

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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 August 2021

Liturgies this week

Sat	G	10.00am	Mass	Carmel Hayden <i>RIP</i> [JD]
		12.15pm	Baptism	Frederick Dobson
Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Intentions of Frank & Betty Carter <i>In thanksgiving</i> [PC]
Mon	S	10.00am	Mass	Brian & Mary Winstanley <i>RIP</i>
Tue		---	Mass	
Wed.....				St John Mary Vianney <i>priest</i>
	G	6.30pm	Mass	Matthew Pearson <i>anniversary</i>
		7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	S	10.00am	Mass	Price-Jones, Hull, Ackers families <i>RIP</i>
	G	5.30pm	Funeral Vigil : Tom Rigby	
Fri.....				THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
	G	10.00am	Funeral Mass : Tom Rigby	
Sat				Ss Edmund Arrowsmith, Ambrose Barlow, & companions <i>Lancaster martyrs</i>
	G	10.00am	Mass	Diane Pattinson <i>RIP-birthday</i>

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Wilfrid & Agnes Garstang <i>RIP</i>

Covid: our current practice

Our Bishops' Conference has issued revised guidelines and directives: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/05/CBCEW-COVID-Step-4-Guidance-150721b.pdf>, and Bishop Paul has given some guidance for our own diocese.

Our Health & Safety leads and I have agreed:

Hand sanitiser. We continue to provide this.

Face coverings. Our bishops ask that all those coming into church continue to wear a face covering unless exempt; we owe it to others to be prudent.

Track & trace QR code or paper slip. Our bishops ask that we continue this.

Toilets. Our toilets are once again in use.

Seating. We are continuing to use every other row, but with some small adjustment. *At Garstang*, on the side aisle we have removed the tape from the benches that block off a seat. *At Scorton*, we have removed the tape running down the middle of the long benches in the centre aisle. This allows couples a little more space and enables families to use these benches.

Please continue to respect people's personal space, and do not crowd.

Communion. We continue our present practice.

Congregational singing. This is now permitted, and you are invited to join me in singing the Alleluias before the gospel, and the Great Amen to conclude the eucharistic prayer. (As Bishop Paul has pointed out, singing hymns while wearing a face covering is not really feasible.)

Friday Mass. Beginning on 6 August, the Feast of the Transfiguration, there will be a public celebration of Mass at Garstang, Fridays, 10.00am.

Readers. At Scorton, I'd like to resume having Readers at Scorton, on Sundays and weekdays. At Garstang, more would be most welcome. If you're willing to take a turn, please let me know.

Stewards. Heartfelt thanks to our stewards in both churches, whose service has enabled us to open our churches for public Mass. We will continue to have stewards, not least as a welcoming presence as we enter church.

More stewards would be very helpful. If you're willing to take a turn, for Garstang contact Frank Miller, for Scorton contact Kevin Morley.

Thank you everyone, for your understanding and good will over these past challenging sixteen months. Fr Geoffrey

First Holy Communion

Next Sunday, 8 August, at the 8.30am Mass, **Holly Gornall** will make her First Holy Communion. Please keep Holly and her family in your prayers during these final days of preparation.

Sunday – *it is our day*

The Bishops' Conference has issued a statement on the central importance of celebrating Sunday, The Lord's Day. The statement is included with the printed newsletters and is on our parish website.

The Bishops say, "It is our continuing judgement ... that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday thus fulfilling their duty to God. It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday of Advent 2021."

With this in mind, and perhaps to enable more parishioners to attend than are currently able to, I'd like us to consider moving our Saturday morning Mass to Saturday evening, at its former time of 6.00pm.

We already have stewards, musicians, Readers, and Ministers of Holy Communion arranged for Saturday mornings until the end of August; and so I suggest that we move our Saturday Mass to the evening beginning 4 September.

I welcome your reflections. *Fr Geoffrey*

Organ recital at St Walburge's

As part of the concerted fundraising efforts towards the costs of restoring the iconic St Walburge's Church, Preston, an organ recital will be held in the church, **Saturday 21 August**, 6.30-8.30pm.

The programme will be a colourful collection of baroque and early classical works from Germany and Austria, featuring legendary composers, Johann Sebastian Bach and Joseph Haydn. The recital will be by accomplished organist, Sean Maxwell, an American currently based in Austria, and the church will be a magnificent backdrop to enjoy the compositions of such wonderful musicians.

Further information, including ticket prices, online purchase of tickets, etc., can be found at: <http://www.goldengiving.com/e/sw-organ-recital-2021>

Diocesan Directory 2022

To order a copy of next year's diocesan directory: for *Scorton*, please contact Catherine Pickering; for *Garstang*, please e-mail the parish office, or phone and leave a message. Please specify which edition: ring-bound, £5.25; standard, £4.50.

Deadline for orders: Friday 27 August, noon.

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>

Garstang parish draw – winners

Congratulations go to Carol & Steve Taylor and Margaret & John Walmsley for being our April winners.

Congratulations go to Bill Bateson and Joan Woodhead, our July winners.

If you would like an opportunity to join this year's draw and support our church contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon via the church. Each number cost £20 per year (you can have more than one number) and each month we draw two numbers: 1st Prize £80, 2nd Prize £30 and an extra Christmas draw in December which pays out 1st Prize £100, 2nd Prize £35.

All profits made each year are donated back to our Parish.

Please pray for ...

Those being baptised. Frederick Dobson.

Those who have died recently. Tom Rigby, Mary Cowburn, Brian Cady.

Those who are ill or infirm. Monica Sanderson, Josie Higham, Tony Blunt, Philippa Haynes, 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. Beatrice Horn, Robert Berry, Margaret Hine, Matthew John Pearson (1st anniversary), Anne Elizabeth Dawson, James Booth, James Birchall, James Rossall, Catherine Elder (Father David's Mum), Stephen Edmondson and Helen Beale.