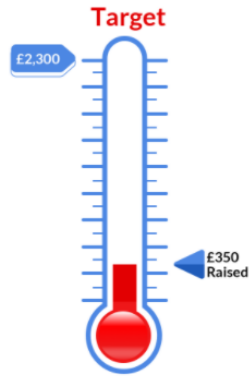
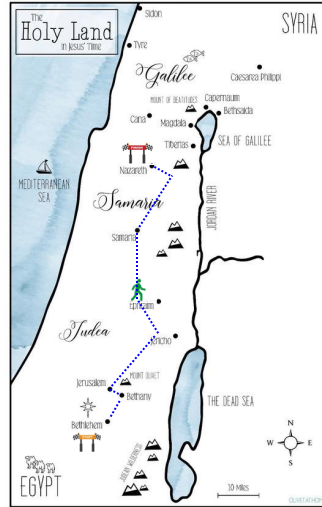


THE PENTECOST CHALLENGE



Fr Graeme & Mgr McKenna are raising funds for Friends of the Holy Land to help Christian Communities through the pandemic and keep children at their schools. They are walking as part of a Team called 'Weldbank Walkers' who aim to raise £2,300 by walking a total distance of 336 miles between them! You can sponsor them and follow their progress online by clicking [here](#). Alternatively, if you prefer, there are some



sponsorship forms at the back of church. We will be charting the Team's progress here each week. They aim to complete the challenge by Pentecost Sunday 23rd May. Welcome to Susan & Paul Jamison (New Zealand) who have also joined the team. If you would like to join the team and raise some sponsorship yourself, just let us know - you would be most welcome!

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

All being well, once we reach the next step in the Government's 4 step road map, from 17th May onwards, those who are sick and housebound will be able to receive Holy Communion at home once more. In addition, if there is anybody else who has been isolating since the beginning of the Pandemic and who does not yet feel it is safe to return to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please let us know as soon as possible.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

VINE BRANCH FRUIT PRUNES
WORD HOME PLENTY THROWN
FIRE BURNT GLORY DISCIPLES



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

2nd May 2021 - Fifth Sunday of Easter, 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/>

Part of the

ARCHDIOCESE of LIVERPOOL

Registered Charity No: 232709

Church Office Hours:

Mon/Wed/Thurs 09:00 - 15:00

Parish Administrator:

Christine Edwards

Safeguarding Rep:

Edward Brierley

WEEKLY COLLECTION

w/c 25th April 2021

Gift Aid: £47.00

Loose Plate: £260.55

Standing Orders: £186.25

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

REFLECTION

The image of a garden is presented in our Gospel today. For those of us who are gardeners, we know that it takes a special set of skills to create and cultivate a beautiful garden and that if a plant is to produce beautiful flowers or abundant fruit, a certain amount of pruning is necessary. In addition to pruning, though, if a plant is to bear fruit it must also receive the proper nutrients. Jesus reminds us of this when he says: *'Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me'*. Living a truly Christian life has never been easy. There has always been the attraction of the world and its temptations to make our lives less easy, but for us these difficulties have increased a hundredfold as the attractions of today are multiplied by the increased comforts and pleasures which science and technology have put within our reach. Human nature, always inclined to choose the easiest way out, has been given so many means of escape from the strain of self-control that even for a fervent Christian it is frequently very difficult to avoid such worldly temptations. Having the ordinary comforts of life is not wrong - but the natural temptation is to get more and more comforts and riches, and there comes a point where this becomes the only purpose in life. Unfortunately, when this stage is reached, we lose our perspective and God and our future life are forgotten - so the world becomes our idol and our prison.

The temptations put in Jesus's way are multiplied for us. It can be very hard to swim against the current and it is so much easier to allow ourselves to be carried along without effort by the rushing tide - but alas when there are rocks and currents ahead, those of us who are not strong swimmers may find ourselves in trouble! Our Lord warns us today, as he warned his first followers, to abide in him, to remain closely united with him, as is the branch to the vine, if we hope to bear fruit worthy of heaven. Christ has promised to remain beside us during life if we stay close to him. Whilst we remain healthy branches of the vine, Christ will walk beside us on the road to heaven.

Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

Maureen Jackson - Madge Henshaw - Eileen Nuttall - Anne Knowles - Julie Hurley
 Danny Harrison - Thomas Moss - Margaret Shaw - Hugh O'Daly - Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan
 Fr Laurence Mayne - Kathleen Dunn - Paul Spedding - Canon Albert Shaw
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 Michael Melling (St Oswald's).

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

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

CHURCH REOPENING UPDATE

Following the Prime Ministers announcement of a 4 step road map out of lockdown, and following further guidance received from the Archdiocese, St Gregory's is now open for Public Worship. All previous precautions including social distancing, the wearing of face masks and sanitisation regimes must remain in place.

There will also be no toilet facilities available.

The following will apply in Step 2 (from 12th April):

**Funerals are permitted to go ahead and can be attended by close family only
 (max 30 people)**

Burials of ashes can also continue with up to 15 people in attendance

**Weddings can now go ahead with 6 attendees
 and are no longer limited to exceptional circumstances**

No Baptisms to take place at this time

We will update the guidance re: Steps 3-4 as we progress through each stage of the Government roadmap.

May God continue to Bless you and your families
Fr Graeme

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

Weekday Masses:

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

Sunday Masses: 9:30am (St Gregory's), 11:00am (St Oswald's - not Live Streamed)

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

CHORLEY FOODBANK

As the Covid rules have now been relaxed a little, the box in the porch is now back in operation. Items such as teabags, coffee, cereal, pasta, rice, tinned goods and toiletries would be gratefully received. Thank you for your support.

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
Sun 02 May	9:30am	5th SUNDAY OF EASTER	Thomas Livesey (A)	St Gregory's Weld Bank
Sun 02 May	11:00am	5th SUNDAY OF EASTER	William Ingram (A)	St Oswald's Coppull
Mon 03 May	10:00am	St Philip & St James	Bernard Dickinson	BANK HOLIDAY
Tues 04 May	10:00	The English Martyrs	Jean Riding (LD)	Devotions 1:00pm-2:00pm
Wed 05 May	8:30am		In Thanksgiving	
Thur 06 May	10:00am		Shirley & Brian Taylor (Diamond Wedding)	Devotions 1:00pm-2:00pm
Fri 07 May	8:30am		Rev G Britt Philip Barton B(R)	
Sat 08 May	10:00am		Thomas & Mildred Wilcock (F) James Dunn (A)	
Sun 09 May	9:30am	6th SUNDAY OF EASTER	David Warbis Paul Spedding (S)	St Gregory's Weld Bank
Sun 09 May	11:00am	6th SUNDAY OF EASTER	Phyllis Rourke	St Oswald's Coppull