

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Helen Gray & Thomas Skillen who were married at St Gregory's yesterday. We wish them every joy and happiness as they begin married life together.

WORD OF LIFE MEETING

The Word of Life group are meeting on **Thursday, 8th December, at 10:30am** in the Parish meeting room at St Gregory's. All are invited to share in an Advent reflection and celebration.

ADVENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

There will be an Advent Service of Reconciliation on **Sunday 18th December at 3:00pm**.

CHRISTMAS JOY TOY APPEAL

Chorley Buddies in association with Chorley Council and other local schools and parishes are appealing for new toys and gifts to bring some Christmas joy to families who may need some help this Christmas. Donated gifts may be dropped off at the Presbytery. **NB: It has been requested that the gifts are not wrapped. The last date for donations will be noon on Thursday 8th December.** Thank you for your generous support.

WARM SPACE

St Gregory's Presbytery will be open for tea/coffee and biscuits each **Wednesday morning from 9:00am - 11:00am**. All are welcome.

LIVING WATERS FOODBANK - CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Chorley Foodbank are urgently appealing for items for their Christmas food parcels which will be distributed to those families who are most in need. Items such as chocolate selection boxes, boxes of biscuits, tinned ham, tinned salmon, packets of stuffing, cranberry sauce & Christmas puddings etc. would be very welcome. Please leave your items in the box in the porch or at the presbytery. Thank you for your support.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

JOHN
PREACHED
WILDERNESS
MESSAGE
REPENT
VOICE
PREPARE
BELT
LOCUSTS
HONEY
SANDALS
RIVER



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 4th December 2022 - Second Sunday of Advent, Year A

REFLECTION

There is something quite beautiful about all the lights that now shine and sparkle in our streets and shop windows, trying to catch our eye and get our attention. In our gospel this Sunday, John the Baptist is trying to do exactly the same thing; he too is trying to get our attention because he has an important message for us as we take another step on our Advent journey. John comes as a messenger in the wilderness not just with any old news, but with 'good news' for all to hear - he comes to us with a message of hope. John tells us that someone (Jesus) is coming and that he is far more powerful than John. He reminds us today as he did in the desert that God has not forgotten us or the promise that was made to generations before us; Jesus the Messiah is coming - not just into our world, but into our homes, our lives and our hearts. John came with a new message in a new place - normally people went to the temple or the synagogue to hear the word of God, but John was in neither of these places. He appeared and spoke in the wilderness of the desert and as the gospel tells us *all the people of Judea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him*. Through John, God is proclaiming a new message in a new way. Through the words and actions of Jesus, God breaks into our world and lives in a new, life-giving and personal way. John the Baptist says to us; *Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is close at hand.* *'Prepare a way for the Lord, make his path straight.'*

We usually associate repentance more with the season of Lent. However, Advent also calls and challenges us to look at our lives and change whatever needs to be changed. An important aspect of our Advent journey and preparation is acknowledging that there are parts of our lives that need straightening! As we focus our attention on so many other things during the lead up to Christmas, let us not forget that Advent isn't simply something that happens 'out there' somewhere. Advent takes place deep within our hearts, our homes and our families; how we live our lives and through the daily activities in we which we engage. This week, let us all take some time to pray for and with each other, that we will do all we can to repent and prepare a way for the Lord.

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 27th November 2022

Gift Aid: **£92.50**

Loose Plate: **£425.51**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

The retiring collection today will be taken by the SVP.

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 - Paul Eastham - Derek Birchall - Paul Gallery
 Christine Zawistowicz - Catherine - Philip Compton - Emmy Moss - Tony Brown - 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.
 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.

BAPTISMS



Today we welcome in Baptism at St Gregory's
Freya Rose & Ruby Leigh Nutter
 Please keep them and their family in your
 prayers as they start out on their faith journey.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

All our Christmas Masses will be offered for the intentions of those on our Parish Christmas List and the People of the Parish. Christmas List forms are available at the back of church.

Please return your requests by **Thursday 22nd December** if you wish us to include your intentions. This year all Mass offerings will be donated to the charity 'DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal'.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2022

Christmas Eve (St Oswald's) 6:30pm 1st Mass of Christmas (with carols from 6:00pm)
 Christmas Eve (St Gregory's) 8:00pm 1st Mass of Christmas (with carols from 7:30pm)
 Christmas Day (St Gregory's) 9:30am The Nativity of the Lord
 Christmas Day (St Oswald's) 11:00am The Nativity of the Lord

NB: The Christmas Eve Masses in both parishes and the 9:30am Mass at St Gregory's will be ticketed events. Ticket request forms are now available at the back of church.

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 04 Dec	9:30am 6:30pm	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	John & Elizabeth Watmough Special intention (WH) Bernard Rigby (A)	Bible Sunday ST GREGORY'S
SUN 04 Dec	11:00am	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	John Calveley	Bible Sunday ST OSWALD'S
Mon 05 Dec	10:00am	St John Almond	Charlie Neil (LD) Agnes Pendlebury & Family	
Tues 06 Dec	9:15am	St Nicholas	Special Intention (JW) Alan Baldwin (LD)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 07 Dec	8:30am	St Ambrose	Tom Wilcock Liam Smith (LD)	EXPOSITION 12:00 - 2:00pm
Thur 08 Dec	10:30am	REQUIEM MASS	Mary Seddon	EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 09 Dec	8:30am 9:15am	St John Diego Cuahtlatoatzin	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
Sat 10 Dec	10:00am		Thomas Gerrard (F) Mary Cartmell (F)	
SUN 11 Dec	9:30am 6:30pm	3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Joe Robinson (BR) Tom Grady (A) Eluned Smith (LD)	Gaudete Sunday ST GREGORY'S
SUN 11 Dec	11:00am	3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Annie Eastham (A) Elaine McGreevy (A)	Gaudete Sunday ST OSWALD'S