

COULD YOU BE A DEACON?

Having received our Synod Pastoral Plan, which sets out concrete actions to change our ways of working, so that our Church becomes more inclusive, more welcoming and more engaged with those on the margins, the ministry of deacons will continue to evolve alongside the presbyteral ministry in the service of the priesthood of all the baptised.

If you would like to hear how this is working out and you feel this may be your calling too, please join Archbishop Malcolm and the diaconate team in an evening meeting for men who may be wondering if they are called to serve as deacons and what the formation involves.

Wives and supporting priests or deacons are also welcome.

The meeting will take place on **Tuesday 22 February 2022** from 7:30-9:00pm (refreshments from 7pm) at **St Gregory's Presbytery, Weldbank Lane, Chorley PR7 3NW**

If you are interested in the diaconate but unable to attend this evening, please email diaconate@rcaol.org.uk for more information.

FR DENIS McBRIDE'S LENTEN RETREAT

Join Father Denis McBride who will be leading a FREE online retreat throughout Lent, which will be based on his book *Journeying with Jesus, A Companions Guide*.

For further information and details of the 6 week retreat, please click [here](#)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

If you are willing to lead the stations, please let Fr Graeme know. There are many versions that can be used and are available from church.

TREE PLANTING AT ST GREGORY'S

If anybody else is interested in being involved in the tree-planting event, please do get in touch. Although the date for this event hasn't yet been set, it will take place soon after 18th March. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

LEVEL DISEASES POOR HUNGRY
 NAME DANCE REWARD ALAS
 CRIMINAL HAPPY KINGDOM DENOUNCE



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

13th February 2022 - Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year C

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 6th February 2022

Gift Aid: **£86.50**

Loose Plate: **£231.98**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

REFLECTION

Today's much-loved Gospel teaching of the Beatitudes marks the beginning of Jesus's Sermon on the Plain. For centuries, the Beatitudes have been described as the ladder or the staircase by which the saints ascend to heaven - therefore, if our aim is to join the saints in heaven, then we too must also mount the same rungs. But today's Gospel can also lead to confusion as it is contrary to the 'get ahead' messages we hear in our society today which lead us to believe that happiness means having money, being successful, and having many possessions. In this way, we are not unlike the people who heard Jesus when he taught the Beatitudes as they too associated happiness with possessions and success. However, the report of the Beatitudes in St Luke's Gospel, goes still further and says that not only will we not find happiness through the 'get ahead' messages of the world, but, relying upon these messages will cause us harm! The warnings spoken are particularly challenging because they suggest that our way of life must change if we are to gain the happiness of eternal life. But, the Beatitudes are not just about the rich or the poor, happy or sad, hungry or satisfied, etc. - they go beyond our status in life and refer more to our status before God. Jesus was careful to note that whatever we are experiencing, if it is because of our faith and love of God, we are blessed. The world mainly sees the rich, powerful and famous as the ones blessed, whilst those on the other side are regarded as cursed. But what if those riches, power, or fame are attained immorally, illegally, or unworthily? Before God's eyes, they are not blessings at all as anything against God's commands is never a blessing. In the same way, the poor, hungry and the oppressed are not automatic curses - they too may be considered blessings if they were attained in faithfulness to God. Leading the Christian life is never easy, and suffering tests our faith. But we know we can always trust in God's help, mercy and forgiveness. We can say, 'Thy will be done' no matter how difficult the circumstances. For God's will works in bad times and good. It works in ways far beyond our ability to understand, but we can always trust in it.

Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

Hugh O'Daly - Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan - Fr Laurence Mayne - Paul Spedding - Neil Haydock
 Teresa Abernethy - Angela Helmn - Shirley Langstrath - Margaret Dearden
 Anthony Crilly - Sheila McGeown - Caroline Rigby - Dorothy Fairclough - Paul Eastham

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.

*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen.*

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

IMPORTANT UPDATE - COVID REQUIREMENTS

Whilst we can no longer enforce the wearing of face-masks at St Gregory's, it is still highly recommended for the safety of all concerned that you continue to wear a mask whilst in church. Masks or visors will still be worn whilst Holy Communion is distributed.

For the same reason, we will continue for the present to sanitise.

We have been encouraged to return to as normal practice as possible and so the sign of peace may be offered (however, please be aware that whilst you may wish to offer the sign of peace, some people may not be comfortable at this time so please don't take offence!).

Holy Communion will still only be offered under one kind.

I have also decided the following:

- we will not reintroduce holy water as we enter church at this time;
- we will not now be leaving the doors open throughout the service but they will be opened at Holy Communion to allow some air exchange whilst there is movement;
- although social distancing is not now required for those who feel vulnerable, as a sensitive gesture, a section of the church will still be offered for social distancing. The amount of social distancing will be reviewed on a weekly basis.



BAPTISMS

Today we welcome in Baptism at St Gregory's

Sebastian Patel & Harry Benjamin Sharratt

Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they start out on their faith journey.

Baptisms take place at St Gregory's on 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 1:00pm and at St Oswald's on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:15pm.

If you would like to arrange to have your child baptised at either church, please see Fr Graeme after Mass. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

| Date | Time | Dedication | Intention | Notes |
|-------------|------------------|--|---|--|
| Sun 13 Feb | 9:30am 6:30pm | 6th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | Valerie Bretherton John & Elizabeth Watmough (A) Bryan Dougan (A) | Day of Prayer for Racial Justice ST GREGORY'S |
| Sun 13 Feb | 11:00am | 6th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | Alan Macdonald (BR) | Day of Prayer for Racial Justice ST OSWALD'S |
| Mon 14 Feb | 10:00am | St Cyril & St Methodius | Jean White (LD) | |
| Tues 15 Feb | 9:15am | | Private Intention | DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm |
| Wed 16 Feb | 8:30am | | Michael McFarlane (LD) Brian Roocroft (LD) | |
| Thur 17 Feb | 9:15am | Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order | Teresa Hamer (BR) | DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm |
| Fri 18 Feb | 8:30am 9:15am | | EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE | |
| Sat 19 Feb | 10:00am | | Deceased Catenians Bill McAllister & Louis Nightingale Stephen Rainford (A) | |
| Sun 20 Feb | 9:30am 6:30pm | 7th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | Bert Southworth Kathleen Marmion (A) Paul McManus (A) | ST GREGORY'S |
| Sun 20 Feb | 11:00am | 7th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | Frank Ogden (A) | ST OSWALD'S |