparation reflection will begin shortly. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS

This year the Christmas Mass offerings of **£175.00** will be donated in your name to the **Catholic Community in Bethlehem.**

THANK YOU FROM THE LIVING WATERS FOODBANK

A big thank you from the Food Bank for all your generous donations over the festive period and for your continued support throughout the year. We are always grateful for items such as tinned meat and fish, soup, biscuits, dried pasta, rice & toiletries etc.

CEMETERIES

Please note: All Christmas wreaths/pots will be removed when dead or after the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (2nd February 2024)**. If you wish to keep any pots or wreaths, please remove them yourself. Any remaining ornamental pots removed from graves will be kept in the Sexton's office for 4 weeks after which they will be disposed of. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

J	M	S	N	O	E	G	I	P	E
E	E	C	I	F	I	R	C	A	S
O	A	R	P	U	W	N	O	R	E
M	S	T	U	Y	R	A	E	E	R
D	U	A	R	S	R	N	L	N	V
S	R	N	I	I	A	A	P	T	A
I	E	N	F	M	E	L	M	S	N
W	J	A	I	L	P	M	E	T	T
O	N	O	E	M	I	S	T	M	S
E	M	O	D	S	I	W	R	A	E

PURIFIED	PARENTS	JERUSALEM
LAW	SCARIFICE	PIGEONS
SIMEON	TEMPLE	SERVANT
MARY	ANNA	WISDOM



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 31st December 2023 - Feast of the Holy Family, Year B

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

REFLECTION



This Sunday, we remember and celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. The focus of attention leading up to and during the celebration of the Nativity is mainly on Jesus. This Sunday, we acknowledge the family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus, a model for all families - but, like all families they had their share of sorrows, anxieties, misfortunes and difficulties. It was with deep faith and trust in God, that they didn't just survive but rather overcame the chaos that surrounded their lives. Although the challenges they faced were different from those families face today, the church reminds us that regardless of those challenges, we must try to keep deep faith and trust in God. The time between Christmas and New Year is usually family time, a good time to think about what family means. A time to connect with and enjoy the company of those with whom we have family ties, especially those who are alone or struggling in some way. No one's family is perfect but regardless of this we owe our family everything and so on this feast of the Holy Family, let us ask for God's guidance as we pray in grateful thanks for our own parents and families. Let us also pray for all those we know who are experiencing the pain and difficulty of problems in their married and family life. Pope Francis says about the family: 'every family is always a light, however faint, amid the darkness of this world.' Even in the darkness that can go with family life, in the middle of family conflicts, divorce, crime and addiction, there is a light in the love of people's hearts. May the Holy Family of Nazareth bless, guide and protect all our families, now and always.

WEEKLY COLLECTION w/c 24th Dec 2023

Gift Aid: **£90.50**

Loose Plate: **£348.90**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

Christmas Offerings: **£883.27**

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 - Christine Zawistowicz - Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan
 Fr Laurence Mayne - Teresa Abernethy - Rita Compton - Angela Helmn
 Shirley Langstrath - Fr Jonathan Cotton - Catherine - Paul Spedding
 Susan Yates - Brenda McGuigan - Barbara Edwards - Jimmy Waddington

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

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS 2023

With sincere thanks for your kind generous support for special collections and appeals during the year. The following amounts have been sent to the relevant funds in your name in 2023.

CAFOD GENERAL DONATIONS	£145.00
CAFOD EARTHQUAKE APPEAL	£1298.99
CAFOD FAMILY FAST	£597.80
NUGENT	£95.40
LENTEN ALMS	£124.00
WORLD COMMUNICATIONS	£100.39
PRIESTS TRAINING FUND	£108.00
HOLY PLACES	£217.92
PETERS PENCE	£151.69
PRIESTS IN RETIREMENT	£184.74
DAY FOR LIFE	£51.50
CATHOLIC EDUCATION	£118.04
EVANGELI GAUDIUM	£172.79
APF WORLD MISSIONS	£170.06
ANIMATE YOUTH	£150.20

SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways'

Psalms 127

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 31 Dec	9:30am 6:30pm	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY	Thomas & Winifred Booth Joseph & Marie Kenyon NO EVENING MASS	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 31 Dec	11:00am	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY	The People of the Parish	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 01 Jan	11:00am	Mary the Mother of God	John Meehan (BR) Margaret Garrick (LD)	NEW YEARS DAY
Tues 02 Jan	9:15am	St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen	LISCF	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 03 Jan	8:30am	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	Patsy Clayton (LD) The Taylor Family	EXPOSITION 10:00am - 12:00 noon
Thurs 04 Jan	9:15am		Oreste, Jean, Raffaeli Montezeone	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 05 Jan	8:30am 9:15am		EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
Sat 06 Jan	10:00am		Harry & Doreen Ainscough The Connelly & Rollins Families	
SUN 07 Jan	9:30am 6:30pm	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	Michael McFarlane (A) Jim & Kath Dunn Elizabeth Dearden (BR)	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 07 Jan	11:00am	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	William & Ann Higham	ST OSWALD'S