

MAY—THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

As May is the month of Mary, all are welcome to join us for the Rosary via the LiveStream each day at 1pm.

The Holy Father has also issued a letter to the faithful for the month of May in which he encourages us to pray the Rosary. He has also included two prayers which we can say in union with him during the month. To access the letter and prayers please follow the link:

[Letter & Prayers of the Holy Father for May](#)

SONGS OF PRAISE

A big thank you for all the many hymn requests which have been sent in for our Songs of Praise. If you haven't yet heard your chosen hymn, don't worry, we will continue the series each Thursday whilst the requests keep coming in. Occasionally we come across hymns which we are unable to obtain so please bear with us! Requests should be emailed with either an intention or the reason why you have chosen the hymn to:

[St Gregory's Weld Bank](#)

RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN

If you are looking for new ways to keep the children occupied during lockdown, the Archdiocese has made some family prayers & activities available by following the link:

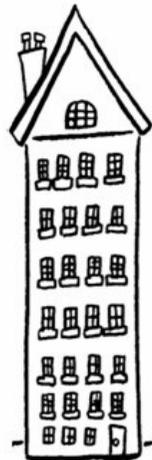
<https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/family-life>

SYNOD 2020 UPDATE

During these days of isolation and social distancing we are experiencing different ways of being Church - our sense of community is challenged as we find creative and new ways of coming together to meet, to socialise, to work, or to check in on each other. Today begins our extra period of reflection as we consider what our Synod can learn from the experience of living through these difficult and different times. A [short film](#) and a [leaflet](#) has been produced to help guide your reflection. Visit our [website](#), reflect and submit your proposals for action. We will close the online submission form on Mon 4 May 2020.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

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HEARTS
TROUBLED
TRUST
ROOMS
HOUSE
TRUTH
BELIEVE
FATHER
LIVING
EVIDENCE
REASON
PERFORM



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF
St Gregory's Weld Bank

3rd May 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Easter, Cycle A

St Gregory's RC Church

Weldbank Lane
Chorley, Lancs
PR7 3NW
Tel: 01257 262462

Priests

Fr Graeme M. Dunne
Fr Kenny Hyde

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 19th & 26th April**

Gift Aid: **£160.00**

Loose Plate: **£185.77**

Standing Orders: **£196.25**

Thank you for your kind and generous donations which go towards the upkeep of the church.

REFLECTION

Today is known as Good Shepherd Sunday and occurs on the fourth Sunday of each Easter Season. In today's Gospel from St John, Jesus uses the image of the shepherd to describe himself and his relationship with us. At the time of Jesus, shepherds were a part of daily life for many people. When Jesus used the image and symbol of the shepherd, the people to whom he was speaking would have understood what he was talking about immediately. But what does the image of Jesus the shepherd mean for us today? While sheep all look the same to us, a shepherd knows each of them individually. When a shepherd calls a sheep, the sheep recognises his voice and responds and just as the shepherd knows the sheep, the sheep knows and trusts the shepherd. The shepherd guides and protects the sheep and the sheep go where the shepherd leads them.

We are not sheep, but Jesus knows and loves each of us as individuals, both personally and intimately. If a shepherd cares for his sheep with such great love and devotion, how much more does our heavenly Father love and care for each of us? Jesus does not force us to listen to his voice when he calls us but invites us to follow him freely. The choice of whether or not to respond is ours alone. We may take our time in responding, but Jesus will never stop calling us by our name; he will wait until we do respond. Jesus does not call and ask us to follow him just for the sake of it; he offers us not only the fullness of life; he offers us the fullness of *his* life.

As we continue our journey through Easter in preparation for the celebration of Pentecost, may each of us realise how deeply and personally Jesus loves us. When Jesus calls us by our name, may we answer in faith, gratitude and gratefulness and may we always follow where he leads us. Jesus came so that each of us may have life and have it to the full. That fullness of life is offered to us here and now, not some time in the future!

Please Pray for Our Sick Brothers and Sisters

Lois Chiasson - Maureen Jackson - Madge Henshaw

Winifred Calderbank - Hugh O'Daly - Kitty Ellison - Julie Hurley

Danny Harrison - Thomas Moss - Margaret Shaw - Madge Henshaw

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.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

CORONA VIRUS - IMPORTANT UPDATE

All public Masses, sacraments and other services are suspended until further notice (this will be reviewed regularly by the Bishops). The obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday and Holy Days is also suspended at this time. Exceptions to this are as follows:

- Funerals will take place with restrictions fulfilling pastoral needs.
- The Sacrament of the Sick will continue in extreme circumstances, however, Holy Communion to the sick and housebound is suspended until further notice.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be arranged in extreme circumstances by phoning the presbytery.

The Parish will maintain links with our parishioners in the following ways:

- Masses will be streamed live - the times will be as on the newsletter. Please note: we are currently experiencing some difficulties with the live stream at peak times relating to the volume of people trying to access the system. We are therefore recording all Masses and these can be viewed by clicking on the recordings button on the Live Stream page or follow this link: <https://www.stgregoryschorley.org.uk/church-livestream>
- Outside of Mass, the live stream will focus on the exposed Blessed Sacrament or the tabernacle and cross to help with private prayer.
- There are many spiritual resources available online including messages from both Archbishop Malcolm and Cardinal Vincent Nichols. A number of prayer resources are also available at <https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/>
- A telephone conversation service (ChorleyBuddies) is now available for those who are self-isolating, further details can be found on the Parish Website.
- The presbytery number (01257 262462) is always available if you wish to speak with one of the priests. If he is not available, please do leave a message and you will be contacted as soon as possible.
- Although the church will no longer be open for private prayer, parishioners are welcome to pray whilst walking around the church grounds. Please ensure social distancing is maintained at all times and observe that dogs are strictly prohibited in the cemetery areas (except guide dogs).

In these strange times that we are living in, our life and our communion together in the Lord will continue in new and different ways. Please continue to support each other especially the vulnerable and let us keep each other in our prayers. Fr Graeme.

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

| Date | Time | Dedication | Intention | Notes |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Sun 03 May | 9:30am | 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER | Tommy McGuigan (LD) | Good Shepherd Sunday |
| Sun 03 May | 11:00am | 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER | Marie Ashworth (LD) | EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Sun 03 May | 6:30pm | 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER | Private Intention | |
| Mon 04 May | 8:30am 12:00 noon | English Martyrs | Susan Dickinson Jim Byrne (A) | EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Tues 05 May | 8:30am 12:00 noon | St Asaph | Louise O'Dwyer (A) Mass of Thanksgiving | EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Wed 06 May | 8:30am 12:00 noon | St Dominic | People of the Parish Vivian Bateson (LD) | EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Thu 07 May | 8:30am 12:00 noon | St John Beverly | Thomas & Mildred Wilcock (F) Martin Hicks (B) | SONGS OF PRAISE 3:00pm |
| Fri 08 May | 8:30am 12:00 noon | St Victor | Bernard Dickinson (LD) Fr Joe Weston (LD) | EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Sat 09 May | 8:30am 6:00pm | St Gregory | Victims of the Coronavirus Private Intention | EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Sun 10 May | 9:30am | 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER | James Dunn (A) | |
| Sun 10 May | 11:00am | 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER | All Frontline Workers | EXPOSITION 1:00pm - 4:00pm |
| Sun 10 May | 6:30pm | 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER | Private Intention | |