

Covenant Scheme

If you would like to join the Covenant Scheme where the church benefits as they are able to claim gift aid on your donation, please see Mary or Katie for a Gift Aid Declaration Form

Lancaster Diocesan Directory 2025

If you would like to buy one they are £6 and available at the back of the hall. Please see Mary or Bernadette .

Attendance and Collection

19th Jan Attendance 59 Collection £177.00

26th Jan Attendance 63 Collection £189.00

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.

Feast Days

Mon – St Blaise

Wed – St. Agatha

Sat – St. Jerome Emiliani

Cycle of Prayer

Victims of Human Trafficking and Those who Work to Combat it - 8th February



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 2nd February 2025
4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

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 Tom & Rosalind Bolton

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

Kathleen Ann Stecyk

Tea and Coffee will be served after Sunday Mass.

Garden Graves

In the interest of keeping the graves looking tidy - we would like to remind you like last year that all christmas wreaths and decorations are to be removed by Saturday 8th February 2025.

To assist the mowers we would like to also remind people that plant pots and flowers are to be contained on the grave stone plinth, all as to the grave stone regulations.

Thank you for your co-operation, it's very much appreciated.

The Gardeners

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne & Holy Island 21-23 May 2025.

As part of our diocesan celebrations of the Centenary, Bishop Paul Swarbrick will be leading a pilgrimage to the sites associated with St Cuthbert, co-patron of our Diocese. The three-day pilgrimage will take in Holy Island and Bamburgh and Durham Cathedral, and we will be staying at the historic former seminary of the North of England, Ushaw College.

The cost of the pilgrimage is £310 for shared accommodation and £340 for single rooms, all inclusive, with coach pick-ups at Workington and Carlisle. Please share this opportunity with your parishes and religious communities, and email info@christ-the-good-shepherd.co.uk to request a booking form.

Papal Curiosities

Why is there a church over the site of Nero's grave?

Where the Church of Santa Maria del Popolo stands today at the Piazza del Popolo was once the site of Nero's grave - in fact, the exact spot where the emperor took his life. To mark this point, a huge walnut tree was planted, but people reported to the Vatican that the place was haunted by devils and demons. In 1099, Pope Pascal II had a vision from the Virgin Mary, who asked him to cut down the tree over

Nero's grave, dig up his bones, burn them all together, and throw the ashes into the Tiber River. Doing as commanded, the Pope hewed the first stroke of the ax against the tree. In 1472, Pope Sixtus IV erected the Church of Santa Maria del Popolo on the site, and in one of the reliefs in the arch across the high altar, Pope Paschal II is seen cutting down a nut tree.

How long is the Vatican railroad?

The Vatican railroad station serves what is doubtless the shortest railroad in the world, running a mere 2,600 feet, and has no regular train schedule. Mussolini put up the terminal building as a gift; comprising one of Vatican City's curiosities, the candy-colored station (constructed in pink, green and yellow marble) was described by Pope Pius XI as "the most beautiful station in the world." When the rail road was inaugurated, an apology was made to Pius XI because the tracks hadn't yet been properly connected with the Italian network, and the pontiff was told that this would be done shortly. Replied the Pope with a smile, "It seems that you are in a hurry to get rid of me."

John XXIII was the only pontiff to have used the railroad; he and members of his staff made a trip in October 1962 to Loreto and Assisi to offer prayers for the Ecumenical Council. Freight trains arrive regularly, however, with tax-free goods, food, and other necessities, which are stored in the high-ceilinged waiting room. The double-track spur that connects with the tracks of the Italian state railway line enters the pocket-sized domain through a pair of big iron gates that

open slowly. Trains are drawn in and out by a small steam locomotive. Under an agreement signed in 1953, the Italian railway system must permit the Vatican the use of the main network and also provide royal coaches for the pontiff. Accordingly, Italy built several "presidential coaches" complete with the balconies, kitchen, and sleeping quarters. These are cleaned, polished, and examined daily, ready for instant use, although the Vatican has no regular train schedule.