

### Feast Days this Week:

Monday: St John Chrysostom  
Tuesday: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
Wednesday: Our Lady of Sorrows  
Thursday: Sts Cornelius and Cyprian  
Friday: St Robert Bellarmine  
Saturday: The Blessed Virgin Mary

**Cycle of Prayer for the Autumn of Ordinary Time:** We pray for: the harvest and care of creation ( 26 Sept); students and teachers on Education Day (12 Sept); the spreading of the Gospel on Home Mission Day (19 Sept) and World Mission Day (24 Oct); justice and peace on Harvest Fast Day (1 Oct); prisoners and dependants (10–16 Oct); victims of war on Remembrance Day (14 Nov); and young people on Christ the King (21 Nov).

**Church Donations:** With many people still unable to attend church we still need to maintain an income for maintenance. There are several ways you can still make your contributions including by cheque or direct debit. For details please go to the church website or contact Tom Smyth on 017722 865689.

**Attendance and Collection:** 29 August: attendance 39 | collection £83.00

### SAFETY RULES FOR MASS

Stewards will be on duty to ensure that safety procedures are followed. Full details are on our website. Please do read them.

**Face masks will need to be worn.**

**Please follow these guidelines once entering church:**

- \* **Sanitise hands** on entry.
- \* A hymn book and mass book will be given to you on entry. Singing is now permitted.
- \* Please do **keep your distance** – use the high visibility tape on floor as a guide.
- \* Place your collection on the collection plate **as you enter**.
- \* Please take a newsletter on entry and **take it away when you leave**.
- \* At Holy Communion:

**Please wear a mask** as you go up the aisle to communion and remove their mask before they receive the sacrament.

**People from upstairs** will go first down the right-hand side and return down the opposite aisle to maintain social distancing.

**People on the right-hand side** will then receive Holy Communion, followed by people on the left-hand side – guided by the stewards.



## St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

The Hill, Horns Lane

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**In case of emergency (and unable to contact Father Sony) please ring  
Father Dutton on 01772 782641 or Canon Doyle on 01772 782244**

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

12 September 2021 (Readings: Year B)

### *Parish Mission Statement*

*Our Parish, guided by the example of our patron St Francis of Assisi, seeks to be a welcoming Catholic Community, by living, sharing and growing in faith. We strive to deepen our own relationship with Christ and meet the needs of others.*

**Mass today is for the people of the parish. Your prayers are also requested for Barbara Paley, who is unwell.**

Please pray for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, especially Kevin Webb. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*

**From next Sunday:** tea and coffee after Mass will resume outside, weather permitting.

**Daily Mass:** live at 9.30am from St Clare's in Preston can be accessed on their YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch/>

### Parish Book of Remembrance – Help Needed!

We are intending to have a Book of Remembrance in church to remember all our parishioners who are sadly no longer with us, especially those who have done a great deal for the parish. We are looking for anyone with woodworking skills to make a cabinet to display the book in. Another option would be to convert an old desk into a cabinet. So any furniture offers or skills availability please contact any member of the Pastoral Council.

#### **CREATION CELEBRATION Saturday 2 October**

On **Saturday 2 October**, we are planning to hold a special celebration to celebrate the feast day of our patron saint – St Francis of Assisi.

We are inviting parishioners to bring any item linked to **God's creation** that is important to them. This could be in the form of a picture, an object, a statue, a photograph or a model – the choice is yours.

These items will be on display for people to come and look at. Church will be open from 11.00.a.m. till 3.00 p.m. for people to come and visit. There will also be refreshments.

The purpose of the celebration is:

- To celebrate our beautiful world.
- To provide the opportunity for people to socialise.
- To appreciate and look at a variety of exhibits that depict the wonderful world in which we live.
- To welcome people back to our lovely church.

We will be providing further information weekly but please do pop this date in your diary and have a think about what you could bring to the celebration.

#### **Goosnargh and Whittingham Heritage Group AGM and Talk**

Monday 20 September 7.30pm | St Mary the Virgin community room, Goosnargh

Everyone welcome!

AGM followed by a talk by Stephen Corbishley: *A Goosnargh Boy's Journey from Home to Banbury via Lisbon*. Refreshments will be served. Membership subscriptions of £15 will be collected and a free printed programme for 2021/22 will be distributed.

Stephen and his wife attend Hill Chapel and I believe this talk to be about one of his ancestors. Hope to see some of you on the 20th.

### **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

Following my recent article about Furness Abbey, I thought it would be interesting to investigate how many other abbeys and monasteries there were in England prior to the Reformation. I was rather surprised to discover that records exist for over 800 religious houses prior to the dissolution of the monasteries by King Henry VIII. Virtually every town, of any size, had at least one abbey, priory, convent, or friary in it. Some were very grand imposing buildings with acres of land in their ownership, others were small houses of monks, nuns, canons, or friars. Twenty-seven religious abbeys and monasteries were sited in Lancashire and South Cumbria alone.

Within the county, at least seven separate Catholic Orders held property and land. Some of these abbeys are still standing, albeit very often as a ruin, today. Others have virtually disappeared and have been replaced by rather grand secular halls or houses. One such is Lytham Priory, which from 1189 to 1535, was a Benedictine priory. The Crown granted the land to Sir Thomas Holcroft whose family built a country house on the site in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Other priories were taken over by the newly established Church of England. Cartmel and Lancaster Priors are two examples; both remain as places of worship. Another former Cistercian abbey is Whalley Abbey in the Ribble valley. The abbey was founded in 1296 by the monks of Stanlaw, who had fled their flood-prone site on the River Mersey near Ellesmere Port. As Whalley was part of their patron Henry de Lacy's lands in the area, including Clitheroe Castle, the monks set about building a brand-new monastic complex which took almost the entire 14th century to complete. The gate house to the abbey, also housed Cistercian monks. Sadly, the last two abbots of Whalley were both put to death. Thomas Bolton was executed because of his resistance to the dissolution and William Trafford, was executed in Lancaster on 10 March 1537.

After the dissolution of the monasteries, the abbey was largely demolished, and a country house was built on the site. In the 20th century the house was modified and extended and is now an ecumenical retreat and conference house owned and run by the CofE diocese of Blackburn. Some ruins of the original abbey remain and are recorded in the National Heritage List for England as a designated Grade I listed building and are a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

In addition to the loss of most abbey buildings and monasteries, many ancient religious artefacts and books were destroyed by agents of the Crown. Church vestments were taken apart and their fabric used as hanging tapestries in the newly built houses of the gentry. Fortunately, some escaped and were either hidden in the homes of Catholic families or smuggled out of the country to churches and monasteries in Europe. A great deal of English

Catholic heritage was lost during the Reformation and many abbots, monks, friars, and priests, including our own Blessed George Beesley, were martyred for refusing to relinquish their Catholic faith. **Mike Bryan**

**Parishioners Who Are Unwell:** If you would like the parish to pray for someone, please email [news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk) or ring Father Sony on 01772 865229 for inclusion in the newsletter. We have an area in church where you can write a prayer intention on a card and hang it up if you prefer.

**Sunday Obligation:** Statement from the Catholic Bishops of England on 19 July: We are mindful of the certain fact that the Covid-19 virus is still circulating in society. It is our continuing judgement that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday. **For more reading visit** <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/sunday-it-is-our-day/>

### **VACANCY: Deputy Diocesan School Commissioner**

**Are you seeking a challenge? Can you play a key role in leading the delivery of the Bishop of Lancaster's strategy for academy conversion and supporting his vision for Catholic education? If so, then we would welcome an application from you for the post of Deputy Diocesan Schools Commissioner.**

The Diocese of Lancaster is seeking to recruit a Deputy Diocesan Schools Commissioner who, under the governance of the Trustees, the oversight of the Episcopal Vicar for Education and Formation and the guidance of the Diocesan Schools Commissioner, will support the development and implementation of its strategic plans for education. This will include leading the roll-out of the Diocesan academisation programme and assisting in the delivery of the Church's mission in education.

- The role is full time, 35 hours per week (Monday – Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00pm), with the ability to locate and work flexibly according to the needs of the service.
- We are offering a competitive salary and pension package with 25 days holiday.
- The post is subject to an enhanced DBS check and there will be a 12 month probationary period.
- A full information pack regarding this role and details of how to apply are available from [hew@lancasterdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hew@lancasterdiocese.org.uk) and on our website at [www.lancaster-diocese-education.org.uk](http://www.lancaster-diocese-education.org.uk) or telephone **01524 841190**.

**Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021.**  
Interview to be held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021.



## **READINGS**

**Isaiah 50:5-9**

### **First reading**

*I offered my back to those who struck me*

The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.  
The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.  
My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me?  
Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who will dare to condemn me?

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### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 114(116):1-6,8-9**

*I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him.

*I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord, my God, deliver me!

*I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me.

*I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

*I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

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## Second reading

James 2:14-18

*If good works do not go with it, faith is quite dead*

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, ‘I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty’, without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: ‘You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.’

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## Gospel Acclamation

Jn14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
Alleluia!

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## Gospel

Mark 8:27-35

*The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously*

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say I am?’ And they told him. ‘John the Baptist,’ they said ‘others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.’ ‘But you,’ he asked ‘who do you say I am?’ Peter spoke up and said to him, ‘You are the Christ.’ And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, ‘Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God’s way but man’s.’

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, ‘If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.’

## HOMILY for TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY

Isaiah 50:5-9; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

Blooming ‘eck, Peter! You weren’t expecting that, were you? After all, you were only doing your job. According to Matthew, the Lord had just named you as the rock on which He was going to build His Church, and this was your opportunity to show Him what a good choice He had made.

And you went the right way about it. You took Jesus to one side, exactly as He had described how you and the rest should deal with problems: there was no question of making a public fuss. Then you quietly told Him that, with you in charge, this didn’t need to happen.

You must have been feeling that you had done a really good job: your first challenge in your new role, and you had handled it perfectly. Then this happened. You were absolutely humiliated. You were called Satan, you who, just a few minutes before, had been told that God had inspired you. Yet now

you were in trouble for not thinking in God's way. Not only bruised, battered, and humiliated; you must have been thoroughly confused. To be honest, I don't think you should take it too personally. You simply happen to have pressed a very sensitive button. With the best will in the world, and completely without intending to, you had tempted the Lord to turn aside from His mission, to avoid the way of suffering: and it was one heck of a temptation.

Did you notice what Jesus did when you spoke to Him? He turned away from you, because He could feel the force and the attraction of what you were saying. Did He want to suffer? Of course not: and you were offering Him a way out, an offer which was hugely tempting.

That's why He called you Satan. He wasn't actually speaking to you, but to Satan, the Tempter, who was using you, using your voice, the voice of a friend, and what is a stronger temptation than that? If you really dread something, and your friend tells you that you needn't go through with it, aren't you mightily tempted to go along with him? Jesus is fully human, so He would have felt the same. That's why He turned away from you, and in doing that, He saw the others, and He knew that He had to go through it for them, and for all the others who had gone before them, and all those who would come after them, until the end of time—but it was a close thing. As for being inspired by God, and then thinking not in God's way but man's, that's a tricky one. You will learn, and your successors will learn, to trust entirely in God, allowing Him to speak through you, and not to trust your own judgement.

Finally, there is one more thing. Don't forget what Jesus went on to say: that all of us will have to suffer, taking His way, not our own, and carrying our cross in His footsteps.

But don't worry. He will be with you, and with the rest of us. He will, in the end, give you courage beyond anything you could imagine, and He will tell you to strengthen us all. So don't be downhearted, Peter. There will be setbacks along the way—massive setbacks, indeed—but you will be a source of strength and encouragement for millions yet to be born.