

Catholic Parishes of Garstang & Scorton

St Mary & St Michael : Bonds Lane : Garstang PR3 1ZB

St Mary & St James : Snowhill Lane : Scorton PR3 1AY

Revd Geoffrey Steel : 15 Bonds Lane : Garstang PR3 1ZB : 01995-602164

Revd D'Arcy Ryan : retired deacon

ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com : www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk

The Baptism of the Lord

(First Sunday in Ordinary Time)

12 January 2025

Sat 11	G	6.00pm	Mass	Eileen Maguire <i>1st anniversary</i> [JW]
Sun 12	S	8.30am	Mass	John McNamee <i>RIP</i> [T+S]
	G	10.30am	Mass	People of our parishes

No Mass on Monday or Tuesday

Wed 15	G	6.30pm	Mass	Eleanor & Thomas Bolton <i>anniversary</i>
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No Mass on Thursday or Friday

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for Peace

Sat 18	G	6.00pm	Mass	Mary Swarbrick <i>anniversary</i>
Sun 19	S	8.30am	Mass	John Coward <i>RIP</i> [T+S]
	G	10.30am	Mass	Tony Blunt <i>RIP-birthday</i>

No Mass on Monday or Tuesday

Wed 22	G	6.30pm	Mass	Rachael Mason <i>lately dead</i>
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Thu 23	S	10.00am	Mass	Almond & Sweeney families <i>RIP</i>
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Fri 24	G	10.00am	Mass	Brenda Roughley <i>RIP</i> [HF]
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	G	10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
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Sat 25	S	12 noon	Baptism of Rory Holt	
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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 25	G	6.00pm	Mass	Sheila Murphy <i>RIP-birthday</i>
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Sun 26	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
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	G	10.30am	Mass	Tomas Bernardo <i>8th anniversary</i>
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Decorating St Mary & St Michael's

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that work is underway on the sections of wall where the paint was damaged by water ingress, now resolved.

The flaking paint is being removed, the plaster checked and, depending on how the bare wall looks, it will be repainted.

Work is taking place first on the damaged walls in the balcony, to test any new paint before applying it in the more visible area of the church, namely the expanse of wall near the pulpit,

This work will be paid for from an anonymous recent donation. Our sincere thanks to the generous donor.

Redecorating the whole church will be a major project. It will need to be planned and executed with great care, and with respect for the historic fabric. A quotation from 2018 was over £100,000. We can assume an increase of 40% on that by now. (We do not have these funds, ... yet.)

I welcome your thoughts on how we might establish a Parish Steering Group to take this project forward. Many thanks, Fr G.

Parish SVP meeting

The members of our parishes' St Vincent de Paul Society will meet on **Tuesday 14 January**, 6.30pm, at Philippa's house. New members and enquirers are always welcome.

Parish coffee morning

The next coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 15 January**, 10am -12 noon in the Plessington Chapel, Garstang. We'll be raising funds for *Aid to the Church in Need*. Do join us to welcome in 2025. *The Coffee Morning Team*.

Drawings of St Mary & St Michael's church

On the noticeboard in the porch at SSMM are some drawings of our church by children in Heron Class (Y 5 & 6) at our school. Do take a look.

Lepra : special collection

There will be a special collection the weekend of **25-26 January** to support the work of *Lepra*. To watch a video marking World Leprosy Day, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iuTZbjOAKv0>.

Christmas greetings from Chivuna

Greetings Fr and all at St Mary and Michael's Church. Compliments of the season and we wish you a very happy and blessed year.

Our hope is slowly being restored, as we have had good rains for almost two weeks now. The farmers are happy. Its purpose prayer that we receive enough rain for the crops to grow to maturity, unlike the disaster we had last year. Hunger is still the talk of the day, but with the rains there is hope.

We wish all of you God's blessings and a productive year. With kindest regards. *Sr Mutinta*

Lenten lunches for Christian Aid

From Philippa Catterall: We need a new person to organise our contribution to these lunches. I can help whoever is prepared to do this rewarding job. Not a lot is involved because often people make the soups.

For more information ring Philippa, 01995-238332, a.s.a.p., please.

Red Mission Boxes

These are now ready to be collected from the church porch along with a mission calendar. Please feel free to take a calendar whether you have a mission box or not.

A B Grace Trust : many thanks

St Mary & St Michael's parish has recently received **£1,300.00**. This sum is from the A B Grace Trust's income in the fourth quarter of 2024, and it was Mrs Grace's wish that it be used for the upkeep of the churchyard.

Jubilee : a year of hope

But what does it mean? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa). **Saturday 18 January**, 10.30am-12 noon, online. All welcome. Register free: cafod.org.uk/jubilee

Fr John Gibson : many thanks ...

... to Fr John, who will be celebrating the Masses over the coming week. If you require a priest in an emergency, please contact Fr John, 07772-244784.

Monthly parish collections : December

Collections for December: **Garstang**, £1,669.21, plus £2,230.00 Standing Orders; **Scorton**, £190.00, plus £677.67 Standing Orders. *Thank you.*

Tuesday morning prayer

Christians from different churches gather at St Thomas' church, Garstang, for Morning Prayer on **Tuesdays**, 8.55-9.25am. *All welcome.*

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Theresa Thompson, Edith Clarkson.

Those who are ill or infirm. Joseph Hardacre (dad of Mary, Scorton), Mary Mason, Deacon Jim Maguire, Liz Boden, Deacon Michael Dolan, Bob Tomlinson, Fr Tony Walsh, Steve Masterman, Rita Marley, Bob Cookson, Pat Stockdale, Jim Costain, Fr Michael Murphy, Pat McKenna, Bert Lowe, Deacon D'Arcy Ryan, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Margaret Brocklehurst, Mary Jo Counsell, Caroline Nurse, Yvonne Shaw, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Peter Holland, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family.

Those whose anniversary we keep. From 11 Jan. John Finlay, Frank Higham, Rita Whittaker, Rev Patrick Smyth, Christopher John Newman, James Wilson, Rosemary Austin, Monica Jepson, Winifred Kavanagh, Paul Haslehurst, John Tully, George & Anne Gibson, Leonard Sinar, Jack Rawlinson, Frederick W Garvey, Greg Eastham, Elizabeth Ellen Pedder, Renee Williams, David Trevor Orr, Tom Thompson, Mary Davis, Thomas Henry (Harry) Horn, and Eileen Darby.

From 18 Jan. David Trevor Orr, Tom Thompson, Mary Davis, Thomas Henry (Harry) Horn, Eileen Darby, Ann Swarbrick, John Joseph Heyes, Elizabeth McGolderick, Thomas F McNicholas, Jim Bamber, Ben Kelsall, Belle Metcalf, Mary McCann, Thomas Bamber, Hugh Gimbaldston, John (Jack) Hornby, John Thomas Graham, and Teresa Rogerson.