

Longridge Foodbank Collection – Anthony Eccles from Longridge Foodbank collected our donations this week and sent grateful thanks for all your contributions, They would really appreciate any of the following items: Tinned meat, Tinned fish, Tinned fruit, Tomato ketchup, Toilet Rolls, Laundry pods/tablets, **Plus:** Pasta Sauce, Rice, Long Life Milk, Tinned Vegetables & Potatoes, Tins/Cartons Custard, Instant Mash, Washing up liquid, Sponge puddings, Rice pudding, Tinned Tomatoes, Biscuits, Long life fruit juice, Coffee.
Any help is very gratefully appreciated

Church Website our new website address- stfrancisgoosnargh.co.uk

Attendance and Collection

9th Aug Attendance 53 Collection £175.00

16th Aug Attendance 66 Collection £146.00

Feast days

Mon – ST. MATTHEW

Thurs – OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Sat – Sts. Cosmos & Damian

People who are Unwell If you would like the parish to pray for someone, please notify Father Sony on 01772 865229



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 20th September 2026

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Evangelii Gaudium Day - Home Mission

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.

Today's mass is being offered for the Parish

We pray for all who are unwell in our parish especially
Shirley Walker & Frank Morris.

We remember Ellen Wood & Monica Melling whose anniversaries occurs around this time

There will be NO masses on Tuesday until further notice.

Tea and coffee will be served at the back of church after mass

We are delighted to welcome
BISHOP PAUL SWARBRICK,
***Bishop of Lancaster* to**
OUR VERY SPECIAL FAMILY JUBILEE MASS -
Celebrating Together as One Parish Family

To Celebrate the Season of Creation 2026
and
St Francis 800th Jubilee Year

On Sunday, October 11th at Our 10.30 am Mass

From the Archives

On the 4th of October, we will commemorate the eight-hundredth anniversary of our patron saint, St Francis of Assisi. The following week, on Sunday the 11th of October, Bishop Paul Swarbrick will be here to celebrate our Sunday mass in honour of St Francis. Whilst we know a lot about St Francis and the Order he created, the early work of The Franciscans in Preston is possibly less well known. In this short article I will attempt to describe the early years of Christianity in our country and here in Preston prior to the English Reformation in 1527.

From 180 AD pockets of Christianity were recorded in England. In 597 St Augustine, and 40 Benedictine monks, were sent by Pope Gregory to England. Augustine set about gradually and patiently to purify rather than destroy pagan temples and customs, St Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury. Although he died in 605, only eight years after arriving, his efforts were to bear fruit in the eventual conversion of England. Augustine of Canterbury is often called the 'Apostle of England',

In 664, a significant date for Preston, St Wilfrid brought Christianity to the town and became its patron saint. Then in **1260** Franciscan Friars (often known incorrectly as monks) came to Britain. The Franciscans were known as The Grey Friars, - the name now used for an area of London. In Preston, the Franciscans opened a Leper Hospital near St Walburge's, which they named, 'The Mary Magdalen Hospital'; the site is still known as the Maudland area of Preston.

From the 12th Century the catholic religion controlled the country. In and around Preston and Lancashire there were numerous abbeys, monasteries and convents. In 1124 King Henry 1st owned lands in Preston. The same year Tulketh Abbey was founded by Sauvignac monks, later to become Benedictines. It was close to Tulketh Castle owned by the King. During this period the church dominated the lives of everyone – Monasteries provided worship, education, work on monastic land, social, economic and political life. They became extremely rich, collecting rents each quarter day. Life was centred around religion. There was very little geographical or social mobility. The local area around Preston housed eight Abbeys and Pories, all were fully or partially destroyed during the reformation. Life expectancy was short, between 30 & 35 years, but this was driven down by infant mortality as 25 to 30% of infants and children died before adulthood.

In 1687, when it was still illegal to be an ordained Catholic priest, the Franciscans came to White Hill and built a small, secluded chapel; it was the first Catholic chapel in Goosnargh to be called St Francis. The chapel was soon destroyed by a group of protestant activists but this did not deter the Franciscans who simply built a second one on the same site. It was not until 1755 that a new permanent chapel was built on the site of our present church known as The Hill or The Mound. The Franciscans remained at Hill Chapel until 1834 when the Benedictines replaced them. There are now approximately 650,000 Franciscans globally, including friars, nuns, and secular members.

Mike Bryan

