

Attendance and Collection

30th March Attendance 69. Collection £167.00

6rd April, Attendance 81. Collection £177.00

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 George

Tues - St. Catherine of Siena

Wed - St Pius V

Thurs - St. Joseph the Worker

Fri – St. Athanasius

Sat – STS. PHILIP & JAMES

Childrens Liturgy

It has been lovely to see so many children in the school hall at Sunday mass. When back in church, we would love to restart Childrens liturgy. This is where the children have their own special liturgy focused at their level of understanding. They leave church at the beginning of mass and go to the presbytery with Childrens liturgists, where they talk and share thoughts and ideas on the gospel of the day – with planned activities to enthuse and inspire children to respond and to enjoy themselves too. They then return to mass in church at the Offertory. If you would like to be involved in Childrens Liturgy or find out more – please do see Mary, Maria or Bernadette for more information.



**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 27th April 2025

**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER –Day of Divine Mercy
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 People of the Parish

We pray for all who are unwell in our parish especially

Bill Bamber, Shirley Walker & Frank Morris

We remember Mary Cooke, Francis Haywood & Micheal D'Arcy whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Tea and Coffee will be served after Sunday Mass

The Re-dedication of St Francis, Hill Chapel - New Date.

Our Church will be re-opening on Sunday May 25th for 10.30 a.m. Mass. Bishop Paul Swarbrick will be saying mass and rededicating Hill Chapel so we are ready to worship God in our beautiful church again following all the work that has taken place there.

To celebrate the occasion, we would like as many of our parishioners as possible to attend the Mass. There will be refreshments after Mass. Any donations of cakes would be very gratefully received.

Sending very grateful thanks to Mike Bryan for all his hard work in organising the project.

We will continue to celebrate weekly Sunday mass in school until then. Sunday May 18th will be our last mass in school.

From the Archives

His Holiness Pope Francis R.I.P.

17 December 1936 – 21 April 2025

I write this article on Easter Monday having just heard the very sad news of the death of The Holy Father, Pope Francis, earlier today. He was the first pope to choose the name Francis, the patron saint of our own parish of St Francis of Assisi. Like St Francis, Pope Francis was a humble man who cared passionately for the environment, for the poor and for those forced to leave their homes and community as result of political oppression and war. He was a strong critic of unbridled capitalism, consumerism and of overdevelopment. Pope Francis regularly celebrated Maundy Thursday mass by washing the feet of prisoners, patients in hospitals, residents in retirement homes and those living in the slums around Rome. He became pope on the 13th March 2013 and was the first pope from the Society of Jesus (the Jesuit Order). He was also the first from the Americas and the Southern Hemisphere and the first from outside Europe since the

eighth century. As Jorge Mario Bergoglio, Pope Francis was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina and was ordained as a Jesuit priest in 1969, the archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1997 and was created a cardinal by Pope John Paul II in 2001.

During the period 1974 to 1983, Argentina suffered a period of state terrorism when the military junta and security forces, in the form of so called 'death squads', hunted down political dissidents and anyone believed to be associated with socialism or left-wing politics. Between 22,000 and 30,000 people were killed or disappeared. It was recently revealed that during this period as cardinal, Pope Francis, made efforts behind the scenes to help evacuate and save the lives of over 1,000 suspected dissidents. All this at significant risk to his own life and the Argentinian Jesuit community, which he led at that time.

The pope's death now begins a 'papal interregnum' and a nine-day period of mourning known as the 'novemdiales' – Latin for nine days. The pope's funeral, by tradition, will take place within four to six days of his death. His wish was to be buried not at the Vatican but at the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, situated in one of the deprived areas of Rome. Following his funeral, cardinals from all over the world will attend the general congregation of cardinals to decide the date and time of the upcoming conclave to elect a new pope.

As a tribute to Pope Francis, I end with a passage from St Matthew's gospel which I feel sums up the life he led.

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, when I needed clothes you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

May He Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Mike Bryan

