

Garden Collection

A great amount of time, effort (and money) has been spent on improving the path around the graveyard and keeping the gardens looking so beautiful. Many thanks to all our volunteers. There is a collection box at the back of church to help towards the cost of all the improvements made and to help towards the cost of continuing to improve the path around the graveyard. Any contributions very gratefully appreciated.

HELP!

We are looking for **1. Volunteers to open church during the holidays.**
2. Someone to organise the weekly newsletter.
If anyone could help in anyway – please see a member of the parish council.

Parishioners Who are Unwell

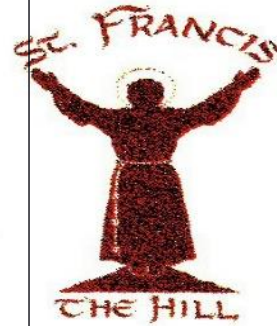
If you would like the parish to pray for someone, please notify Father Sony on 01772 865229 for inclusion in the Bidding Prayers or newsletter. We also have an area in Church where you can write a prayer intention on a card and hang up if you prefer.

Cycle of Prayer during Summer

A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews, Human Life, those who suffer Persecution, Oppression and denial of Human Rights. Seafarers.

Feast Days Mon: St James. Fri: St Mary, Martha & Lazarus, Sat; Our Lady

Diary :27th July – Parish Theatre Trip to see 'Joseoh and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' at The Opera House, Blackpool



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/>

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
24th July – 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.

Today's Mass is for the people of the parish

We pray for those who in our parish who are unwell, especially Ellen Woods and Jim Gornall.

We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, especially: Margaret Middleton, Winifred Rose Swarbrick and Catherine Nuala Gornall.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.

Baptism: We welcome Gracie-May Riley, who is to be baptised today.

Mass on Tuesday at 9.30 a.m.

Safety Rules for Mass:

Although safety rules have been restricted, we are only a small church and do want everyone to be kept safe:

- Please sanitise your hands on entry
- If preferred - please feel free to wear a mask on entry, on receiving Holy Communion and when leaving church.
- Please follow the one-way system to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion – guided by the stewards.

From the Archives

In the last newsletter article, I focussed on the martyrdom, which took place on 1st July 1591, of Blessed George Beesley. George was born in 1562 in what is now our presbytery. This week, I thought it might be of interest to you to learn something of the global interest his relationship with our small rural parish is attracting. In 2015, Fr. Smith, who was then P.P. at Hill Chapel, approached me to see if I would be interested in creating a catalogue of old parish documents, artefacts, photographs, letters, newspaper cuttings, booklets, etc. Thinking this would be a relatively straight forward and simple task, I agreed to help. He then presented me with numerous cardboard boxes full of materials dating back hundreds of years. The documents were not in any particular order or condition and ranged from small newspaper scraps to publications containing valuable historical information about 'The Hill' during the Penal Era. With some help from other parishioners, the material was catalogued, numbered, and recorded according to subject matter and date. Many of the files focus on the Beesley family and the subsequent arrest, trial, and execution of Blessed George Beesley. I am grateful to George Ashton and Chris Moran for publishing some of these documents on the parish website.

As with all websites, access to this information is now available across the world and, consequently, in the past few years, I have been contacted by numerous Beesley family members, all eager to trace their ancestry back to Hill Chapel and Blessed George Beesley. Many have taken information from a range of Beesley family trees published on commercial websites, many of which, can sadly be inaccurate and misleading.

English law, during Penal time, required everyone to attend a C. of E. parish church service each Sunday. This aimed to force individuals and families to accept the new protestant religion and to pay towards the upkeep of the churches taken from the Catholic Church. The first statute to address sectarian

dissent from England's official religion was enacted in 1593 under Elizabeth I, it specifically targeted Catholics, under the title "An Act for restraining Popish Recusants". Fines were issued to those who did not attend, with persistent offenders sometimes, but not always, being arrested and charged in court. However, in Lancashire many Catholics remained true to their faith and refused to attend a protestant service. Many, including members of the Beesley family, changed their names and avoided recording family births marriages and deaths with the Crown Authorities. Thus, the accuracy of many official records from the Penal Era, is extremely sketchy. Notwithstanding all this, in recent years I have received requests for information about the Beesley family from America, Canada, Australia and many towns and cities across the U.K. Some records I have received do hold valuable historical information. One such file of documents came from Professor Andrew Beesley, of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, who had traced a credible link to the Beesley line back to the mid seventeen century. A copy of his research is available to view in the parish archives. Another example came from Miss Elizabeth Prior, a Barrister and Genealogist, from London. Miss Prior has successfully traced her own family tree back to the Blackburne family, who purchased the house from the Beasley's just over three hundred years ago. Many others, I am afraid, are more questionable. I was once contacted by a Mr Beesley from America, who was planning a trip to the UK and wanted to visit Hill Chapel, he asked if he could pick up an 'Uber' in Goosnargh to come out to the church!

Mike Bryan

Stonyhurst Museum and Historic libraries

Stonyhurst museum and libraries are open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays until August 20th – 10 a.m. till 4,p.m. Adults - £7, 16 – 18 yrs -£3, Under 16 – free admission. To visit you must book an arrival time slot for the appropriate day on *Stonyhurst Enterprises* website – in *Open to the Public* section. Stonyhurst is home to the oldest museum in the English speaking world, dating back to 1609. Many of the objects in the Collections bear witness to its unique place in English history from the Middle Ages to the present day. On display in the museum you will find: the first folio of William Shakespeare, the prayer books of Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth of York, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's school reports and the Rose Chasuble – belonging to Hill Chapel, Well worth a visit.