

# 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](mailto:ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com) : [www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk](http://www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk)

## Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

13 June 2021

### Liturgies this week

Sat	<b>G</b>	10.00am	<b>Mass</b>	Bisby & Hargreaves families <i>RIP</i>
Sun	<b>S</b>	8.30am	<b>Mass</b>	People of our Parishes
	<b>G</b>	10.30am	<b>Mass</b>	Brian James Richardson <i>anniversary</i>
Mon	<b>S</b>	10.00am	<b>Mass</b>	Bob Finlayson <i>1<sup>st</sup> anniversary</i>
Tue		---	<b>Mass</b>	
Wed	<b>G</b>	6.30pm	<b>Mass</b>	Margaret & Austin Walmsley <i>lately dead</i>
		7.00pm	<b>Rosary</b>	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	<b>S</b>	10.00am	<b>Mass</b>	Mary Morley <i>anniversary</i>
Fri		---	<b>Mass</b>	Infirm clergy
Sat.....			<b>Dedication of St Mary &amp; Michael's, 19 June 1968</b>	
	<b>G</b>	10.00am	<b>Mass</b>	People of our Parishes

## Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun	<b>S</b>	8.30am	<b>Mass</b>	Intentions of LMS
	<b>G</b>	10.30am	<b>Mass</b>	Bill Myerscough <i>RIP-90<sup>th</sup> birthday</i>

### Receiving Holy Communion

When receiving Holy Communion, please:

- Make a bow of reverence before receiving the Sacrament.
- Have your palms open one on top of another, forming a throne.
- Have them as level as possible and relaxed.
- We have resumed the personal dialogue at Communion with each communicant: "The Body of Christ. Amen." Please note that face-coverings are still required.

If you're fairly recently returned to Mass: welcome back; it is good to see you once again. You might wish to take a copy of the *Order of Mass* to enable you to pray the Apostles' Creed and, perhaps, to say the *I confess* as part of your own preparation for Mass. Mark the copy with your name, and retain it for your personal use.

### First Holy Communion

Next Sunday, 20 June, at the 10.30am Mass, Lewis Rennie-Bloor will make his First Holy Communion. Please keep Lewis and his family in your prayers during these final days of preparation.

### Work on the tower at Garstang

In preparation for repair work on the tower, the area between it and Bonds Lane is now fenced off. Access to the new cemetery will be along the path by the old cemetery.

If you're interested in a full description of the works, technical drawings and the like, you can view all the documents on the website of the Historic Churches Committee:

<https://catholic-historic-churches.org.uk/applications/north-west-1097>

You might wish to allow plenty of time for a visit to the HCC website: you'll quickly find yourself looking at any number of interesting Catholic churches in the North West of England.

### Prayers for healing

A Jesuit website in the USA has a great collection of prayers for healing:

<https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/prayers-for-healing>

---

## Dr Francis Carter : parish thanks

After a quarter of a century Frank has concluded his service as choirmaster and organist at St Mary & St Michael's, and the parish thanks him most sincerely for his devotion and hundreds of hours of hard work.

We also thank Frank for his leadership of the Liturgy & Spirituality meetings, the Garstang Friends of Chivuna and, with Betty, for his service, dedication, and generosity in all these and many other areas of parish life, often unseen.

---

## Musings from my hermitage...

After the special readings for Lent and Easter, Trinity, and the Body & Blood of Christ, this Sunday we're back to listening to the Gospel according to St Mark. His main interest is the person of Jesus, how gradually Jesus showed people who he is, revealed to them God's vision, and invited them to respond to him with all their heart.

In public, our Lord taught with parables: he wanted people to think for themselves, to reach their own conviction about who he is. Only with his chosen disciples did he speak directly.

Part of St Mark's concern is to explain why God's chosen people rejected Jesus; why they continued to reject the Good News preached by Mark and his fellow believers. So Mark brings out the mysteriousness in our Lord's parables; why he has Jesus explain things in private, and to his chosen few.

The image of seeds, silently growing while folk sleep, and the picture of the tiny mustard seed, are both parables of contrast. St Mark contrasts the insignificant beginnings of our Lord's ministry with the final, cosmic event: the glorious coming of the kingdom of God.

Parables like these can offer easy encouragement. The Church in our land has far fewer members than some decades back. We could interpret the parables to reassure ourselves that, in the long run, everything will be alright. But that's not how Mark uses the parables. What he was telling his fellow believers very much applies to us.

The Church is not itself the kingdom of God. Rather, the Church is the family, the context where people can find signs of hope, discover pointers which direct them to the kingdom of God. The Church is a body of people who live the values of God's kingdom: people who serve, committed to justice, to prayer and the worship of God; who work to bring folk together and build relationships. Numbers are not in our hands. What is in our hands is the quality of our own response.

---

## Knitting for Chivuna

From Margaret Wilcock: Over the past few years our parish has been forwarding many items of clothing and knitted squares to send to Chivuna and they have been gratefully accepted by the Sisters of the Holy Spirit. The rising cost of transporting these has become such that it is no longer feasible. Many hours work has been put in by the ladies of our parish who must be congratulated on their efforts. If anyone feels that they would like to still help the people of Chivuna as they are facing difficulties with the Covid epidemic they could make donations via the *Friends of Chivuna* group.

Many thanks for all your support.

---

## Summer FUNraise for CAFOD

Are you a wannabe Olympian, tennis pro or football star? Take on an active challenge for CAFOD this summer in celebration of the return of international sporting events. Run, cycle, swim, play tennis or football, or anything else you love doing. You can do it on your own or with your family. Sign up at [cafod.org.uk/summer](http://cafod.org.uk/summer). You'll be helping people around the world who are suffering because of the climate crisis, the pandemic and poverty.

---

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

If anyone would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please contact me to make arrangements. *Fr Geoffrey*

---

## Please pray for ...

**Those who have died recently.** Austin Walmsley, Rose Mboroga, Peter Houghton, William Hansell, Barbara Saul.

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Josie Higham, Tony Blunt, Philippa Haynes, Brian Cady, Phyllis Steel, Yvonne Shaw, Barry Robinson, Elaine Stajniack, Ethel Davis, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, Tony Smith, Roger Bevins, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Marie Swarbrick, Peter Holland, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes.

**Those whose anniversary we keep.** Francis Grayston, Charles Price, Ada Annie Oxby, Joan Billington, Terry Fitzpatrick, Canon Michael Taylor, Rita Mary Moreland (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary), Ellen Kelsall, Jane Winstanley, James Marsden, Philomena May, William Swarbrick, Mrs Kendrick, Betty Watson, Valerie Smith and Anthony Monaghan.