

MAJOR INCIDENT IN SOUTHPORT

Please remember in your prayers the families & friends of the children who so tragically lost their lives in the brutal knife attack in Southport earlier this week. Archbishop Malcolm has issued the following statement:

'We hold in our thoughts and prayers all those involved in the Major Incident in Southport. For those who have been injured, for those who are parents, family, and friends of the injured, for all involved in the emergency services, we pray for God's blessing, God's peace, and God's presence today. Let us commend all to the loving intercession of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted as we pray for peace, healing, and justice. My prayers are with you.'

BAPTISMS



Today we welcome in Baptism at St Gregory's
Ivy Mary Grimes & Charlotte Rose Watkinson
Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they start out on their faith journey.

250th ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL

As part of our 250th Celebration we said we would be buying a memorial in honour of all the children who are buried in our cemetery in unmarked graves. The design we have chosen is that of an angel on a plinth. Their names will be buried under the plinth or within the plinth depending on whichever is possible and hopefully the memorial will be ready for when we have the second part of our celebration as mentioned above. If anyone would like to make a donation towards this memorial, please feel free to do so, however, the funds to purchase the memorial are in place if need be. Thank you.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS

Tea & Coffee will be served after Mass today at St Oswald's. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

E	L	E	A	S	E	S	E	O	M
L	O	F	O	O	D	O	O	D	A
F	L	I	D	A	E	R	B	D	N
D	A	L	A	N	D	E	O	E	N
O	N	S	I	N	L	O	T	S	E
O	R	M	E	I	N	O	T	E	R
M	E	A	E	S	S	A	S	R	A
O	T	V	B	D	O	E	M	T	B
S	E	A	O	B	O	M	A	L	B
E	I	S	N	G	I	S	E	L	A

BOATS	RABBI	BREAD
FOOD	ETERNAL	SEAL
BELIEVE	SIGN	MANNA
DESERT	MOSES	LIFE



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

Sunday 4th August 2024 - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

ST GREGORY'S RC CHURCH

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PARISH PRIEST
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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 28th July 2024

Gift Aid: **£88.50**
Loose Plate: **£338.39**
Standing Orders: **£369.92**

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

REFLECTION

Last Sunday Jesus fed the crowd by multiplying the loaves and fishes and the same message is continued this week in both the first reading and the gospel. In the first reading the people who had been freed from slavery are complaining they are hungry. It seems they are happier to be captives and well fed rather than to be hungry and free! Moses hears their complaining and asks God to help them. His prayers are answered - they are fed with manna, bread from heaven and the people saw this as a sign of God's care and concern for them. The gospel follows on from the Gospel we heard last week. The crowd, having witnessed Jesus multiply the loaves and fishes wondered what further signs he might show them. They wanted more - they were 'hungry' for more 'bread' to satisfy their appetites. Jesus realising that the people followed him because he had performed a miracle and fed them, challenged them to go deeper than just wanting ordinary bread. He wanted them to realise that he had come not just to satisfy their human physical needs but so that they could have life and live it to the full. He reminded them that their ancestors ate bread from heaven every morning when they were in the desert. He told them that it was not Moses who provided this bread, but God. Then Jesus made a very bold statement by proclaiming for all to hear; *'I am the Bread of life.'*the true bread... which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They still needed their material needs met, but Jesus is offering them more, something far richer and sustaining. So too, he wants our friendship with him to be based on a sure and firm foundation. He offers us more than simply loaves of bread, fish or manna, he offers us his own self in the Eucharist. When we hear the scriptures proclaimed we are listening to God speak to us. When we are sharing in the Eucharist we are nourished by Jesus the Bread of life. Each of us in our own way comes to the Lord in need and hunger because the food that physically satisfies us is not enough. We need the everlasting food that comes from heaven. Jesus is the Bread from heaven and gives life to the world. Those who believe that Jesus is the Bread of Life will never be hungry or thirsty.

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 - George Griffiths - Mgr Michael McKenna
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
 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

HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI

At this time we remember the devastation caused on 6 and 9 August 1945, when the US dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It is estimated that the bombs had killed 210,000 citizens by the end of 1945 and, over the years, have ruined the health of many of the survivors. The average age of the Hibakusha, or atomic bomb survivors, is now over 83 years old, and many of them are still suffering from terrible health issues. The message of peace from the Hibakusha to the people of the world is an appeal for us all to realise a world free of nuclear weapons. Today let us remember those who tragically lost their lives as we pray for an end to the use of nuclear weapons.

CHORLEY & SOUTH RIBBLE HOSPITAL

Please contact St Joseph's Presbytery, if any member of your family is admitted into Chorley Hospital and would appreciate a visit (01257 262713). In an emergency the hospital switchboard will contact the on-call Catholic Priest. Please request this from any member of staff on the ward.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

St Gregory's Annual Beer Festival 16th - 18th August 2024

This year's festival will feature a selection of 16 beers and assorted ciders. Tickets for this event are now on sale £5 each to include a souvenir programme & a free glass of beer. Wine and gin will also be available as well as food from our own Pit Stop café.

Concert in the Garden & Family Fun Day - 18th August

Our ever popular family event will take on **Sunday 18th August** in the Parish Grounds at St Gregory's. The event will begin at 2:00pm and entry to the concert is free (i.e. no ticket required). Entry to the beer tent is free for those attending the beer festival on Fri/Sat but otherwise entry is £5 on the door. Bring along your friends and family and your own chairs and picnic blankets! There will be live music to entertain you, donkey rides and games for the children. Bring along your own picnic or enjoy food from our BBQ and refreshment stand.

Big Sunday Festival - 8th September

This is a free event with lots of stalls, live music, games, tombola, BBQ & refreshments.

SCRIPTURE THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Every word of God is flawless; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him'

Proverbs 30:5

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 04 Aug	9:30am 6:30pm	18th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Herbert Spedding (A) Ken Edwards (BR) Margaret Mary Ellison	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 04 Aug	11:00am	18th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Mass of Thanksgiving	ST OSWALD'S
Mon 05 Aug	10:00am	Dedication of St Mary Major	Josie Gaskell (LD) Hilda Henry (LD)	
Tues 06 Aug	9:15am		The sick of the Parish	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 07 Aug	8:30am	St Sixtus I & Companions & St Cajetan	Elizabeth Dearden (A) For a speedy recovery	EXPOSITION 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Thurs 08 Aug	9:15am	St Dominic	LISCF	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 09 Aug	8:30am 9:15am	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE	ST GREGORY'S Day for Europe ST OSWALD'S
Sat 10 Aug	10:00am	St Lawrence	The victims of Southport & their Families	
SUN 11 Aug	9:30am 6:30pm	19th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Emily Moss (BR) People of the Parish	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 11 Aug	11:00am	19th Sunday of Ordinary Time	William & Ann Higham (BR)	ST OSWALD'S