

**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.

**15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)**



*“I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am....he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”*

**Stars at Christmas** – Our long-standing tradition of hanging stars in our church at Christmas has always been appreciated. This year we continue the tradition so that parishioners and friends of the parish can remember their deceased loved ones by writing their names on a star. There is no charge for this, but any donations will go towards helping the poor people of Chivuna. Stars will be available on the weekends commencing 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

**A big “thank you”** to those who support the Monthly Coffee Mornings and the Whist and Dominos afternoons. Between you, a wonderful £300 has been raised for good causes; £100 has gone to our SVP, and £200 has been sent to the Lancaster and District Homeless Action Service. *Thank you all very much.*

**Talking of Whist and Dominos**, (were we?) the next meeting is on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, from 2pm – 4pm in the Plessington Chapel. Everyone is welcome; come along, have fun, and forget your Christmas planning for a couple of hours!

**St Vincent de Paul Society** – Thank you very much for your donations last weekend; a wonderful £288 was collected. *God bless you all.*

**Flower Arranging for Christmas** – Flower arranging will take place on **Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December, starting at 10 am (following morning Mass)**. If you would like to help, please come along. If anyone has any greenery, please leave it outside the back door of the Presbytery before Saturday. *Thank you.*

**Garstang Parish Draw**: Congratulations go to Joan Woodhead and Gerry Marley for being our December winners. Our extra Christmas winners will be drawn on Sunday 21 December. Thank you all for your support with our Parish draw, we'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Trish & Kev O'Hanlon (01995 604292).

**Notice from Castlerigg** – Preparations are well under way for the Lancaster Diocese Lourdes Pilgrimage next summer, and booking is now open for young people, ages Year 10+; the price this year has come down to £585. The coach journey starts on 25<sup>th</sup> July, arriving home Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. For further information, or to book online, visit <https://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/events-whats-on/>. See poster at the back of church.

**Did you know?** ... in a Christmas Eve homily, St Oscar Romero said, “This is the Christian’s joy: I know that I am a thought in God, no matter how insignificant I may be – the most abandoned of beings, one no one thinks of. Today, when we think of Christmas gifts, how many outcasts no one thinks of! Think to yourselves, you who are outcasts, you that feel you are nothing in history: ‘I know that I am a thought in God.’” Let us be inspired by this to reach out in love to others. Thank you for all your prayers and generosity over the last year. We wish you a very happy and holy Christmas.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time in Garstang and Scorton**: Marie Clark, Dennis Regan, Arthur J Nickson, Charles Taylor, Joe Brown, Lucy Cahill, Sally Foley, Joan Norcross, Josephine Black, Helena Holland, Rev. Patrick Flynn, Ann Nugent, Jack Singleton, Ada Rawlinson, Annie Cusack, Mary Grayston, Margaret Nixon and John Francis Green. *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**: Joyce Bilborrow, 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, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 2pm**, and the infant children will perform 'ABC Nativity' on **Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Lourdes Diocesan Pilgrimage** – Bishop Paul Swarbrick is leading the Diocese of Lancaster Lourdes Pilgrimage from 26<sup>th</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> December, at 6.30 pm, it is the **Calder Vale School Nativity** in St John's Church. Everyone is welcome.

**Next Year's First Holy Communions** will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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](mailto: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 24<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> December can be found on green paper at the back of church. If you would like a copy, please help yourself.

**Response to the psalm at the 10.30 am Mass:**

**Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>– Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2018**

Sat	15 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil) (Garstang)	Frank, Gladys & Harry Richardson (Birthday Anniversaries)
Sun	16 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am (Scorton) 10.30 am (Garstang)	Eve Graham (Anniversary) Anne Elizabeth Nugent
Mon	17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tue	18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6.00 pm (Garstang)</b>	Alice Graham
Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm (Garstang)	Hugh & André Ferguson
Thurs	20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am ( <b>Garstang</b> )	Whole School Mass in Church – Henry Gornall
Fri	21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 am (Garstang)	Tom and Winnie Fleming (Anniversary)
Sat	22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>No Morning Mass</b> 6.00 pm (Vigil) (Garstang)	Jack and Winifred Carr
Sun	23 <sup>rd</sup>	8.30 am (Scorton) 10.30 am (Garstang)	All Our Parishioners John Bisby (RIP)

**Devotions and Celebrations this week:**

Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	6.45 pm (Garstang)	Rosary
Fri	21 <sup>st</sup>	10 – 10.30 am (Garstang)	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat	22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00 am (Scorton)	Saturday Liturgy of the Word Service

**Special Days this week:**

Sun	16 <sup>th</sup>	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Gaudete Sunday)
Sun	23 <sup>rd</sup>	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers)

**Meetings this Week:**

Mon	17 <sup>th</sup>	2 – 4 pm	Whist and Dominoes
Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Choir Practice (Plessington Chapel)

**Last Week's Attendance:**

Sun	9 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm (Garstang)	Adults: 95	Children: 9	Total: 104
		8.30 am (Scorton)			Total: 60
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Adults: 132	Children: 24	Total: 156

**Monies Received last week:**

**Garstang:** Offertory (Including Standing Orders): £1,113.20; Votive Lights: £61; Shop: £40; A B Grace Trust: £1,900. *Many thanks to you all.*

**Scorton:** Offertory: £258.45 (Including £150 standing orders); Votive Lights: £6.07; Piety Stall: £3. *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:	O come, O come, Emanuel	112
Kyrie:		
G.A.	Easter Plain Song	
Off:	Tell out, my soul	644
Sanctus:	German Mass	576
Amen:		
Com:		
Rec:	Abide with me	907

**Hymns at 10.30 am Mass (Garstang):**

Ent:	Like a sea without a shore	84
Kyrie:	Taizé	516
G.A.	Change your lives, he's coming	72 v2a
Off:	Almighty Father, Lord	602 vv 1,2,3
S,M,D:	Celtic Liturgy	553, 554c,555
A.D:	Communion Song	611a, vv 1,6,7,8
Com: 1)	In the land there is a hunger	976
2)	In the Lord I'll be ever	944
Rec:	Tell out my soul	880