

## Attendance and Collection

16th Feb - Attendance 69 Collection £212.00

23rd Feb - Attendance 61 Collection £170.85

**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.

## Feast Days

Wed – ASH WEDNESDAY - Day of Fasting and Abstinence

Fri – Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

Women's World Day of Prayer – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March

## Cycle Of Prayer

The Unemployed - especially on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March



## **St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter**

The Hill, Horns Lane, Goosnargh  
Preston PR32FJ

Telephone: 01772 865229

Clergy: Fr Sony Jose Kadamthodu

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

Parish Safeguarding Representative – Maria Peel

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025**

**8<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
Day for the Unemployed  
**Readings – Year C**

**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 Marshall & Williams Family**

We pray for all who are unwell in our parish especially

Bill Bamber, Shirley Walker & Frank Morris

**Ash Wednesday masses – 9.30 am and 7.30 pm – both at Claughton**

Tea and Coffee will be served after Sunday Mass

## New Missal Request

There is now a new Lectionary in use for all masses. The Lectionary (Missal) contains the scripture readings for Mass and is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. We will need three missals for the altar for the three liturgical years . We will also need new mass books. It is a costly purchase which will come to a total of £2000.

We are asking if anyone would be willing to sponsor the New Missal fund. We have given 'Sponsor a Missal' envelopes out, giving further details . It is a big expenditure for our parish when we are committed to raising funds for the Church Roof Appeal. There are envelopes in a basket at the back of the hall if you not have not received one. Grateful thanks for all envelopes already returned. Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

## First Communion Programme

We are starting our First Communion and Sacrament of Reconciliation programme on March 4<sup>th</sup>. If you would like your child to receive these sacraments and they are not at St Francis' Primary – please see Mary Doran or Charlotte Birch for further details. **First Communion will take place on Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup> at the 10.30am Mass.**

## Papal Curiosities

When did the Vatican establish a post office?

The Vatican Post Office dates to the fourteenth century, when a pony-express system carried pontifical messages to all parts of Italy. Located just inside Saint Anne's Gate, the Vatican's main post office handles about 2 million postcards, and over 15,000 packages. Generally speaking, its post office is efficient and reliable-and many Romans have come to learn that if they go to the trouble of mailing a letter on Vatican grounds, delivery will be faster and safer.

The Vatican Post Office shows an annual profit, but this comes mainly from the sale of commemorative stamps and issues of Vatican coins and medals. Only once did the Vatican Post Office oversubscribe itself on the printing of a postage stamp. During the 1875 Holy Year, nearly a million unsold Vatican stamps of Pope Paul VI had to be burned.

Where does the Vatican store its white elephants?

The Vatican has a junk shop. In a converted palace called the Floreria are all the things the Vatican does not need anymore but does not want to throw away. In this Vatican "warehouse" can be found portable thrones no longer used; dinner services once used for Vatican banquets; the busts of forgotten cardinals; an array of fans from Persia (they were waved over the pontiff's portable throne before the days of air-conditioning); some badly executed statues of the Virgin Mary; so many carpets that all count has been lost; gilded chairs for dignitaries; coaches adorned with gilded door handles and equipped with a single throne as the back seat; all the abandoned furniture of dead popes-such things as rickety bedside tables, wobbly stools, brass beds (all neatly labeled with the names of their past owners). There is also a collection of bad paintings, many of them gift to the papacy. Notable among these is one that hung in the Vatican Museum for over 100 years. Presented to Pope Pius IX by Queen Christine of Spain in 1850, The Mystic Marriage of Saint Catherine was attributed by art experts to the seventeenth-century Spanish painter Bartolome Esteban Murillo. When the so-called Murillo masterpiece was found to be a counterfeit, it got stored away in the Floreria.

Where does the Pope Live?

The Pope and certain official members of the Vatican "family" live in the Apostolic Palace, which is actually a conglomeration of buildings built mostly during the Renaissance. Matched only by the palace of the Dalai Lama in Tibet, the pope's palace is one of the world's biggest. The Pope lives in an apartment on the top floor facing St. Peter's Square.

