

Longridge Foodbank Collection – Anthony Eccles from Longridge Foodbank collected our donations this week and sent grateful thanks for all your contributions,

They are in need 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

20th Sept Attendance 76 Collection £214.00

27th Sept Attendance 74 Collection £243.00

Feast days

Mon – St. Wilfrid

Tues – St. Edward the Confessor

Thurs – St. Teresa of Jesus

Sat – St. Ignatius of Antioch

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

Thinking of being a priest? Come to the Day of Discernment! The day is for single men 16 years or over who are considering priesthood: **Saturday 31 October 10am - 3.30pm** at St Peter's Cathedral, Balmoral Rd, Lancaster LA1 3BT. Enter at Cathedral House on Balmoral Rd. The day includes Mass, adoration, reflections and lunch with Bishop Paul. To book, email Heather: heather.watts@lrcd.org.uk or Tel: 01524 841190. There is no charge for the day. As well as meeting the Bishop, you will have the opportunity to get to know how discernment works and who can assist you. You will also meet many others from across the Diocese of Lancaster exploring vocation to priesthood.



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 11th October 2026
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10.30am

St. Francis Mass of Celebration with **Bishop Paul**

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.

Tuesday mass on October 13th @ 9.30am

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

St Francis Mass of Celebration –

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.

From the Archives

St Francis Eight-Hundredth Anniversary Celebration Mass

Today we welcome Bishop Paul Swarbrick, Bishop of Lancaster, who will celebrate our Sunday Family mass in honour of our patron saint, St Francis of Assisi.

St Francis was born Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone in Assisi Italy in 1181. As a young man, from a wealthy family, Francis enjoyed parties, fine clothes, and worldly pleasures. However, around the age of 23, Francis underwent a profound conversion. A pivotal moment occurred when he encountered a leper and, overcoming his initial revulsion, Francis embraced him and offered him his clothes. Shortly afterward, while praying in the dilapidated church of San Damiano, he heard a voice from the crucifix instructing him: "Go, Francis, repair my house, which is falling into ruin". This experience led him to renounce his father's wealth publicly and embrace a life of radical poverty and service to God.

Francis began gathering followers who shared his vision of living in simplicity and devotion. In 1209, after traveling to Rome, he received approval from Pope Innocent III to establish the Order of Friars Minor, commonly known as the Franciscan Order. Under his leadership, the Order grew rapidly, emphasizing poverty, humility, service to the poor and care for all God's

creation. He also inspired Clare of Assisi to found the Poor Clares, a female branch of the Franciscan movement.

Friars of the Franciscan Order first came to England in the year 1260, thirty-four years after St Francis died. The Order established small missions and hospitals for the poor including a Leper hospital in the Maudland area of Preston, close to the present St Walburge's church. However, in 1539, King Henry VIII, closed the hospital as part of his dissolution of all Catholic monasteries and abbeys. Even though it became illegal to practice as a Catholic priest, the Franciscans continued to support their missions in England. In 1687, the Franciscans established the '*Residence of The Holy Cross*' at White Hill towards the northern end of Horns Lane. The humble building was described as '*a chapel with a little dwelling at one end*'.

In 1755, still in difficult times for Catholics, the Franciscan Order built our present church, on a hill two miles outside Goosnargh village to resemble a barn. The church, dedicated to St Francis of Assisi, became known as the Mound, or The Hill and eventually Hill Chapel. The Franciscans remained at Hill Chapel until 1834 when the church was handed over to the Benedictine Order. St Francis, Hill Chapel is a jewel in the crown of the Lancaster R.C. diocese, a thriving historical parish in a most beautiful rural area.

We thank Bishop Swarbrick for visiting us today as we celebrate the 800th anniversary of our patron saint, St Francis of Assisi.

Mike Bryan

