

Ribble Valley Food Bank

We are continuing to collect for the Ribble Valley Food Bank. There is a box at the back of the church. Thank you

HOLY WEEK – Father Sony will take out Holy Communion and Sacrament of the Sick to the sick and housebound. Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available if you let Fr. Sony know.

Thursday 28th March – HOLY THURSDAY – Mass of the Lord's Supper. Mass in Claughton at 6.30pm followed by watching at the altar of repose until 9pm.

Friday 29th March at 3.00pm – GOOD FRIDAY – Celebration of the Lord's Passion – at St Francis. Collection for The Holy Places

Saturday 30th March at 7.00pm – THE EASTER VIGIL at Claughton

Sunday 31st March at 10.30am – EASTER SUNDAY- Mass at St. Francis followed by an Easter Egg Hunt in the garden for the children

Attendance and Collection

10th March Attendance 90 Collection £236.00

17th Mar Attendance 77 plus 1 dog Collection £248.00

Parishioners Who are Unwell

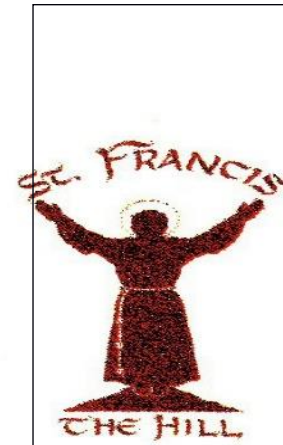
If you would like the parish to pray for someone, please notify Father Sony on 01772 865229 for inclusion in the Bidding Prayers or newsletter. We also have an area in Church where you can write a prayer intention on a card and hang up if you prefer.

Feast Days

Thurs- Holy Thursday

Fri – Good Friday – Day of Fasting & Abstinence

Sat – Holy Saturday



St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

The Hill, Horns Lane, Goosnargh
Preston PR32FJ

Telephone: 01772 865229

Clergy: Fr Sony Joseph
Kadamthodu

<https://stfrancisgoosnargh.chessck.co.uk/>

Sunday 24th March 2024 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Readings - Year B

Family 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.*

Mass intention is for the deceased members of the Bolton and Wells family

We pray for all who are unwell in our parish especially Bill Bamber,
Shirley Walker & Frank Morris

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially
Joseph Gornall

No Mass this Tuesday - Holy Week assemblies in school every day at
9.15am from Monday 25th to Thursday 28th.

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

Brock Valley Churches Together

Good Friday walk with Stations of the Cross followed by Jacob's Join lunch. Meet at Bleasdale Parish Hall PR3 1UZ ready to start the walk at 9.00 am. Walk is approx. 3.5 miles on paths and fields, it may be muddy in places so wear suitable footwear. Stops will be made along the way for prayers at each Station.

Please bring sandwiches, savouries or cakes for Jacob's Join. Leave these at the Parish Hall prior to the walk. Tea and coffee will be served during lunch.

More information on poster at the back of church

Church Roof Appeal

Our beautiful historic church has suffered a roof failure and needs major work to restore. Even though we are only a small parish we have raised over £2,500 so far due to the generosity of our parishioners. Special thanks to John Marshall who walked 10,000 steps a day in February and has raised £1005 up to date! A fantastic achievement – Well Done John! Please do look at the display at the back of church giving further details of our Church Roof Fund Appeal. The full total needed is £145,000 The amount needed is beyond the means of our small parish. Thanks to Frank Ashton who is in the process of organising a Just Giving Site online. If anyone has any fundraising ideas that may attract a wider audience please contact Mary or Bernadette.

From the Archives

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most important and holiest week in the Christian calendar, ending with the glorious resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. On the first Palm Sunday, in about the year 33 A.D., the holy city of Jerusalem, and the roads leading into it, would have been crowded with pilgrims who had come for the annual Passover celebration. Jesus' journey into Jerusalem was by no means uneventful. He had spent many months travelling through the towns and villages of Palestine, teaching those he met and healing the sick wherever he went. The journey to Jerusalem from the Sea of Galilee would have taken him down the Jordan valley to the village oasis of Jericho where, amongst the crowds he met Zacchaeus, a wealthy Jewish public official who collected taxes on behalf on the Roman government. Famously, Zacchaeus climbed a sycamore fig tree to call out to Jesus and invite him to stay at his house over-

night. Zacchaeus took this opportunity to repent for having cheated people in the past and promised to pay back four times the amount to those he had cheated. Jesus would have left Jericho the next day to start the long walk up the very steep hill out of the Jordan valley towards Jerusalem. As he left Jericho, St Matthew describes how Jesus healed a blind man called Bartimaeus who cried out from the crowd, "Jesus, Son of David. Take pity on me!". The winding road leading out of Jericho is surrounded by a wilderness and bandits would have frequented the area. Jesus referred to this road in the parable of the Good Samaritan. (In recent times an enterprising person has opened an Inn on the side of the road and called it, 'The Inn of The Good Samaritan'!)

Jesus and his disciples would have stayed in the small hamlet of Bethphage on the night before the final journey down to Jerusalem. He would have known the area well as Bethphage is close to Bethany, the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. As they came near to Jerusalem, Jesus told two of His disciples to go into a nearby village and bring a donkey that would be waiting there. He then rode on the donkey for the final stretch into Jerusalem. Crowds of people spread their coats on the ground in front of Him. Some waved branches of palm trees, a sign of victory. The people shouted, Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel! Only a king would be greeted this way and the people wanted Jesus to be their king. Mingling with the crowd were groups of pharisees who resented the attention Jesus was being given. However, most of the people did not understand what kind of king Jesus would be. They expected their Messiah to be a great political and military leader who would free them from the tyranny of the Roman Empire. But God's Kingdom is not of this world, it is a spiritual kingdom that is now growing in the hearts of people who put their faith and trust in God.

Jesus eventually entered the crowded city through the eastern gate and made his way to the Temple Courts where, much to the annoyance of the Pharisees, he expelled a group of money changers and merchants accusing them of turning the Temple into "a den of thieves". Jesus then immediately left the city and went to the Mount of Olives where he would eventually weep over the city, 'I wish even today that you will find the way of peace. However, now it is too late, and peace is hidden from you.' (Luke 19:41-44) Sadly, Jerusalem today is still very much a divided city.

Mike Bryan