BAPTISMS



Today we welcome in Baptism at St Gregory's **Poppy Catherine Prescott** Please keep her and her family in your prayers as they start out on their faith journey.

WELCOME!

We are pleased to welcome into the church this Easter, Thomas Robinson and Lee & Adele Williams

We wish them every blessing and assure them and their families of our prayers as they take this important step on their faith journeys.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Bethany Devlin & Christopher Inman who were married at St Gregory's this week. We wish them every joy and happiness as they begin married life together.

GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE?

The Alpha Course could change your life! It's an opportunity to explore the meaning of life through the lens of the Christian faith, in a relaxed environment. Alpha is for anyone who is curious to find out more about faith, those who are exploring and questioning; cynics, sceptics and the open-minded. This Alpha Course will be run in the Catholic tradition. We'll begin on 10th April 2024 at 7pm at St. Mary's Parish Centre in Leyland and meet every Wednesday for 6 weeks. Please pass on this information to family members and friends who you think might be interested in coming along. For further information or to register your interest please contact: Phone: Sr. Dorothy - 07530 238222 or Julie - 07943 874257 Email: dorothyhindle234@gmail.com or julie-st-bedes@hotmail.com

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THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 24th March 2024 - Palm Sunday, 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

WEEKLY COLLECTION w/c 17th March 2024

Gift Aid: **£82.00** Loose Plate: **£317.94** Standing Orders: **£369.92**

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

The retiring collection on Good Friday will be for the Holy Places

REFLECTION

Today the Church celebrates as both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. It is today that we enter Holy Week, and welcome Jesus into our lives, asking him to allow us to share in his suffering, death and Resurrection. Yet, we are not just remembering a historical event that happened over two thousand years ago - this is also the time we remember and celebrate the events which brought about our own redemption and salvation. Jesus's entry into the city begins on a huge wave of optimism, joy and hope. The people line the streets; they wave palms, they put their cloaks and garments on the ground and they shout out his name. This was an ancient Roman tradition used to welcome soldiers and armies home after their success in battle. The crowd welcome Jesus in a similar way as they shout out, Hosanna, Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Yet, how guickly the mood of the crowd changes as they turn on Jesus.

The same people who were happy to welcome him with shouts of joy, would soon begin to shout 'Crucify him, Crucify him.' Jesus is even betrayed and denied by his closet friends the rest of them run away and desert him and he is left alone. There is a very real danger that we can lose sight of what we are remembering and taking part in during Holy Week. As

well as celebrating this great week with dignity and reverence, we also need to ask ourselves what it is all about and what it means to each of us today. Proper participation in the Holy Week liturgy will deepen our relationship with God,

increase our faith and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. This is also the week when we should remember the burden of Christ's passion as experienced daily by the hungry, the poor, the sick, the homeless, the lonely and those who are outcast. As we celebrate Palm Sunday and begin our journey through Holy Week, we are called to ask ourselves

'Where am I in the unfolding drama that begins on Palm Sunday and plays out over Holy Week and which climaxes on Easter Sunday?' During this busy week of prayer, liturgy and ceremony, let us all consider what kind of followers of Christ we are, and what we are going to be.

Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

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

HOLY WEEK 2024

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.

SERVICE TIMES

| MAUNDY THURSDAY | 7:00pm (St Oswald's) Mass of the Lord's Supper | | |
|-----------------|---|--|--|
| GOOD FRIDAY | 11:00am (St Oswald's) Stations of the Cross | | |
| | 3:00pm (St Gregory's) Celebration of the Lord's Passion | | |
| Holy Saturday | 8:00pm (St Gregory's) Easter Vigil Mass | | |
| Easter Sunday | <i>Masses</i> 9:30am (St Gregory's) 11:00am (St Oswald's) | | |
| | CHRISM MASS | | |
| | lebrated in the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathe at 19.30. You can join the Mass via LiveStrea | | |

he Chrism Mass will be celebrated in the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral on Wednesday 27th March at 19.30. You can join the Mass via LiveStream at: <u>https://youtube.com/live/YTD06cRtV6Q</u>

FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY

There will be a special celebration at Sacred Heart Church on **Sunday 7th April at 3pm** on the Feast of the Divine Mercy. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet, Confessions & Rosary followed by Mass. There are some copies of the chaplet of the Divine Mercy at the back of church, please do take one.

SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy' Matthew 5:7

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

| Date Time | | Dedication | Intention | Notes | |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|---|--|
| SUN 24 Mar | 9:30am 6:30pm | PALM SUNDAY | Mary Jane Barton (BR) Barbara Edwards People of the Parish | ST GREGORY'S | |
| SUN 24 Mar | 11:00am | PALM SUNDAY | Hélène Draper (LD) | ST OSWALD'S | |
| Mon 25 Mar | 10:00am | | James Critchley (BR) | | |
| | 11:30am | FUNERAL SERVICE | Janice Tatlock | | |
| Tues 26 Mar | 9:15am | | For a successful operation | | |
| Wed 27 Mar | 8:30am | | The Bolton family | | |
| Thur 28 Mar | 7:00pm | HOLY THURSDAY | The sick & housebound of our parishes | ST OSWALD'S | |
| Fri 29 Mar | 11:00am 3:00pm | GOOD FRIDAY | STATIONS OF THE CROSS CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION | ST OSWALD'S Divine Mercy Novena begins today ST GREGORY'S | |
| Sat 30 Mar | 8:00pm | HOLY SATURDAY | Those being received into the church | ST GREGORY'S | |
| SUN 31 Mar | 9:30am | EASTER SUNDAY | Shaun McGeown (A) Pauline Critchley (A) David & Kathleen Critchley (60th WA) | ST GREGORY'S | |
| SUN 31 Mar | 11:00am | EASTER SUNDAY | The People of the Parish | ST OSWALD'S | |