

Feast Days This Week:

Thursday: St Patrick

Saturday: St Joseph

Attendance and Collection:

27 February: Attendance 51 | Collection £157.00

Parishioners Who Are Unwell: If you would like the parish to pray for someone, please email 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.

Church Opening Daily: Church will be open Monday to Friday throughout February (during term time; roughly school hours) for people to call in during the day to say a prayer. It will also be open all day on Saturday, and on Sunday afternoons.

A reminder to all Goosnargh and Whittingham Heritage members...

Our next meeting takes place at Lancashire Archives, Bow Lane, Preston, PR1 2RE on Monday 21 March. This starts at the earlier time of 6.30pm. Please meet at the Archives. If anyone requires a lift please meet at the Grapes Inn, Goosnargh, at 5.45pm. A few car places may be available.

Maria

Easter Mass Times

Palm Sunday: 10.30am at Hill Chapel | 9am and 6.30pm at Claughton

Maundy Thursday: 6.30pm at Claughton

Good Friday: 3pm at Hill Chapel

Easter Vigil: 7pm at Claughton

Easter Sunday: 10.30am at Hill Chapel | 9am Claughton

A Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that, in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.



St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

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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**

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

13 March 2022 (Readings: Year C)

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.

Every Tuesday at 9.30 am there will be mass at Hill Chapel.

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

Safety Rules For Mass

Although safety rules have been restricted, we are only a small church and we do want everyone to be kept safe and Covid-free while attending Hill Chapel. Many thanks for your co-operation.

- * Please sanitise your hands on entry.
- * **Please wear a mask when entering and leaving church and when receiving Holy Communion. Masks can be removed while sitting in your bench.**

Volunteers Needed Please

Volunteers are being sought to assist with the following:
Opening and closing church on a Saturday.
Opening and closing church during the school holidays from 4–18 April inclusive.
Due to a change of circumstances, we are looking for someone to take over the parish newsletter. A template, and plenty of support, is provided.
If you are able to help please contact Mary Doran. Many thanks.

Ukraine Appeal

We raised £326.26 last weekend for the Ukrainian appeal. Many thanks for your support and your generosity. The money has been sent to Cafod who have their sister organisation – Caritas Ukraine – already working over there, helping people affected by the conflict.

The people of Ukraine desperately need our help. If any parishioners wish to **donate items such as clothes and toiletries** they can be left at the back of church and will be taken to the collection point in Garstang. Thank you.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

This Family Fast Day, we remember that there are many people who need our love and support all around the world. Children experiencing malnutrition like Amie's daughter Lombeh did in Sierra Leone or as we are seeing now in Ukraine, families affected by conflict. Your small act of love can make big things happen. Donations to CAFOD this Lent will reach families around the world, enabling local experts to provide support to families in times of need or conflict. You can donate in church using a CAFOD envelope (at the back of church) or by visiting the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/lent

From the Archives

I was looking through our parish archives the other day and came across an interesting article about the Franciscan Order and its association with the Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross have formed part of Christian devotion during Lent and Passiontide for many centuries because

they enable us to engage actively with the path of suffering walked by Jesus. They originated when early Christians visited Jerusalem and wanted to follow literally in the footsteps of Jesus, tracing the path from Pilate's house to Calvary. They would pause for prayer and devotion at various points. Eventually those pilgrims brought the practice back to their home countries and ever since then Christians of differing traditions have used this form of devotion. In the late fourteenth century, the Franciscans were given the responsibility for the holy places of Jerusalem, and they erected tableaux to aid the devotion of the visitors. The route was changed slightly in the late eighteenth century and is now called by its Latin name, the Via Dolorosa, or 'Way of Grief'. It is six hundred metres long and rises steeply in places. Many Christian pilgrims are sometimes startled to witness the market atmosphere through which they walk, but this is what Jesus would have seen that Friday when he carried the heavy cross to Calvary through the bustling lanes leading up to Calvary.

Images of the Stations of the Cross are now inside all Catholic churches, and occasionally outside them as well. The number of stations has varied immensely through the centuries from as few as five to as many as thirty-six. The now traditional number of fourteen was established by Pope Clement XII in 1731. In recent years, however, the focus on the unity of the death and resurrection of Jesus has also led to the inclusion in some churches of a fifteenth station – the Resurrection.

In 2020, fourteen people were invited by Pope Francis to meditate on the Stations of the Cross, the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, by joining him in the chapel of the 'Due Palazzi', House of Detention, in Padua. Those invited included five prisoners, a family that was the victim of a murder, the daughter of a man given a life sentence, a prison teacher, a civil magistrate, the mother of a prisoner, a catechist, a volunteer religious brother, a prison guard and a priest who was accused and then finally acquitted after eight years in the justice system.

In a statement issued by the Vatican, Pope Francis said, 'Accompanying Christ on the Way of the Cross, with the raw voices of those who live behind the walls of a prison, is an opportunity to view the great battle between life and death, to discover how the threads of good and evil inevitably intertwine. Everything is possible for those who believe, because even in the darkness of prison there resounds the proclamation full of hope: "For with God nothing will be impossible" (Lk 1:37).'

Mike Bryan