

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

Please keep our Holy Father Pope Francis in your prayers as he remains in hospital.

HOLY THURSDAY - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

If you would like to have your feet washed at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday at St Oswald's, we are now seeking volunteers (ideally 6 from each parish).

Please could you let us know asap if you would like to volunteer. Thank you.

LENTEN REFLECTION

All are welcome to join our Lenten Reflection each Tuesday evening during Lent at 6:30pm in the Parish meeting room at St Gregory's, led by Fr Peter. Please do come along as we reflect and prepare ourselves for the sorrow of Holy Week and the joy of the Easter Season.

SAFEGUARDING

Just a reminder, if you have **not** yet submitted your forms, please ensure that these are completed asap or by Easter at the very latest as failure to do so will result in you having to step down from your ministry until your DBS has been processed. Thank you. Fr Graeme



BAPTISMS

This weekend we welcome in Baptism at St Gregory's **Christopher Michael Horvath** and at St Oswald's **Ruaridh Gerard Frost**

Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they start out on their faith journey.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY CHAPERONES

If you have volunteered to become a Eucharistic Minister Chaperone, please can you see me asap so that we can make the necessary arrangements. Thank you. Fr Graeme

LIVE SIMPLY

Lent Week 3 leaflets with non-meat recipes and a prayer are available in the church porch.



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 16th March - 2nd Sunday of Lent, Year C - P. 165 (red) & P. 824 (blue)

ST GREGORY'S RC CHURCH

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Chorley, Lancs
PR7 3NW
Tel: 01257 262462

PRIESTS

Fr Graeme M. Dunne
Fr Peter Murphy

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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

REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, a voice from heaven speaks to the disciples saying, 'Listen to him'. The Transfiguration was a focused moment for the disciples when they heard God speaking to them. The disciples had an experience of the divine that was beyond their ability to explain on that mountain. They saw Jesus transformed before them, and they struggled to make sense of the experience. Yet, they left with a new appreciation of the importance of Jesus' words even if they struggled at that time to understand everything that he had taught them. For us too it can often be a struggle to understand – how can we reflect on the transfiguration of Jesus when the world may be facing a nuclear war? For many of us, the images of the dazzling white face and voice from the cloud may be overshadowed by the terror that our world faces here and now. But in the most difficult of times, the world does not always reflect God or who we are called to be. How quickly do we consider violent solutions even though we know the transformative power of nonviolence. In dire circumstances violent responses can very quickly come to mind. Just as the disciples were confused, we too are confused about what we are experiencing. Even though the disciples didn't understand their experiences yet, they trusted in Jesus just as we too must rely on God and Jesus to guide us through the difficult times. One holy moment on the mountain served as an affirmation to the disciples of who Jesus was on the dark days when they struggled to know what to do and this relationship would continue to steady and guide them well after Jesus was no longer physically present with them. And just as the disciples learned to trust God in their confusion, so too must we trust God to guide us when the way forward seems unclear. As the disciples were transformed during prayer on the mountain, let us pray that we too will trust in God's promise of abundance even when we cannot see how it will come about. Let the remembrance of the transfiguration of Jesus comfort and inspire us at times when we are anxious. Let us pray today for peace and an end to war and may our actions be guided by our confidence in God rather than fear.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

T	C	E	P	S	A	H	G	I	L	PETER	JOHN	JAMES	MOUNTAIN
N	I	O	V	E	C	A	F	I	I	PRAY	ASPECT	FACE	BRILLIANT
A	I	J	C	S	N	E	G	E	S	MOSES	ELIJAH	GLORY	LIGHTNING
I	Y	A	A	O	J	H	L	L	T	SLEEP	TENTS	VOICE	LISTEN
L	Y	A	T	M	T	M	O	I	E				
L	R	S	R	N	E	O	Y	J	N				
I	O	T	I	P	U	S	R	A	N				
R	L	N	E	C	I	O	V	H	O				
B	G	E	T	E	T	N	M	A	J				
R	E	T	E	P	E	E	L	S	E				

WEEKLY COLLECTION

w/c 9th March 2025

Gift Aid: **£71.65**

Loose Plate: **£332.89**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

The special collection this week is for CAFOD Family Fast Day

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

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 Dorothy Turner & Rachel Heald 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

LENTEN SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

This year's service will take place on **Sunday 6th April 3:00pm** at St Gregory's, Weld Bank

EASTER TRIDUUM

Maunder Thursday: The Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30pm at St Oswald's, Coppull

Good Friday: The Passion of the Lord 3:00pm at St Gregory's, Weld Bank

Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil 8:30pm at St Gregory's, Weld Bank

Easter Sunday: 9:30am at St Gregory's, Weld Bank (NB: No Mass at 6:30pm)
 11:00am at St Oswald's, Coppull

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Stations of the Cross are celebrated in both parishes each week during Lent and are led by parishioners. Our grateful thanks to those who have volunteered to lead the prayers this year. If people wish to follow the devotions privately, resources are available in Church, but please do not remove them. The times for the communal celebrations are:

St Oswald's - Wednesdays at 6:00pm St Gregory's - Fridays at 6:30pm

LENTEN APPEALS

During Lent we will be supporting Nugent and Lenten Alms.

30th March 2025 - Nugent or online at: <https://www.weare Nugent.org/fundraising/donate/>

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. Thank you.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - FRIDAY 14TH MARCH 2025

The CAFOD Family Fast Appeal will remain open throughout Lent for your kind donations.

There are envelopes at the back of church or you can also donate online at:

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

SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you.'

John 15:9

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 16 Mar	9:30am	2ND SUNDAY OF LENT	Mgr Michael McKenna	ST GREGORY'S
	6:30pm		The People of the Parish	
SUN 16 Mar	11:00am	2ND SUNDAY OF LENT	Doreen Haydock (A) Philip Compton (A)	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 17 Mar	10:00am	St Patrick	Anthony Cilly (A) Peter Brunt (BR)	
Tues 18 Mar	9:15am		Patrick Smyth (LD)	DEVOTIONS 1:00-2:00pm
Wed 19 Mar	8:30am 6:00pm	St Joseph, Spouse of the BVM	Joan Parker (BR) STATIONS OF THE CROSS	EXPOSITION 4:00—5:00pm
Thurs 20 Mar	9:15am		Sylvester Woods (F)	DEVOTIONS 1:00-2:00pm
Fri 21 Mar	10:00am	REQUIEM MASS	Mary Langton	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
	6:30pm			
Sat 22 Mar	10:00am		Valerie Bretherton Mary Jane Barton (BR) George Griffiths	
SUN 23 Mar	9:30am	3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	Barbara Edwards Matthew Horbury (LD)	ST GREGORY'S
	6:30pm		William & Mary Ratcliffe (F)	
SUN 23 Mar	11:00am	3RD SUNDAY OF LENT	The People of the Parish	ST OSWALD'S