

Foodbank Collection

From now until Christmas we are collecting for **Ribble Valley Foodbank**.

Our local foodbank is currently short of :

Tinned vegetables ,tinned potatoes, sponge puddings,long life milk,soap,shaving foam/razors,tooth brushes, and laundry liquid/powder/gel.

A box will be at the back of church to put items in.

Many thanks for your support.

Vist/Talk - Ribble Valley Foodbank

Ribble Valley Foodbank have offered to do a talk for the parishioners of St Francis about the work that is being done in the foodbank and the Trussell Trust.

It is going to be at St.Paul's, Church , Longridge. Date to be confirmed.

(Friday daytime) Please let Bernadette or Maria know if you are interested.

Attendance and Collection

1st October : Attendance 62 Collection £131.50

8th October: Attendance 51 Collection £208.40

15th October:Attendance 53 Collection £183.00 – including baptism.

This week special collection for Sick & Retired Priest Fund

Parishioners Who are Unwell

If you would like the parish to pray for someone, please notify Father Sony on 01772 865229 for inclusion in the Bidding Prayers or newsletter. We also have an area in Church where you can write a prayer intention on a card and hang up if you prefer.

Hill Chapel Library

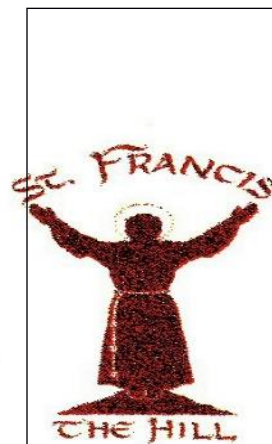
We have a box at the back of church with a variety of religious books belonging to parishioners which other people may like to read. If you would like to borrow any of the books or add some books of your own for other members of our parish to use - you are more than welcome. Please do fill in the form when taking and returning the books. Many thanks.

Feast Days

Wed - ALL SAINTS DAY – Holy day of Obligation

Thurs – ALL SOULS

Sat – St. Charles Borromeo



St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

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Clergy: Fr Sony Joseph
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<https://stfrancisgoosnargh.chessck.co.uk/>

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

29th October - Readings - Year A

Sunday Mass - 10.30am

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.*

Today's Mass Intention is for Lynne Wilkinson

We pray for all who are unwell in our parish especially
Lawrence Ibison, Bill Bamber, Monica Gornall, Shirley Walker
Constance Mary Barber & Frank Morris.

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially
Monica Gornall, Angela Mary Jones, Pat Turner, Thomas Wilding,
Bridget Mary Piner, Barbara Gornall & Linda Shorrock

No Mass on Tuesday 31st October

MASS ON WEDNESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER @ 10.30AM ALL SAINTS DAY

Tea and Coffee are served at the back of church after Sunday Mass.

The Valley Singers are performing '**The Best of British' Concert'** on Saturday, 18th November at 7.00pm in church.

The concert is to help raise money for a new church roof here at Hill Chapel. Concert. Tickets will be £10 and there will also be refreshments and a raffle. We hope as many people as possible will be able to attend and please spread the word to family and friends.

Tickets will be on sale at the back of church after mass.

Parish Christmas Meal

You are all warmly invited to **Our Parish Christmas Meal** at

Cross Keys Whitechapel on Sunday, 26th November at 12.15.

Bernadette and Maria have copies of the menu – we do need to order beforehand. The cost of the meal will be £22.50 for 2 courses / £25.95 for 3 courses. We do hope you will be able to come.

Please can menu choice and payment be given to Bernadette, Maria or Mary by Sunday, November 19th.

From the Archives

It was probably during the second week in September that I noticed the appearance of plastic mini pumpkins, an assortment of spooky objects and costumes, and huge containers of sugar laden sweets, marked 'Trick or Treat', amongst the premature Christmas decorations and greeting cards prominently displayed in our local shopping centre. What was once the Christian celebration of All Saints Day, Halloween, or the Eve of All Saints Day on the 31st of October, has gradually become a secular, commercialised event associated with people dressing up as horror or scary characters and children going from door to door demanding a treat or trick from their neighbours. For many elderly people and especially those living alone, Halloween can be a very anxious and often frightening time. I do concede, however, that for many it is seen as a harmless bit of fun prior to the winter season.

The Christian history of Halloween is not too difficult to trace, but there are claims of pre-Christian festivals behind it that are harder to prove. The Christian All Saints Day on 1st November, coupled with All Souls Day the day after, goes back to the 8th Century when it was celebrated on these dates in England and Germany. This date was officially ratified in 839 by Pope Gregory IV. Prior to this, All Saints Day was part of the festival of Pentecost, a sort of 'Birthday of the Church' when the first followers of Jesus went out to speak publicly of Jesus's resurrection at Easter. Eastern Orthodox churches still celebrate it at Pentecost. So why did Pope Gregory move the festival in the Western Church? The usual suggestion is that this was in line with existing pre-Christian celebrations of a day of the dead on this date.

In Ireland a festival celebrated for many hundreds of years is called Samhain, (pronounced sow ain). This festival marks the beginning of winter and the end of the harvest season. This was a time of feasting before winter set in and included lighting bonfires, wearing disguises and carving lamps out of turnips to ward off evil spirits. This was combined with the practice of going round collecting food. In turn for the gift of food, those who received it would offer prayers for the dead relatives of the household. This often became combined with the use of turnip lanterns and costumes in a practice that became known as 'souling and guising'. During the potato famine in 19th Century Ireland, Irish immigrants to America took with them the Halloween customs of souling and guising and a belief in warding off evil spirits as well as honouring the dead. These were then Americanised, replacing turnips with pumpkins and gradually also commercialised into the contemporary practice of trick or treat. This then returned to Britain in its American form as part of the import of aspects of American culture.

Mike Bryan

Parish Council Meeting : Tuesday, November 7th at 4.30 pm in the presbytery