

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to all our children who have made their First Holy Communion this weekend and received the sacrament of Reconciliation. These celebrations will continue in both parishes over the next 8 weeks. Please remember them in your prayers as they take the next step on their faith journeys

PARISH CELEBRATION 2022

Ticket request forms are available at the back of church, please return these as soon as possible and by **23rd May** at the latest. Numbers are limited and will be allocated on a strictly first come first served basis. Unfortunately we will not be able to accept any requests made after the deadline. In the event that you are unable to attend, please let us know in good time so that your ticket can be allocated to somebody on the waiting list. Thank you.

MENTAL AWARENESS WEEK

'Say to those who are broken-hearted, Do not be afraid'. Prayer and reflection for Mental Health Awareness Week on **Wednesday 11th May** at the Irenaeus Project Centre 32 Great Georges Road L22 1RD. The evening is from 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm beginning with a light supper. No charge but all donations would be gratefully accepted. For further details, please see the poster on the noticeboard in the porch.

To book: email: jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or Tel: 0151 949 1199

CHORLEY FOODBANK

A big thank you for all your kind and generous donations, your support for those most in need is greatly appreciated especially during these difficult times. We still need your help though so items such as teabags, coffee, cereal, pasta, rice, tinned goods and toiletries would be gratefully received. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

I	F	K	W	O	L	L	O	F	E
E	N	O	Y	N	A	T	A	R	H
T	S	E	L	G	N	O	L	E	B
N	T	U	S	L	E	B	T	T	L
E	E	E	S	H	E	E	P	A	A
F	A	T	H	E	R	V	L	E	E
I	W	S	S	N	J	O	I	R	T
L	V	O	A	I	C	I	E	G	S
E	R	L	N	O	L	C	W	O	K
H	T	A	F	K	R	E	V	E	N

JESUS
VOICE
ETERNAL
STEAL
NEVER
SHEEP
KNOW
LIFE
FATHER
GREATER
LISTEN
FOLLOW
LOST
ANYONE
BELONG
GIVE



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF St Gregory's Weld Bank

8th May 2022 - 4th Sunday of Easter, Year C

St Gregory's RC Church

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

Parish Priest

Fr Graeme M. Dunne

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 - 16:00

Parish Administrator:

Christine Edwards

Safeguarding Rep:

Edward Brierley

WEEKLY COLLECTION w/c 1st May 2022

Gift Aid: **£136.48**

Loose Plate: **£439.83**

Standing Orders: **£186.25**

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

The special collection today will be for the Priests Training Fund

REFLECTION

The language and images in today's Gospel may seem a bit strange to us and may even be outside our experience. After all, we don't often see many shepherds herding their sheep to market nowadays! The image of Jesus as Good Shepherd and the community of followers as his sheep has endured over the centuries as a primary image in our faith tradition. Its power to describe the relationship between Jesus and his followers transcends direct experience with sheep. The image speaks to us about the protection, security, and care that shepherds represent for their sheep. 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 the shepherd's voice and responds. Just as the shepherd knows the sheep, the sheep knows and trusts the shepherd and the sheep go where the shepherd leads them. Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence, priests, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, etc. are all shepherds. We too become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time and talents for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. We are not sheep! But the Lord calls and loves each of us as individuals, personally and intimately. The Prophet Isaiah presents a beautiful image of this when he writes, '**I have called you by your name, you are mine, do not be afraid. You are precious to me and I love you.**' Jesus does not force us to listen to his voice when he calls us - he invites us to follow him freely. The choice whether or not to respond is ours. Jesus offers us not only the fullness of life; he offers us the fullness of *his* life. Jesus came so that each of us may have life and have it to the full and this fullness of life is offered to us here and now, not some time in the future. When Jesus calls us by our name, may we answer in faith, love and gratitude and may we follow where he leads us.

Please Pray for Our Brothers and Sisters Who are Sick

Hugh O'Daly - Paul McBeth - Baby Elmo Allan - Fr Laurence Mayne - Paul Spedding - Neil Haydock
 Teresa Abernethy - Angela Helmn - Shirley Langstrath - Margaret Dearden - Sheila McGeown
 Caroline Rigby - Dorothy Fairclough - Paul Eastham - Laurie Montgomery - Derek Birchall
 Christine Zawistowicz - Joanne Hardyman - Catherine - Kathleen Green

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 Sam Smith & Karen Francis

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

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

WEEKLY REVIEW OF COVID REQUIREMENTS

Following a further review of Covid requirements by the Archdiocese, the following changes will take effect week commencing **Monday 2nd May**:

1. **Face-coverings** will now become optional for people who attend a service in church.
2. **Sanitiser** will be available for those who wish to use it on entering the building but this will no longer be mandatory.
3. **Social Distancing** - there will **no** longer be a section of the church with social distancing.
3. **Holy Communion** - the priest and Ministers of the Eucharist will continue to wear a face covering and will still cleanse their hands before and after distributing Holy Communion.
4. **Holy Communion** under both kinds will **not** be reintroduced at this time.



BAPTISM

Today we welcome in Baptism at St Gregory's
Riley Hough & Emily Whitehead
 Please keep them and their families in your prayers
 as they start out on their faith journey.



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Eleanor Davies & Samuel Rafferty** who were married at St Gregory's yesterday. We wish them every joy and happiness as they begin their married life together.

VOCATION SUNDAY

Today, the 4th Sunday of Easter (8th May) is Vocations Sunday. The National Office for Vocations has planned a week of events which will help celebrate people living out their vocation and also to encourage discerners as they listen to God's call. This year's theme is 'the Journey', chosen due to the paths we all take on the road to holiness.

All details can be found at: www.ukvocation.org/vocations-sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS & FEAST DAYS

Date	Time	Dedication	Intention	Notes
SUN 08 May	9:30am 6:30pm	4th SUNDAY OF EASTER	Jim Dunn (A) Thomas & Mildred Wilcock (F)	ST GREGORY'S Vocation Sunday
SUN 08 May	11:00am	4th SUNDAY OF EASTER	John Calveley	ST OSWALD'S Vocation Sunday
Mon 09 May	10:00am		In Thanksgiving - Our Lady of Miraculous Medal	
Tues 10 May	9:15am	John of Avila	People of the Parish	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wed 11 May	8:30am		Joe Robinson (A) The Bridcut Family (F)	
Thur 12 May	9:15am	St Nereus St Achilleus & St Pancras	Rev Thomas Clarkson (F)	DEVOTIONS 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Fri 13 May	8:30am 9:15am	Dedication of Liverpool Cathedral of Christ the King	EUCHARISTIC SERVICE EUCHARISTIC SERVICE	
Sat 14 May	10:00am	St Matthias	In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Lourdes & St Bernadaette Gerry Thompson	
SUN 15 May	9:30am 6:30pm	5th SUNDAY OF EASTER	Get Well (BT) Vincent Horan (BR) Joanne Hardyman	ST GREGORY'S
SUN 15 May	11:00am	5th SUNDAY OF EASTER	John Farnworth (F)	ST OSWALD'S