

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.



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

20th February 2022 - Seventh 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

REFLECTION

Every time we listen to the news we hear of countries and sadly different religious nations at war with each other - when one side is attacked and bombed, the other side immediately strikes back with equal if not more destructive force. We see and hear the same when our politicians talk to each other - they react rather than respond to each other, often trying to shout each other down. In our own daily lives, there are times when someone says or does something to us that is painful and we too retaliate. In today's Gospel, Jesus puts before us the question and the dilemma of what we should do and how we should behave when his happens to us. Do we return one painful word or action with the same anger? Jesus knows and quotes the Jewish Law.

It was allowed to take an eye for an eye to prevent all out war between families, village and even countries. However, as with last week's Gospel, Jesus wants his disciples and us to go further. As his followers and disciples today, Jesus asks us *not to respond with anger, aggression or violence* when a wrong is done to or against us. Challenging and difficult as this is, we are to take as our model, the life and actions of Jesus himself. These words from Jesus' teaching are familiar to us. They constitute the challenge of what it means to be a disciple: Love your enemies, turn the other cheek, give to those who ask, do unto others, lend without expecting repayment, judge not lest you be judged. This is the cost of being a Christian and although it may sound unrealistic and even foolish, while it can be done, it is by no means easy.

There are three examples that we can learn from. Mahatma Gandhi stood up and spoke out against the wrongs he saw, but he did not respond with violence. Maximilian Kolbe, who gave his life in the concentration camp for that of another man's, refused to hate those who killed him. And finally Martin Luther King, following Gandhi's example also protested against racism peacefully. These three great figures all had their lives taken from them, yet their message and example live on today for us. We may not be asked to give our lives for the gospel, but we are asked to offer each other the hand of peace, reconciliation and forgiveness.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

LOVE
HATE
BLESS
CURSE
PRAY
SLAPS
CHEEK
TUNIC
ROBS
RETURN
PARDON
ENEMIES

CONDEMN
CLOAK
REWARD
WICKED
SINNERS
RECEIVE



WEEKLY COLLECTION w/c 13th February 2022

Gift Aid: **£138.00**
Loose Plate: **£285.70**
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

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 especially Teresa Eileen Critchley & Sheila Angela Ingram

*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.

Liverpool's Lourdes Pilgrimage

I'm pleased to say that this year's Liverpool Lourdes pilgrimage is planned to run from 22nd to 29th July.

If anyone is interested in joining us there, the details are on the Poster in the porch

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
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
Mon 21 Feb	10:00am	St Peter Damian REQUIEM MASS	Mary Barker	
Tues 22 Feb	9:15am 10:30am	See of St Peter FUNERAL SERVICE	Alan Macdonald Bill Critchley (A) Teresa Eileen Critchley	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 23 Feb	8:30am 3:30pm	St Polycarp FUNERAL SERVICE	Fred & Bessie Fowler (A) Sheila Angela Ingam	
Thur 24 Feb	9:15am		LISCF	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 25 Feb	8:30am 9:15am		EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	
Sat 26 Feb	10:00am		John Calveley (LD)	
Sun 27 Feb	9:30am 6:30pm	8th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Ken Edwards (LD) People of the Parish	Day for the Unemployed ST GREGORY'S
Sun 27 Feb	11:00am	8th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	Winifred 'Maureen' Hooson (A) Charles Holt (A)	Day for the Unemployed ST OSWALD'S