

Feast Days this Week:

Monday: Sts Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward, Martyrs

Tuesday: St Aidan & the Saints of Lindisfarne

Wednesday: Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Friday: St Gregory the Great

Saturday: St Cuthbert

Cycle of Prayer for the Autumn of Ordinary Time:

We pray for: the harvest and care of creation (1 and 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).

CAFOD Responding to Multiple Emergencies Across the World: on Saturday 14 August, a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti. More than 1900 people have been killed and at least one million more people are affected. Tropical storm Grace has now hit Haiti, exacerbating the already serious emergency. CAFOD is working through the local Church organisations, Caritas Haiti, the Jesuit Migrants and Refugees Service, the religious congregations and sister agency Catholic Relief Services to provide urgent humanitarian aid – food, water, tents, hygiene kits and first aid for families affected. In Afghanistan, we are shocked and gravely concerned by the Taliban take-over of the vast majority of the country. The generosity and compassion of our Catholic community have allowed us to stand together with communities in Afghanistan since the 1980s, supporting local organisations committed to improving the lives of vulnerable and marginalised people. As you will appreciate, the situation in Afghanistan is uncertain and changing rapidly. Our Emergency Response Team are assessing how best to respond. We are doing everything possible to ensure the immediate well-being of local partners and the communities they serve. Please keep the people of Afghanistan in your prayers.

If you are able to donate towards CAFOD's emergency work, please go to <https://cafod.org.uk/Give> or call 0303 303 3030.

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



St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

The Hill, Horns Lane
Goosnargh, Preston PR3 2FJ
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Clergy: Father Sony Joseph Kadamthodu
www.stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk
Email (for newsletter items only):
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**

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

29 August 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.

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

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/>

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/>

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.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

For those fortunate to get away on holiday this summer, a so called ‘Staycation’ may be the only option. There are many picturesque and interesting venues in the UK, but perhaps none more so than here in the North West of England. For those who enjoy interesting and scenic rail journeys, a trip on the west coast line from Lancaster, via Barrow to Carlisle, would be an excellent choice. The line crosses Morecambe Bay over a long barrage, then makes its way through Grange-Over-Sands to skirt around the Cumbrian coastline to Carlisle. One of the most interesting sites on the journey, however, is the ruin of Furness Abbey which is clearly visible just prior to reaching Barrow-in-Furness. Founded almost 900 years ago, Furness Abbey was once the largest and wealthiest monastery in North West England. A place of prayer, piety and pilgrimage, the abbey was also a major landowner, its abbot occupying an important place in the administration of the region.

The history of the abbey can be traced back to 1124, when a community of monks settled at Tulketh, near Preston. Their founder was Stephen, then the Count of Boulogne and Lord of Lancaster, who later became King of England (1135–54). The austere, reforming monks came from Savigny, a monastery in Normandy, which at this time was establishing a series of ‘daughter’ houses. In 1127, the monks moved from Tulketh to the Furness peninsula. The site was an ideal location for a monastery. It had a supply of fresh water and ready access to building materials in the form of timber and stone; communication with the wider world was facilitated by the abbey’s proximity to the sea. In 1147, all Savignac monasteries were absorbed into the larger Cistercian Order by Pope Eugenius III, who had been a Cistercian monk. Richard of Bayeux, ‘a man learned in theology’, became abbot, and oversaw the rebuilding of the abbey’s church so that it conformed to strict Cistercian architectural ideals. The abbey rapidly prospered, embedding itself in the religious, social, economic, and political life of the North West. For almost four centuries Furness Abbey thrived until, in the early sixteenth century, it became caught up in the religious changes of the reign of Henry VIII. When Henry broke away from Rome and declared himself head of the Church of England, the wealth of the abbey was assessed, and Furness was found to have an annual income of £805, making it the wealthiest monastery in the region and the second richest Cistercian abbey in England. Commissioners were dispatched to Furness to oversee the dispersal of the monks and the destruction of the church and surrounding buildings. Records show that this was accomplished with the use of ‘ropes and other engines’.

Some of the abbey’s structures, including the former abbot’s lodging, survived the dissolution and were turned into a manor house. William Wordsworth wrote about the abbey in his *Guide to the Lakes* and popularised the ruins as a tourist destination. This was further stimulated by the arrival of the railways in 1847. The manor house was substantially rebuilt and became the Furness Abbey Hotel to accommodate the visitors. However, damage sustained during WW2 led to the demolition of most of the hotel and its site is now occupied by the visitor centre and car park. Today, Furness has some of the finest monastic ruins in England; its buildings are witnesses to the lives of the monks who worshipped and lived there between the 12th and early 16th centuries. It is well worth a visit.

Mike Bryan

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.

READINGS

First reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8

Observe these laws and customs, that you may have life

Moses said to the people: ‘Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, “No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation.” And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?’

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 14(15):2-5

Second reading

James 1:17-18,21-22,27

Accept and submit to the word

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Jn6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

You put aside the commandment of God, to cling to human traditions

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?’ He answered, ‘It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.

The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.’ He called the people to him again and said, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men’s hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication,

theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'