

### Feast Days this Week:

Monday: St John Plessington, St John Wall & comp. Martyrs of Lancashire  
Tuesday: St Apollinaris  
Wednesday: St Laurence of Brindisi  
Thursday: St Mary Magdalen  
Friday: St Bridget  
Saturday: St John Boste, Blessed Christopher Robinson & comp. Martyrs of Cumbria

### Cycle of Prayer:

We pray for: a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; for human life; for those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; for Europe, St Bridget (23 July) and St Teresa Benedicta (9Aug).

**Attendance and Collection** Sunday 4 July – attendance: 39 | collection: £240.00 (St Peter's Pence £16.00)

### WHO'S WHO IN SAFEGUARDING?

“Being loved and kept safe go to the very heart of the Church's ministry to children and vulnerable adults.” (Cumberledge)

**Parish representative** for St Francis, Hill Chapel is **Maria Peel**. For anyone who does not know me, I can often be found at the back of church welcoming you into mass on a Sunday. My photo is also on the board at the back of church along with the rest of the parish council. My role in the parish is to: help maintain a safeguarding awareness at all times; promote safe practices in all activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults within the parish, group or congregation; link with Fr Sony and the leaders of specific ministries within the parish; be the link between the parish and the safeguarding office. **Every member of the Catholic community is in the team! We must all look out for the more vulnerable members of our church community.**

If you are concerned about anyone please contact Maria on 01772 785584  
Or Fr Sony 01772 865229 Or the safeguarding office 01524 841190

### GOOSNARGH AND WHITTINGHAM HERITAGE GROUP:

Next event is on **Monday 19 July**. Join us for a mile-3 Heritage walk around Goosnargh and Whittingham, through open fields and stiles. Meet at St Mary's Church Goosnargh at 6.45 pm for a 7pm start. Everyone welcome  
Dogs welcome on a lead. Please bring your own refreshments.  
£2 to be paid on the night Government guidelines to be followed.



## St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

The Hill, Horns Lane

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Clergy: Father Sony Joseph Kadamthodu

[www.stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk)

Email (for newsletter items only):

[news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk)

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

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

18 July 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 Francis and June Gornall.**

Please pray for **Pat and Harry Turner**, the internment of whose ashes will take place on 18 July.

Prayers are also requested for **Veronica Holden** who died recently and will be buried at Hill Chapel on Wednesday.

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

**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** as specified by the government. **Please follow these guidelines once entering church:**

\* **Sanitise hands** on entry.

\* 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 mass sheet & newsletter on entry and **take them away when you leave**.

\* At Holy Communion (given in silence):

**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.

### **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

In my article last week, I wrote about the sisters of ‘The Order of The Holy Child of Jesus’; this week my focus is on ‘The Society of Jesus (S.J.), commonly known as the Jesuits. The Society grew out of the activity of St. Ignatius of Loyala, who was born in 1491. As a young man Ignatius became a Spanish soldier and fought in many minor conflicts. However, during a period of convalescence following a wound he received in battle, he experienced a religious conversion and became an ardent Christian. After a period of intense prayer, he composed the ‘Spiritual Exercises’ a guidebook to convert the heart and mind to a closer following of Jesus. On 15 August 1534, in Paris, six young men who had met Ignatius at the University of Paris, made a retreat according to the Spiritual Exercises and joined him in vows of poverty, chastity, and pilgrimage to the Holy Land. If this last promise did not prove possible, as it did not, they vowed to accept any apostolic work requested by the Pope. In 1539, Ignatius drafted the first outline of the Society’s organisation, which was approved by the Pope on 27 September 1540. For a brief period in 1773, however, whilst under pressure from a group of Catholic European monarchs who feared that the Society was becoming too powerful, Pope Clement XIV, suppressed the Society, cutting off all ties with Rome. Happily, 41 years later, another pope, Pius VII, undid the suppression, and ‘restored’ the Jesuits.

Despite their simple beginnings, the Jesuits quickly became, and remain, the largest order in the Catholic Church. Its current leader, generally addressed as Father General, is Fr. Arturo Sosa, who was elected for life by the Jesuit General Congregation, in 2016. The position sometimes carries the nickname of the ‘Black Pope’, because of his distinctive, austere black cassock in contrast to

the white vestments worn by the Holy Father. In many ways, the Jesuits are like other religious orders, such as the Franciscans or Dominicans. Jesuits take vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, and they live in community, sharing everything. But unlike diocesan priests, they are not ordained to a particular geographic diocese to serve the local bishop. The society has an almost military-style structure and ethos, its priests willing to go wherever and whenever the church needs them. They are ‘contemplatives in action,’ in the words of St. Ignatius, and have an especially lengthy period of study and spiritual preparation before taking vows, usually 10 years or more.

In the 1960s, the Jesuits decided to opt for a shift in emphasis which focused on working on behalf of the poor and for social justice. In the developing world, that put Jesuits on the front lines of popular movements for the poor, such as liberation theology, and led to martyrdom at times. When the troubles, known as the ‘Dirty Wars’, erupted in Argentina during the 1970s, the violence that overtook the country threatened many priests – especially Jesuits. As a 33-year-old Jesuit in Argentina, Fr. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, found himself in the midst of all this tumult. He had initially joined the Jesuits in the 1950s because he was ‘attracted to its position on, to put it in military terms, the front lines of the church.’ But little did he know how serious the combat would become.

In El Salvador, six Jesuits, along with their housekeeper and her daughter, were brutally executed by a Salvadoran military unit in 1989. To the surprise of many, Fr. Bergoglio was made superior of the Argentine Jesuits at the age of 36 and was thrown into a situation of internal and external chaos that would have tried even the most seasoned leaders. His rise in the hierarchy continued and in 1998 he was ordained an archbishop and then in 2001 a cardinal. In 2013, Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio was elected Pope by the 120-member College of Cardinals. Pope Francis brought with him a Jesuit passion for social justice and a missionary zeal to focus on engaging the wider world in collaboration rather than conflict. He is the first Pope from the Western Hemisphere, the first from South America, and the first from the Jesuit order.

**Mike Bryan**

**PARISHIONERS WHO ARE UNWELL** If you would like the parish to pray for someone who is currently unwell, please email [news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk](mailto:news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk) or ring Father Sony on 01772 865229. It will be then be included 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 it not to go on the parish newsletter.

**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.

## First reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

*I will gather together the remnant of my flock and raise up shepherds for them*

‘Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them.

Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks! ‘See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.’

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## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 22(23)

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## Second reading

Ephesians 2:13-18

*Christ Jesus is the peace between us*

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God: in his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, *peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand.*

Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

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## Gospel Acclamation

Jn10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!

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## Gospel

Mark 6:30-34

*They were like sheep without a shepherd*

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, ‘You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while’; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

## HOMILY

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday 2021 : Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34

When I still had roots in the parish in which I grew up, I would sometimes, when I was home, celebrate Mass in the parish primary school, where I noticed that they used a book of selected readings and prayers for various occasions and “themes”. Once, I offered Mass for the end of the school year: for this the book in question provided a truncated version of today’s Gospel, ending with the words “You must come away to some lonely place and rest for a while”.

I couldn’t help feeling that this played fast and loose with the meaning of Scripture, changing the whole import of Our Lord’s words, or at least of the context in which they were set. The implication was that the children and

staff should enjoy a relaxing holiday, an admirable aspiration, but the complete opposite of what occurred in the Gospel. The whole point of today's Gospel is that Jesus and the disciples were thwarted in their quest for relaxation, as the people followed them, and He responded to their needs. He was the Good Shepherd all the time, even when officially "off duty", and the combination of this passage with Jeremiah's denunciation of the neglectful shepherds, points the way for any of us who have pastoral responsibility of any sort.

Who falls into that category? I would suggest that it includes priests, religious, members of the caring professions, parents, grandparents, Old Uncle Tom Cobbley and all. How often do you read of an off duty police officer or paramedic intervening in an emergency? When is the mother or father of a child ever off duty? What parent has not arisen several times in the night to attend to the needs of their children? What son or daughter of an elderly parent has not done the same?

There is always a slight tinge of dismay when the priest is awakened in the night by the shrilling of the phone, because it will almost certainly lead to a journey to the hospital or to the bedside of a dying parishioner, but there will also be gratitude that people still consider it important to send for the priest. And no mother or father seriously begrudges having to leave their bed to attend to the needs of their child.

For those who no longer have those responsibilities, or for whom it does not form part of their vocation, there is still an unceasing concern for the Church, the world, and creation. You are not called to permanent anxiety, but if all that you do is given to God, then you too will be exercising that pastoral concern which is wide enough and generous enough to embrace the whole world.

Whether as a religious, or as a lay person in the world, you may not always be conscious of that smell of the sheep with which the Holy Father has called us to live, but if you are living authentically in your own sphere of life, then through God's grace the sheep will be benefitting.

So, are we never to relax, never to make holiday, never to indulge in pleasant activities? Far from it, for without such things we shall become stale, and our concern for the world will be something which we resent, or which we offer grudgingly. If we are constantly giving, with no heed for our own needs, our well will run dry, and we shall have nothing to offer.

GK Chesterton's friend and fellow writer Hilaire Belloc penned the following lines:

"Wherever the Catholic sun doth shine,  
There's always laughter and good red wine.  
At least, I've always found it so.

Benedicamus Domino."

But, while we are enjoying them, we must be prepared to put them aside, as Our Lord did, should the need arise.