

## LENTEN SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

There will be a Service of Reconciliation with individual confessions on **Sunday 3rd April at 3:00pm** at St Gregory's, Weld Bank.

## #HELPUKRAINE EMERGENCY APPEAL

A big thank you to parishioners for your overwhelming response to this appeal, you have been most generous. If you are able to help financially, here are the ways you can donate:

- through parishes and branches of partner organisations
- direct to the central appeal fund AUGB Ltd, 80038237, 20-65-89 ref: HelpUkraine
- through the fundraising page on GoFundMe at <https://rb.gv/dcggcc>

Donations of the following items are still urgently needed.

**First aid kits** (including sterile dressings, safety pins, antiseptic fluid/cream/spray, disposable gloves, eye wash); **bandages** (all sizes, gauze, steri-strips, triangular bandages); **toiletries** (including toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo); **bedding, sleeping bags, blankets, generators and different types of chargers; nappy rash creams and baby bath lotions** (all ages and sizes); **powdered baby milk and feeding bottles; pain relief** (e.g. Paracetamol, Ibuprofen); **warm underclothing** (including socks); **sanitary products; nappies** (all ages and sizes) & **rucksacks**. Until we hear differently, I would be grateful if you could limit yourselves to these items. Thank you for your continued response.

## TREE PLANTING EVENT

Good News - our trees have arrived! The date for the tree planting event will be

**Saturday 26th March 2022 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm**

If you would like to be involved in the planting but have not yet registered an interest, please email: [stgregory@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:stgregory@rcaol.org.uk) or Tel: 01257 262462

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

GALILEANS BLOOD SINNERS REPENT  
 PERISH EIGHTEEN TOWER SILOAM  
 GUILTY PARABLE FIG THREE



# THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

20th March 2022 - Third Sunday of Lent, Year C

## REFLECTION

In our gospel today we are given an image to reflect upon. Christ presents himself as the gardener who patiently and humbly works in the situations of our lives to bring forth life and healing. In the parable we are told that the owner of an orchard wants a fig tree that is not bearing fruit to be cut down - yet the gardener intercedes on behalf of the tree and asks that he be allowed to cultivate the ground and fertilise it for a year to see if it will bear fruit and only then should it be decided whether to cut down the tree or not. It is interesting that the parable ends here - as listeners we never hear whether the fig tree owner said yes to this request, or what happened to the fig tree. This is intentional because by leaving it unfinished we are brought into the parable - it doesn't have a clear ending because we are given a choice and a voice to continue to write the next chapter of God's story. Jesus is telling us that in our lives, we too may have times where everything seems dull and slow and we may not feel like our faith is bearing fruit or that God is near. But those times are never the end - God nourishes us with mercy and waits for us patiently. Just as in the story of the fig tree, our story is also not over and the next chapter can always be rewritten. The choice that God offers us is not the stark choice between repenting and perishing. God calls each of us by name, just as he called Moses, and he gives us the freedom to say yes to unique daily vocations of mercy. He also calls us to find the holy grounds where God is revealed in our lives - whether that is through our devotions in church, in service to the poor or in our care for the earth. Our Lenten call to repentance is never a threat but a call to return to God's mercy. If we have been enjoying God's special treatment without giving anything in return then now is the time to respond to the gardener's patient care and begin to bear the fruit God has created us to produce. Life is wonderful but it is also precious and short and we must make the best use of every day that we are granted. We are each the fig tree in the parable. The Father owns the vineyard; the Son is the gardener giving us the ability to grow and the Spirit is the gifts that we have which will attract others. But it is up to us to choose whether to bear fruit!

### 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](mailto:stgregory@rcaol.org.uk)

### Website:

[www.stgregoryschorley.org.uk](http://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 13th March 2022

Gift Aid: **£102.00**  
 Loose Plate: **£457.55**  
 Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

The special collection next week will be for Nugent Care

### 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 - Laurie Montgomery  
 Derek Birchall - Christine Zawistowicz - Joanne Hardyman

*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

### WEEKLY REVIEW OF COVID REQUIREMENTS

Following a further review of Covid requirements, it has been decided that given the major source of transmission of the virus is now generally accepted to be via airborne particulates (according to scientific evidence), both the weekly collection and also the Offertory Procession can now be reintroduced. For the time being we will continue to keep a section of the church with social distancing and also the practice of sanitising on entry and the presence of stewards. We will continue to review the situation on a weekly basis.

### LENTEN APPEALS

During Lent we will be supporting a number of appeals: CAFOD, Nugent and Lenten Alms.

Your kind donations would be gratefully received. You can donate online:

CAFOD at: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-CAFOD/Lent-Appeal>

or via the envelopes at the back of church.

Lenten Alms: via the purple box at the front of church.

Alternatively you can post your donations through the presbytery door, please mark your envelopes with the name of the respective appeal.

### NUGENT APPEAL

On Sunday 27th March there will be a second collection to support Nugent, the official Archdiocesan caring service. This year marks the 200th anniversary of its founder, Fr. James Nugent. Inspired by his work to educate children in Liverpool, support women prisoners in Walton prison and care for the poor, his legacy continues with Nugent today. Thank you in advance for your support.

### LENT 2022

There will be a **Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament at 3:00pm today** and on each Sunday during Lent at St Gregory's. There will also be **Stations of the Cross at 6:30pm** each Friday during Lent at both churches. If people wish to follow the devotions privately, resources are available in Church, but please do not remove them.

## MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
Sun 20 Mar	9:30am 6:30pm	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT	Sheila Grady (A) Joanne Hardyman (S) Maureen Turner (F)	ST GREGORY'S HOLY HOUR 3:00pm
Sun 20 Mar	11:00am	3rd SUNDAY OF LENT	LISCF	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 21 Mar	10:00am		Valerie Bretherton Fred Walker (RIP)	
Tues 22 Mar	9:15am		Jane Burns (F) Near Family (F)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 23 Mar	8:30am	St Turibius of Mongrovejo	Mary Jane Barton (BR) Robert Keane	
Thur 24 Mar	9:15am		Anne Williams (LD)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 25 Mar	8:30am 9:15am 6:30pm 6:30pm	The Annunciation of the Lord	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE STATIONS OF THE CROSS STATIONS OF THE CROSS	ST GREGORY'S ST OSWALD'S
Sat 26 Mar	10:00am		SVP Chorley Buddies (2nd Anniv) Peter Evans (BR)	
Sun 27 Mar	9:30am 6:30pm	4th SUNDAY OF LENT	James Critchley (BR) John Walker (F) John Cooper (F)	ST GREGORY'S HOLY HOUR 3:00pm
Sun 27 Mar	11:00am	4th SUNDAY OF LENT	May Crone (A)	ST OSWALD'S