

**St Mary and St Michael's Catholic Church
Garstang and Calder Vale
and**

Sts Mary & James, Scorton

Parishes of the Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity, no. 234331

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Snow Hill, Scorton, PR3 1AY.

8th / 9th December 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)



“A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Service of Reconciliation – This will take place next Saturday, 15th December, at 10.15 am. All are welcome.

This Weekend, 8th & 9th December, there will be a Special Collection for our St Vincent de Paul Society. Please be as generous as you are able. Also, SVP are continuing to collect donations of non-perishable food for the Share-IT food bank. As Christmas approaches, small gifts of festive fare would no doubt be welcomed. In addition, from early December, donations of winter clothing for the Caritas ACE project can be placed in the larger box at the back of Church.

Traidcraft for Chivuna – Many thanks to those who have purchased items. Last orders will be placed this coming Wednesday 12th December, so please leave any orders in the sacristy or give to me before then. Traidcraft are restructuring in order to carry on trading in the New Year, and will be focusing more on core grocery lines, and fewer craft items. Thank you for your support. *Helen Spencer*

Journey in Faith (RCIA) 2018-2019 (Garstang) – The next meeting is on **Thursday, 13th December** in the Plessington Chapel at St Mary & St Michael's, starting at **7.15pm** for 7.30pm.

Lourdes Diocesan Pilgrimage – Bishop Paul Swarbrick is leading the Diocese of Lancaster Lourdes Pilgrimage from 26th July – 2nd August, by air from Manchester. If you are interested in going, please see poster, brochures and booking forms at the back of church.

Looking for a meaningful gift to buy this Christmas? Please browse through a CAFOD World Gift leaflet, available in the Church porch. A great idea if you have relatives overseas, or can't think what to buy someone who has everything they need. These gifts can make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable people. Thankyou.

Puen Club (Scorton) – The winner of the December draw is Pat Jepson, and her winnings are £37.00.

Scorton School Nativity - Wednesday 19th December at 6.30 pm in St Peter's church. On Monday 17th December, at 6.30 pm, it is the **Calder Vale School Nativity** in St John's Church. Everyone is welcome.

Did you know? ... in March, Amina and her family became refugees, fleeing their home country because the ethnic group they belonged to were under attack. Amina said, “When we arrived at the camp, the children were sick because of bad weather. My baby was a twin. Her twin died. She got sick because of the rain and cold.” During Advent, we are reminded of how the Holy Family themselves became refugees, homeless and dispossessed as are millions of refugees today. Your gifts, your kindness and compassion bring hope and do make a real difference for refugees like Amina and her family. Please keep all refugees in your prayers during Advent.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Irene Booth who died recently. Her Reception into church will be next Thursday, 13th December, at 4.30 pm; her Requiem Mass is next Friday, 14th December, at 1.00 pm. ***May she rest in peace.***

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time in Garstang and Scorton: Aiden Flemming, John Gavin Nixon, George Cowburn, Annie Gregson, Lucy Madeleine Price-Jones, Monica Carr, Vincent Swarbrick, Grace Ross Darling, Ethel Carroll, Dennis Regan and Arthur J Nickson. ***May they rest in peace.***

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends in Scorton and Garstang, including: Simon Ryan, Ben Kelsall, Jim Costain, Frances Dickinson, Jean Dunne, Alison Dodd, Tony McManmon, Louise Williams, Noreen Hargreaves, A Very Sick Brother, Teresa Smith, John Cookson, Reverend Andrew Shaw, Wendy Seed, Graham Markham (Australia), Charlie Robinson (3 years old), Louise Gornall, Bernie Murphy, Jim Cowburn, Marie Swarbrick, Mary Winstanley, Jacqui Elliot, Pat Nickson, a Sick Parishioner, Christopher Macken, Seamus Martin, Joseph Nugent, Peter Holland, Kathryn, Ros Drake, Vin Cahill, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Matthew Pearson, Jim Winstanley, Dorothy Evans, Christine Cobane, Sheila Murphy, Florence Burgess, Ian Moran, David Winstanley, Pat Hickey, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Wayne Martin, Michael Hendry, Lucy and Family, Ann Wicks, Jessica Holmes (6 years old) and Phoebe (6 years old).

(If you would like to add someone, please will you write down their name and hand it to Father Tom, D'arcy or Liz, or send in by email, and please let us know when a name is to be removed. Thank you.)

SS Mary & Michael School invite you to watch their Christmas Productions. The junior children are performing 'Gimme, Gimme, Gimme' on **Tuesday, 18th December 2018 at 2pm**, and the infant children will perform 'ABC Nativity' on **Wednesday, 19th December at 2pm**. If you would like to attend either of these performances, please will you contact the school in advance, telephone 01995 603023.

Christmas Cards for Seafarers – Christmas cards are available at the back of church over the next couple of weeks for you to write a greeting for a seafarer far from home. These will be forwarded to Apostleship of the Sea for distribution. Please sign the card with first name only, no contact details, or just "from a friend". Thank you.

Parish Draw (Garstang) - Congratulations go to Olive Sweetman and Anne Whitehead our November winners. Last chance to buy a number and be in our big Christmas draw. All enquiries, contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon on 01995 604292

Next Year's First Holy Communions will take place on 12th May. If you have a child who does not come to SS Mary & Michael's School but who is in Year 3 and would like to make their First Holy Communion next year, please write their name, parent's name and contact details on a piece of paper and give it either to Father Tom or to D'arcy so they can be included in the programme.

Notice board by the Crèche – Father Tom is inviting Parish Groups to take over the free-standing notice board by the crèche for a month at a time, starting with our Youth Group who will be using it from the Feast of Christ the King, and for the whole month of December. It would be a good way of letting the congregation know the activities of the various groups in our parish.

Traidcraft catalogues, featuring the Christmas range are now available - there are a small number in the Church porch. As you may have heard in the media, Traidcraft are struggling financially and this may be the last season of trading (Traidcraft Exchange charity will continue to operate). Also, please feel free to add any items from the website to the order form. (www.traidcraftshop.co.uk). As usual, proceeds from orders will go to Chivuna clinic. Thankyou. *Helen Spencer*

Expressions of interest are invited for a Parish pilgrimage to Rome in 2019. The dates are the 16th- 23rd September 2019. The cost will be in the region of £850 per person for the week including flights and full board. Insurance is not included. We will be staying at the Domus Romana Sacerdotalis (<http://www.domusromana.org/>) which is within a short walk of the Vatican. It has single and twin rooms. If you are interested, please will you let Fr. Tom or Liz know at ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com or by telephone at 01995 602164.

Lancaster & District Homeless Action Service is preparing for their Annual Christmas Shelter, offering 24/7 shelter to the street homeless of Lancaster between 24th and 29th December, and they are asking for volunteers, and for financial help. There are a couple of letters and forms at the back of church if you are interested in helping.

Wednesday Word – copies for the Sunday Masses of 16th December can be found on green paper at the back of church. If you would like a copy, please help yourself.

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 8th– Sunday 16th December 2018

Sat	8 th	6.00 pm (Vigil) (Garstang)	Richard Gaughan (Anniversary)
Sun	9 th	8.30 am (Scorton) 10.30 am (Garstang)	The Smith Family Gerald Whittaker
Mon	10 th	No Mass	
Tue	11 th	12 noon (Scorton)	Alice Graham
Wed	12 th	7.00 pm (Garstang)	Irene Moon
Thurs	13 th	9.30 am (Scorton)	Eddie Trotman
Fri	14 th	9.30 am (Garstang) 1.00 pm (Garstang)	Siobhan Turner Requiem Mass for Irene Booth
Sat	15 th	9.30 am (Garstang) 10.15 am (Garstang) 6.00 pm (Vigil) (Garstang)	Nellie and Bernard Swarbrick Service of Reconciliation Frank, Gladys & Harry Richardson (Birthday Anniversaries)
Sun	16 th	8.30 am (Scorton) 10.30 am (Garstang)	Eve Graham (Anniversary) Anne Elizabeth Nugent

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	12 th	6.45 pm (Garstang)	Rosary
Fri	14 th	10 – 10.30 am (Garstang)	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat	15 th	9.00 am (Scorton) 10.15 am (Garstang)	Saturday Liturgy of the Word Service Service of Reconciliation

Special Days this week:

Sun	9 th	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Thurs	13 th	St Lucy (Virgin & Martyr)
Fri	14 th	St John of the Cross (Priest & Doctor)
Sun	16 th	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Meetings this Week:

Wed	12 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice (Plessington Chapel)
Thurs	13 th	7.15 pm	Journey in Faith (Plessington Chapel)

Last Week's Attendance:

Sun	2 nd	6.00 pm (Garstang)	Adults: 129	Children: 9	Total: 138
		8.30 am (Scorton)			Total: 50
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Adults: 111	Children: 22	Total: 133

Monies Received last week:

Garstang: Offertory (Including Standing Orders): £1,101.85; Votive Lights: £40; Shop: £30; Poor Missions: £300. *Many thanks to you all.*

Scorton: Offertory: £95.88 (Excluding standing orders); Votive Lights: £14.30; Piety Stall: £1; CAFOD: £3; Holy Souls: 10p. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

Ecumenical Morning Prayer is held at 7.45 am each Tuesday in December, here at St Mary & St Michael's.

Hymns at 6.00 pm (Garstang):

Ent	On Jordan's bank	94
Gloria:		
G.A.	Stay awake, be ready	72
Off:	This is my body	627
Sanctus:	German Mass	576
Amen:	German Mass	578
Com:		
Rec:	Tell our my soul	880

Hymns at 10.30 am Mass (Garstang):

Ent:	Christ be our light	883
Kyrie:	Look around you	936
G.A.	Stay awake, be ready	72 v1
Off:	All that I am	600
Sanctus:	German Mass	576
Amen:	German Mass	578
A.D.		
Com: 1)	O come, O come Emmanuel	112
2)	O Lord, hear my prayer	929
Rec:	The King of glory comes	107