

WELCOME

Today we welcome Fr Peter Murphy as Assistant Priest at both parishes. We wish him well in his new role and hope that his time with us will be both enjoyable and a valuable experience of parish life as he continues his journey of priesthood.

CAFOD - ONLINE ADVENT CALENDAR

The CAFOD Advent calendar of daily prayer and reflection offers an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Christmas. You can sign up to receive daily reflections straight into your in-box at: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar>

ADVENT RETREAT WITH FR DENIS MCBRIDE C.S.S.R

LIVING WATERS FOODBANK - CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Chorley Foodbank are once again appealing for treats for their Christmas food parcels which will be distributed to those families who are most in need. Items such as chocolate selection boxes, boxes of biscuits, tinned ham, tinned salmon, packets of stuffing, cranberry sauce & Christmas puddings etc. would be very welcome. Please leave your items in the box in the porch or at the presbytery.

Thank you for your support.

Advent Reflections

Monday 3rd, 10th & 17th beginning at 7pm at St Gregory's Presbytery.

The Thyme is Our Blessed Lady.



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF
St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 1st December - 1st Sunday of Advent, Year C

REFLECTION

This Sunday we begin a new season in the liturgical calendar of the Church as we begin the great Season of Advent. There are two messages that we will hear over the next four weeks.

One message and set of values will come to us from the media and the shops. We will be told that we will have to move faster, stay busy, queue longer in the shops and spend more money on those 'must have' presents so that we will

have the 'perfect' Christmas! However, there is a very different message and set of values that will be offered to us through the gospels, the prayers and the liturgy of Advent.

Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter of St Luke's Gospel in which we hear that Jesus is teaching in the Temple.

We hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. We are being asked to prepare a way for the Lord, to stay awake, to make a straight path for the Lord and to get ourselves ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The message of Advent is an invitation and it also a challenge to us. We are called to be looking forward, to be ready, to be prepared and we are asked to wait in joyful hope. Waiting is not something that we are usually good at these days. Our modern world tells us to move faster in so many ways. However, Advent asks each of us to do very opposite. During these sacred days of preparation, we are being asked to take some time to be still and silent as we prepare ourselves spiritually for the Christmas season. If we get too caught up in the shopping and spending, there is the danger that we will miss what Advent is really about. Today we are asked not to miss the next four weeks of Advent. Advent is a time for allowing Jesus to be reborn in our lives. It is also a time for purifying our hearts by repentance and for renewing our lives by reflecting on and experiencing the several comings (advents) of Christ into our lives. Besides his first coming at his birth, Jesus comes to our lives through the Sacraments (especially the Eucharist), through the Word of God, through the worshipping community, at the moment of our death and, finally, in his *Second Coming*. Let us pray today that we will all 'Stay Awake' and be ready for that time!

ST GREGORY'S RC CHURCH

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PARISH PRIEST

Fr Graeme M. Dunne

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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

WEEKLY COLLECTION

w/c 24th November 2024

Gift Aid: **£58.50**

Loose Plate: **£299.56**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

Animate youth **£141.92**

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

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Y	N	O	G	A	R	T	S	O	L	SUN
E	R	H	W	A	S	E	L	I	E	OCEAN
N	K	E	S	T	V	R	B	N	H	DEBAUCHERY
S	U	A	H	A	I	E	A	E	H	SURVIVE
N	D	V	W	C	R	D	A	T	E	LIBERATION
O	O	E	S	A	U	R	R	R	S	HEAVEN
I	L	N	T	O	T	A	W	A	K	HEARTS
T	C	I	L	S	E	A	B	P	I	AWAKE
A	O	C	E	A	N	E	W	E	N	NATIONS
N	U	S	U	R	V	I	V	E	D	AGONY
										EARTH
										STARS

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 - Shirley Taylor - Anne Boam

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
 Maureen Waldman 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

ADVENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Sunday 15th December at 3:00pm at St Gregory's Weld Bank.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2024

1st Mass of Christmas (Tuesday 24th December)

7:00pm with carols from 6:30pm (St Oswald's)

8:00pm with carols from 7:30pm (St Gregory's)

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

10:00am (St Gregory's) (please note there will be no evening Mass)

10:30am (St Oswald's)

LIVE SIMPLY - FINISHING TOUCHES SALE

Sale of preloved- scarves, jewellery and handbags.

Today, **December 1st** after the 9.30 Mass. Please do come along and support.

CAFOD'S WORLD GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, give your loved ones something exceptional and life changing.

Buying CAFOD's virtual World Gifts makes a real difference for our sisters and brothers facing the injustice of poverty around the world. Choose from a range of beautifully illustrated cards, each representing a gift of hope, inspired by real people and real needs.

Cards can be sent by post, as an eCard, or printed at home. Purchase World Gifts and other gifts such as Advent calendars and jute bags at worldgifts.cafod.org.uk or pick up a catalogue from the church porch.

CHRISTMAS JOY TOY APPEAL

Chorley Buddies in association with Chorley Council and other local schools and parishes are appealing for new toys and gifts to bring some Christmas joy to families who may need some help this Christmas. Donated gifts may be dropped off at the Presbytery. **NB: It has been requested that the gifts are not wrapped. Today is the last date for donations.**

Thank you for your generous support.

SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'The word of the Lord endures forever'

1 Peter 1:25

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 01 Dec	9:30am 6:30pm	1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Teresa Hamer (A) William Dearden (A) Margaret Mary Ellison	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 01 Dec	11:00am	1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT	People of the Parish	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 02 Dec	10:00am		George Griffiths (LD) Agnes Price (BR)	
Tues 03 Dec	9:15am 10:30am	St Francis Xavier Requiem	Thanksgiving Mary Kelly	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 04 Dec	8:30 am	St John Damascene	Bernard Marmion Tony Brown (A)	NO EXPOSITION TODAY
Thurs 05 Dec	9:15am	St John Almond	L.I.S.C.F	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 06 Dec	8:30am	St Nicholas	Anthony Federici	
Sat 07 Dec	10:00am	St Ambrose	Margaret Berry	
SUN 08 Dec	9:30am 6:30pm	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	John & Elizabeth Watmough Joe Robinson (BR) People of the Parish	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 08 Dec	11:00am	2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT	Paul Eastham (A) Annie Eastham (A)	ST OSWALD'S