

LENTEN APPEALS

During Lent we will be supporting a number of appeals: CAFOD (Lenten Fast Day on Friday 26th February, 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>

Nugent at: <https://www.weareugent.org/fundraising/donate/>

Alternatively you can post your donations through the presbytery door, please mark your envelopes with the name of the respective appeal. In addition, Chorley Catholic Community Network with the support of Chorley Council are working with the Chorley Repair Café to try to help eradicate Digital Poverty in Chorley. If you have any surplus tablets or laptops, please email: chorleybuddies@hotmail.com

Thank you for your generosity.

CHORLEY JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

The role of the Justice & Peace movement is to tackle poverty, violence, prejudice and injustice, to act on climate change, to protect the environment, and to work for a world where all have access to food, clean water, shelter, health, education and a livelihood. Chorley Justice & Peace Group is inviting parishioners from all the Catholic Parishes in the Chorley Pastoral Area who are interested in supporting this work to join them. For more information on Justice & Peace or if you would like to be involved in the Group's activities after lockdown or to support them in any way, please contact Andrew Thomson on 07802 249495 or email: thomson.andrew@btinternet.com

A BIG THANK YOU FROM CHORLEY FOODBANK

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your immensely generous support towards the food bank.....we are truly grateful. This year we anticipate that we will be as busy as ever with many people still desperately in need.....God bless you and once again thank you for partnering with us. You are making a HUGE difference.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

SPIRIT	WILDERNESS	TEMPTED
SATAN	WILD	BEASTS
ANGELS	GOOD	NEWS
CLOSE	REPENT	BELIEVE



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

21st February 2021 - 1st Sunday of Lent

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 - 14:00

Parish Administrator:

Christine Edwards

Safeguarding Rep:

Edward Brierley

WEEKLY COLLECTION w/c 14th February 2021

Gift Aid: **£148.00**

Loose Plate: **£334.00**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

REFLECTION

Our gospel this Sunday sees Jesus being led into the desert. The desert in Jewish history was very important as when God freed and saved the People of Israel from slavery in Egypt, they spent forty years in the desert. They wandered and sometimes got lost as they tried to find their way to the Promised Land. This was not an easy journey for them. At times they lost faith in each other and in God - they forgot the promise that God made with them; *'I will be your God and you will be my people.'* As they made their way through the desert, many would have stopped travelling and settled near the closest oasis or watering hole. Some others would have joined other tribes and religions that they met on along the way. When they were at their lowest, they made a statue of a golden calf and began to worship it. They had forgotten where they had come from, what God had done for them and had lost sight of where God was leading them. In St Mark's Gospel, the desert marks the beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan - the ultimate test was to be Jesus' final hours on the cross. It is no surprise that we begin Lent with Jesus in the desert. Like his ancestors, he too is tried, tested and tempted.

However, Jesus refused to give up or give in so quickly or so easily. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives - as we begin our own Lenten journey, we need to recall and remember that we are not setting out on this journey on our own. When we are tempted, we need to follow the example of Jesus. He did not rely on his own strength but turned to God and asked for help. We will not be able to walk the Lenten journey on our own. We need to realise that like Jesus, we too need God's help, support, guidance and protection. Whenever we feel tired or ready to give up or give in, we need to turn to God for encouragement. We know that God will be with us during Lent as God was with Jesus when he was in the desert.

God will never leave us alone.

Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

Maureen Jackson - Madge Henshaw - Winifred Calderbank - Eileen Nuttall - Anne Knowles
 Kitty Ellison - Julie Hurley - Danny Harrison - Thomas Moss - Margaret Shaw - Hugh O'Daly
 Baby Elmo Allan - Paul McBeth - Fr Laurence Mayne - Kathleen Dunn - Paul Spedding
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 LOCKDOWN UPDATE

The Archbishop in a letter to the priests of the Archdiocese wrote: 'Although I have circulated the recent government advice on the opening of churches, I want to emphasise that the final decision in this regard is yours. ... You have to consider your volunteers and stewards. You also have yourself to consider ... Now is the time to make wise decisions for the good of all. As priests I am very aware of how committed you are to your sacred ministry and that you will not leave your people without pastoral care.'

The following statement was also received from Public Health England 'As Directors of Public Health representing Lancashire, we are strongly advising all faith communities to pause communal prayer and worship during the lockdown period, to reduce the possible spread of the new Covid variant. We recognise that this is a big request, but it will help to protect our communities at this critical stage of the pandemic. While we can't require our faith communities to do this, we are asking everyone to make this temporary change to protect each other. You have already made changes to your worship arrangements, but we are asking for caution at this difficult and concerning time. We're seeing increasing numbers of cases in Lancashire, and worrying increases in the number of people hospitalised from Covid, as well as increasing numbers of deaths. This was a difficult decision to take but we feel it is the right thing to do and will be reviewed every two weeks

CHURCH CLOSURE UPDATE

The situation with church closures was reviewed on Monday 8th Feb at a meeting of the Deanery priests. It was decided that due to the current levels of infection there should be no changes at the present time. The situation will be reviewed again in two weeks time.
 We thank you for your understanding and ask for your prayers.

Masses/Devotions will be LiveStreamed and recorded at the advertised times.

Weekday Masses:

Mon/Wed/Fri - 8:30am Tues/Thurs/Sat - 10:00am

Sunday Mass:

9:30am

Devotions will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm - 2:00pm

God Bless you and your families at this difficult time
 Fr Graeme

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
Sun 21 Feb	9:30am	1st SUNDAY OF LENT	Bert Southworth Sheila Grady (B)	
Sun 21 Feb	NO 11:00am MASS	ALL MASSES/DEVOTIONS ARE BOTH LIVESTREAMED & RECORDED AND CAN BE VIEWED AT ANY TIME		
Mon 22 Feb	8:30am	See of St Peter	Fred & Bessie Fowler (A) David Warbis (LD)	
Tues 23 Feb	10:00am	St Polycarp	Tom & Sheila Grady Pam Scard (successful op)	Holy Hour 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 24 Feb	8:30am		Barbara Green & family David Hardy (LD)	
Thur 25 Feb	10:00am		Derek Smith Edmund & Timothy Donegan	Holy Hour 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 26 Feb	8:30am		James Entwisle (A) Doris Ferguson (LD)	Lenten Fast Day
Sat 27 Feb	10:00am		Josephine Galloway (A) In thanksgiving for all involved in the Covid 19 Vaccination programme	
Sun 28 Feb	9:30am		Fr Gerry Britt (LD) Paul Spedding (S)	
Sun 28 Feb	NO 11:00am MASS	ALL MASSES/DEVOTIONS ARE BOTH LIVESTREAMED & RECORDED AND CAN BE VIEWED AT ANY TIME		