

Open Garden at Dale House (Off Church Lane) Goosnargh :18th – 19th June
– 10am – 4.00pm. A hidden gem in Goosnargh – well worth a visit.
Home-made cakes, teas, plant sale. Admission - £3.30 / children free.
Money raised for St Francis pre-school. Please come and support.

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.

Goosnargh & Whittingham Heritage Group – Farm Visit.

Monday, 20th June – Farming Changes in Our Locality. We are visiting a local farm – Edenfield Farm, Horns Lane, Goosnargh. Meet at The Grapes in Goosnargh - 6.00 p.m. Do come and join us on this working dairy farm. Ask questions and see a rotary parlour in action. Everyone welcome, non-members - £3. Please wear suitable footwear.

Feast Days this week

Mon: St Anthony of Padua, Thursday: St Richard of Chichester

Saturday: The Blessed Virgin Mary

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.

Diary Dates

12th June – Family Mass

19th June – First Holy Communion – 11.30 a.m. Parish Mass – 10.30am

3rd July – Family Mass

12th July – Sacrament of Confirmation – 7.00 p.m.

19th July – Year Six Leavers Mass – 9.30 a.m.

27th July – Parish Theatre Trip



St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

The Hill, Horns lane,
Goosnargh Preston
PR32FJ

Telephone: 01772 865229

Clergy: Fr Sony Joseph
Kadamthodu

The Most Holy Trinity

12th June 2022 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 Bob Barron.

Today is Family Mass

We welcome children from our school and their families.

We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Bob Barron, Jeanette Forrest, Joan Sumner, Elizabeth Bolton, Frank Holden. Joseph Nugent and Brendan Dewhurst. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.*

Safety Rules For Mass

Many thanks for your co-operation. 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.

First Holy Communion

Nest Sunday, June 19th, Fourteen of our children are receiving their First Holy Communion at a special mass at 11.30 a.m. Our First Communicants have been preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Eucharist since January. Children and their parents have met monthly and parents have worked with their children, with the support of the catechist, to help them prepare for these two special sacraments. Please do remember them in your prayers.

From the Archives

As today is Family Mass Day, I thought it appropriate to look back to 1880 when our school at 'The Hill' was first opened.

The Elementary Education Act 1870, commonly known as Forster's Education Act, set the framework for compulsory schooling of all children between the ages of 5 and 12 in England and Wales. Prior to 1870, there was no national system of education and only a small section of the child population received any schooling. Opportunities for a formal education were restricted mainly to town grammar schools, charity schools, private fee-paying schools, and 'finishing' schools for young ladies. During the eighteenth century the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge, a protestant charity, created schools for the poor in the 7 to

11 age range. It is from these schools that the modern concept of primary and secondary education has grown. The SPCK also concerned itself with the training of teachers which introduced a sense of professionalism to teaching young children.

Following the passing of the 1870 Education Act, the Catholic authorities began to build parish schools specifically to teach the Catholic faith alongside a basic curriculum of reading, writing and arithmetic – the 'The Three R's', as it became known. As there was no Catholic school in the Goosnargh area, the Benedictine Order asked the then Parish Priest, Fr. M. Brierley O.S.B., to raise funds to build a parish school. The plan was to build a small two classroom school close to the presbytery for local Catholic children, many living in the nearby farms. The school would be open five days a week but would close for an hour at midday so that the children could go home for lunch. Two teachers would be employed and would be paid from parish funds. It is clear from the archives that Fr Brierley was concerned that the expense of such a project would put a tremendous financial burden not only on the parishioners but also on his own limited finances. On August 12th, 1880, he wrote the following letter to the Bishop of Liverpool:

"I have been ordered by my superiors to provide a school for the children of this district and, in doing so, I have incurred expenses which my ordinary income cannot meet. Will you kindly permit me to add your name to the enclosed list of subscribers to the school fund? I need not tell you, that any help you may give me will be very welcome." M Brierley

The bishop sent £5 which was put with the £15. 4s. 4d. donated by other subscribers. To date I cannot find any record of the actual cost of building the school in 1880, but I doubt £20 would cover it! Nevertheless, the school did open in September 1880 and, for the next 113 years was known as 'The Hill R.C. School'. It was not until September 1993, when Mrs M. Barron was headteacher, that the name was officially changed to, 'St. Francis R.C. Primary School, The Hill'.

Mike Bryan