

Attendance and Collection

20th July Attendance 67 Collection £234.35

27th July Attendance 56 Collection £210.00 including baptism

3rd August Attendance 75 Collection £280.30 including baptism

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

Mon – St. Clare

Thurs – St. Maximilian Kolbe

Fri – ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Holy Day of Obligation

Save the date - Friday 24th October – ‘**The Valley Singers**’ will be performing in church.

CAFOD's WORLD PRAYER MAP: United in Prayer for our sisters and brothers <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/world-prayer-map>
Our sisters and brothers in so many countries face immense difficulties due to conflict, violence, injustice and natural disasters. You can use the prayer map to pray for our world, in solidarity with our global family.



St Francis Hill Chapel

The Hill, Horns Lane, Goosnargh
Preston PR32FJ

Telephone: 01772 865229
Clergy: Fr Sony Jose Kadamthodu

StFrancis.Goosnargh@lrcd.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representative –Maria Peel

Sunday 10th August 2025
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

We pray for all who are unwell in our parish especially

Bill Bamber, Shirley Walker & Frank Morris

We remember Mary Elizabeth Shenton, Jim Gornall & Nicholas Bajko whose anniversaries occurs at this time

On the 15th August the solemnity of the **Assumption of Our Lady** is a Holy day of Obligation. There will be mass at 10am at Hill Chapel.

Tea and Coffee will be served after Sunday Mass

Pilgrimage to St Mary's Cleator CA23 3AB Sunday September 7th.

The Pilgrimage is held every year and In this centenary year of the Diocese of Lancaster, the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes will be a significant one.

The communities of Cleator and Cleator Moor were dependent on the mining and iron industries, and during the Great Depression of the 1920s and 1930s, times were very difficult for many. Fr. Clayton (priest in Cleator from 1904 to 1954) placed an appeal in the national Catholic press, and generous support was received from around the country. To provide employment for some of the parishioners Fr. Clayton bought some land adjoining the church's site and asked for volunteers to help construct a replica of the Grotto at Lourdes. These volunteers were rewarded with vouchers for food and clothing. The Grotto was opened on the 30th October 1927, and rapidly became a focus for pilgrimage from all parts of the diocese. The theme for the Pilgrimage this year is 'Mary, Mother of the Church. People are asked to meet outside St Mary's Church in Cleator at 2.40pm and (weather permitting) process to the Grotto. The bishop will say mass there at 3.pm and bless the sick. Tea and coffee will be provided.

From the Archives

Many people, particularly families with school age children, tend to choose August as the best time to go away on holiday; the weather is usually good and the hours of daylight still relatively long. Over the years trends have changed with many holiday makers now choosing to go abroad rather than holidaying in the UK. Surprisingly, however, 21.75m people visited Blackpool in 2023. Whilst this is a record number for any British resort, the vast majority of these only visited for a day or at most a weekend. The most popular holiday destination in 2023 for British tourists was Spain with 17.8 million staying for at least five days or more. The most popular city destination for foreign tourists was Barcelona with 11.7m visitors. Remarkably 4.7m of these visited the Sagrada Familia, (Holy Family), the city's cathedral and masterpiece of Antoni Gaudi, the modernist architect who designed it.

Construction began in 1882. Gaudi took over the project a year later when he was 31 years old working on it for four decades. He made several models of his vision, knowing it would not be completed in his lifetime. Sadly, many of the original plans were destroyed in the 1936-1939 civil war. The cathedral, which has been financed entirely by private donors is still not completely finished.

During the many years of work on the building, Gaudi became almost monastic in his lifestyle. He gave up most worldly possessions, fasting frequently and attending mass daily in a small chapel in the crypt of the Sagrada Familia. He lived in a single room close to the church and focused almost entirely on its construction, considering it a form of devotion. However, he still made time to plan and create a garden for patients in a psychiatric hospital and to visit workmen when they were sick. He was nicknamed 'God's Architect' by a church official who wrote that, 'He was a compassionate and devout man of great virtues'. Gaudi died aged 73 in 1926 when he was hit by a tram and taken to a paupers' hospital because nobody recognised him.

I read recently in the Sunday Times newspaper that Maria Gil Jimenez, who was very unwell, visited Gaudi's grave inside the cathedral in 2003 and prayed for his intervention to help find her a new kidney which she had needed for some considerable time. The next day the hospital rang her to inform her a kidney was available. Maria considered this to be a miracle and testified in writing to an association campaigning since 1992 to have Gaudi canonised. On the 14th of April this year, the late Pope praised the visionary Catalan architect's 'heroic virtues' and elevated him to the 'Venerable' status, the second step on the road to sainthood. However, under Vatican rules, backers must find evidence of two miracles he has performed before he can reach the next stage. If you ever visit Barcelona the Sagrada Familia is a must on your 'to do' list.

Mike Bryan

