

**PEACE SUNDAY 2025**

Next Sunday is designated Peace Sunday. Pope Francis' message for the World Day of Peace was published last week and his theme is **'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace'**. The message speaks of our obligation to listen to the 'pleas of an endangered humanity', how the year of Jubilee inspires us to seek the liberating justice of God in our world and how by 'opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, we will restore God's justice on earth' and 'move forward to achieve the goal of peace'.

**PARISH MEETING**

There will be a meeting at St Gregory's on **Tuesday 28th January at 7:00pm** to discuss new situations, including Families of Parishes, Ministries, Liturgy - Mass & services, an update on Safeguarding requirements and the Jubilee. It is important that your views are heard and therefore I do encourage you all to attend. Thank you.

*Fr Graeme*

**CEMETERIES**

**Please Note: all Christmas wreaths/pots will be removed on or after 2nd February (Feast of the Presentation of the Lord) when dead and thereafter until the end of the month, after which any remaining Christmas wreaths/pots will be removed.** Any ornamental pots removed from graves will be kept in the Sexton's office for **4 weeks** after which they will be disposed of. Thank you.


**'LIVE SIMPLY'- HIDDEN TREASURES (SHARE THE LOVE) SALE'**

A gift given with love! Not quite you?

'Live Simply' will use it to help CAFOD. Any gifts can be left in the church porch. Our 'Hidden Treasures (Share the Love) Sale will be on **2nd February** after the 9.30am Mass. All welcome.

**CHILDREN'S CORNER**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |         |         |         |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------|---------|---------|
| T | N | A | E | D | V | O | I | E | C | JESUS   | JORDAN  | JOHN    |
| S | I | D | R | O | J | F | A | R | A | BAPTISM | FITTING | DEMANDS |
| U | D | R | O | J | I | R | N | T | S | WATER   | HEAVENS | SPIRIT  |
| E | M | S | I | T | P | A | B | A | S | DOVE    | VOICE   | SON     |
| S | C | S | T | P | D | T | A | W | D |         |         |         |
| E | E | I | U | R | S | D | A | W | N |         |         |         |
| J | N | N | O | S | O | T | N | H | A |         |         |         |
| G | O | J | I | V | E | M | O | O | M |         |         |         |
| T | O | H | E | R | E | J | E | J | E |         |         |         |
| E | S | N | E | V | A | E | H | E | D |         |         |         |




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

Sunday 12th January - The Baptism of the Lord, Year C - P. 100 (red) & P. 74 (blue)

**ST GREGORY'S RC CHURCH**

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

**PRIESTS**

Fr Graeme M. Dunne  
Fr Peter Murphy

**EMAIL:**

stgregory@rcaol.org.uk

**WEBSITE:**

www.stgregoryschorley.org.uk

**FACEBOOK:**

https://www.facebook.com/  
pages/category/Religious-  
Organization/St-Gregorys-  
Weldbank-177113458975673/

**ARCHDIOCESE OF LIVERPOOL**

Registered Charity No: 1199714

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**

Mon/Wed/Thurs 09:00 - 16:00

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:**

Christine Booth

**SAFEGUARDING REP:**

Waiting Appointment

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

w/c 5th January 2025

Gift Aid: **£52.00**

Loose Plate: **£175.21**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

**REFLECTION**

Today, we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus which also marks the beginning of his public ministry and echoes the theme of the Epiphany in that the Baptism of the Lord is another manifestation announcing Jesus' divinity to all of his first followers and to the disciples of John the Baptist. On this, the last day of the Church's liturgical season of Christmas, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God - the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In St Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, St Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, he lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. St Luke then presents us with John the Baptist who is faced with a predicament - he finds himself in the wilderness, with a sea of people milling round him, all wanting baptism. But although they may be very welcome, they're not who he's really waiting for. All he knows is that he will know when he arrives as *'the Spirit will come down and rest on the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit'*. The question we face today is: will we recognise Christ when he arrives? Which means asking ourselves and each other: where can we see the Spirit descending and coming to rest in our world of today? Where is the Dove to be found, the symbol of peace, the sign of God's active presence in our midst? When we were baptised, each of us was filled with the exact same Spirit but since most of us were baptised as infants, we don't remember the event. Yet, no matter what age we were baptised, it still has the same effects: cleansing of sin, imparting of grace, giving of the Holy Spirit, adoption as a child of God, and incorporation into the Church. So, we too have God's life and Spirit within us. But because we have been baptised into the life and ministry of Jesus, we are also called to action. Pope Francis tells us: *'Because of their baptism, all members of the People of God have become missionary disciples.'* In other words, we are all called to put our faith into action!

### Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

Fr Laurence Mayne - Dorothy Fairclough - Christine Zawistowicz - Paul McBeth - Elmo Allan  
Sheila McGeown - Teresa Abernethy - Shirley Langstrath - Jimmy Waddington - Paul Spedding  
Susan Yates - Mary Langton - Anne Boam - James (Jim) Parkinson

*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  
Anthony Joseph Halshaw and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

### A YEAR OF HOPE:

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO THE JUBILEE YEAR FROM CAFOD



2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa) and more for a lively start to the Jubilee. With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse. Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday, online. Register here for free: [cafod.org.uk/jubilee](http://cafod.org.uk/jubilee)

### THE JUBILEE LOGO

The Jubilee logo is rich with imagery. It shows a **group of people travelling together**, reminding young people that they are never alone on their journey of faith and will always have support in their faith communities. There's also the symbol of the **wave**, a reminder of the potential difficulties of being a follower of Christ in the modern age. But most importantly there's the **anchor** – the anchor of hope – to show that no matter the difficulty, we can always find hope and comfort in our faith.

### PILGRIMAGES

To mark the theme, those of us not fortunate enough to be able to visit the Holy City itself are encouraged to make our own pilgrimages throughout the Archdiocese. The following places of worship have been suggested as designated pilgrimage churches, where the faithful, on making a pilgrimage to these churches, can obtain a plenary indulgence.

**Metropolitan Cathedral Of Christ the King**  
**Co-Cathedral of St Mary of the Isle, Isle of Man**  
**St Anne and Blessed Dominic, St Helens**  
**St Edmund Arrowsmith, Ashton-in-Makerfield**  
**St Mary's, Chorley**  
**St Mary's, Warrington**  
**Prison Chapels**

### SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'God is our refuge'  
*Psalm 62:8*

## MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

| Date         | Time       | Dedication                  | Intention                                  | Notes   |
|--------------|------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| SUN 12 Jan   | 9:30am     | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD     | Kath & Jim Dunn<br>Valerie Bretherton      | ST GREGORY'S                                    |
|              | 6:30pm     |                             | Susan Catterall                            |   |
| SUN 12 Jan   | 11:00am    | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD     | The People of the Parish                   | ST OSWALD'S                                     |
| Mon 13 Jan   | 12:00 noon | REQUIEM MASS                | Margaret Barton                            |   |
| Tues 14 Jan  | 9:15am     | St Kentigern                | LISCF                                      | DEVOTIONS<br>1:00-2:00pm                        |
| Wed 15 Jan   | 8:30am     |                             | Wulstan Barton (LD)<br>Shirley Taylor (LD) | EXPOSITION<br>4:00—5:00pm                       |
| Thurs 16 Jan | 9:15am     |                             | Private Intention                          | DEVOTIONS<br>1:00-2:00pm                        |
| Fri 17 Jan   | 8:30am     | St Anthony                  | Vincent Price (BR)<br>Barbara Edwards (A)  | WEEK OF PRAYER<br>FOR CHRISTIAN<br>UNITY BEGINS |
| Sat 18 Jan   | 10:00am    |                             | Mary Jane Barton (A)<br>John Berry         |   |
| SUN 19 Jan   | 9:30am     | 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | Mgr Michael McKenna<br>Barbara Edwards (A) | ST GREGORY'S<br><br>PEACE SUNDAY                |
|              | 6:30pm     |                             | The People of the Parish                   |   |
| SUN 19 Jan   | 11:00am    | 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | Geoffrey Gore (A)                          | ST OSWALD'S<br><br>PEACE SUNDAY                 |