

# 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

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## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 August 2020

### Liturgies this week

Sun **S** 8.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes  
Sun **G** 10.30am **Mass** Those who support the sick & vulnerable [MT]

Mon..... **ST LAWRENCE** *deacon, martyr*

**S** 10.00am **Mass** John Randels *lately dead*

Tue..... **St Clare** *virgin, religious founder*

Wed **G** 6.30pm **Mass** Terry Murphy *anniversary*

7.00 pm **Rosary** *in our homes*

Thu **S** 10.00am **Mass** John & Martha Bashall *anniversary* [HF]

Fri..... **St Maximilian Mary Kolbe** *priest, religious, martyr*

**Mass** Des Hewson *RIP-birthday*

Sat **G** 10.00am **Mass** Matthew Pearson *lately dead*  
& intentions of his family [LB]

## The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into Heaven

(Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Sun **S** 8.30am **Mass** Proctor & Dorothy Hall *RIP*

Sun **G** 10.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes

### Face coverings : obligatory

Please be aware that, **beginning Saturday 8 August**, it is a legal requirement to wear a face covering in church.

### Praying the Rosary with other parishioners

Talking of face coverings: those of us who were praying the Rosary in church last Wednesday decided afterwards that it won't be feasible – or pleasant – to pray it while wearing face coverings. So we'll suspend the praying of the Rosary in church as long as this requirement remains in place.

You are invited to continue to pray the Rosary in your own home at 7.00pm on Wednesdays, and if you'd like to pray with parishioners on *Zoom*, please contact Liz Billington.

Also contact Liz if you have any intentions for prayer. If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself, please ensure you have their permission for them to be named. If not, you can always petition for e.g. 'a private intention' or 'someone suffering from ... '

### Mass on ... Sunday-ish

As you know, our obligation to attend Mass on Sunday remains suspended. If you wish and feel ready to come to Mass, you are welcome to do so whenever and wherever it is celebrated publicly.

I hope this will spread parishioners across the week and across both churches, rather than concentrate you all on Sunday.

To encourage this, at the Saturday 10.00am Mass in SSMM and for the time being, we'll be using the scripture readings and prayers for the Sunday.

If you can come to Mass on a weekday, in either church, please consider doing that to free up a place for someone else on Sunday.

### Many thanks : Wendy & John Carmichael

Wendy & John Carmichael have stepped back from "active service" at Ss Mary & James for the moment.

Over the years their support to the parish has been immeasurable, whether as keyholders, flower arrangers, organising the Spring Fair & Lenten Lunches, supplying all the religious cards & goods for the church, and much more.

Wendy & John: on behalf of all parishioners, we express our thanks and appreciation, and wish you both well.

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## Joan Baines RIP

The Funeral Liturgy for our parishioner, Joan Baines, will take place on **Friday 14 August**, 12.15pm, at Preston Crematorium. Joan's funeral booklet will be on our website. May she rest in peace, and rise in glory.

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## The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into Heaven

Next Sunday celebrates this feast, and accompanying this newsletter is a reflection to help us prepare. This is also available on our parish website: Liturgical Seasons / Ordinary Time.

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## Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

Caught in a storm, situation out of control, facing death.

St Matthew used this episode to speak to the members of his community in their own struggles. They were Jewish Christians; oppressed, regarded as heretics, persecuted.

Matthew used particular words to help his fellow Jewish Christians see Jesus as the one who uniquely reveals the God of Israel. What does Jesus say? "It is I" — God's name in the Hebrew scriptures. Peter notices and calls Jesus "Lord". "Lord, if it's you, tell me to come to you across the water." Not the lake or the sea, but the water. And Matthew's people would have recalled the Book of Genesis and the waters of creation. And when Jesus put out his hand to hold Peter, Matthew's people would have recalled the many times in the Scriptures where God lifted his servant from the depths of despair.

For St Matthew, Peter represents the whole Church. Peter's faith is neither perfect nor absent — it's weak. (Sound familiar?) Peter had some success, then had to learn to live with failure. (Ring any bells?) But for all the disciples' weakness, for all Peter's "little faith," they do come to understand who Jesus is: "Truly you are the Son of God." They worship him.

The disciples were in trouble because they were isolated from Jesus: he was in the hills, they were far from land, and they'd been out there all night.

We discern God moving through our life through daily prayer; we hear what the Lord God has to say by reflecting personally on the scriptures; celebrating the eucharist together and faithfully keeps us fixed on the kingdom of heaven.

The more faithful we are to each of these, the closer we'll remain to Christ, in what can sometimes be a long, dark night.

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## Noddfa 2020

It is with regret that, due to the Coronavirus, the parish retreat in North Wales, which was due to take place 24-28 August, has been cancelled.

However, if anyone would like to make a private retreat or have a simple break in a lovely setting, the Sisters at Noddfa can be contacted on 01492-623473, or [noddfapen@aol.com](mailto:noddfapen@aol.com).

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## Garstang Parish Draw

Due to the Covid-19 lockdown we suspended the monthly draws from March. As things are starting to assume the 'new normal' we are going to restart the draw from August.

We will start to make two draws each month on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month starting in August until we are up to date with the monthly draws, then revert to one draw each month (with the additional Christmas draw).

If you have any queries or questions: Trish & Kev O'Hanlon, 01995-604292.

We will ensure we are adhering to the social distance guidelines during the draws and delivery of winnings.

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## Please pray for ...

**Those who have died recently.** Louise Gornall, Matthew Pearson, Joan Baines, Rita Moreland.

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Jean Andrews, Roger Bevins, Joyce Bilborrow, Vin Cahill, Paul Cain, Eileen Cartner, John Cookson, Martina Copple, Bob Cross, Simon Crossley, Dorothy Evans, Michael Hendry, Peter Holland, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe, Kevin Horan, Janet Howarth, Keith Jones, Mavis Lee, Nigel Lord, Graham Markham (Australia), Seamus Martin, Ian Moran, Pat Nickson, Caroline Nurse, Pdraig O'Donnell, Margaret Pendleton, Sarah Preston, Francisca Rainford, Charlie Robinson (3 years old), Wendy Seed, Revd Andrew Shaw, a Sick Parishioner, Teresa Smith, Tony Smith, Colin & Marie Swarbrick, Alice Towers, Austin Walmsley, Andrew Whipp, Louise Williams, Mary Winstanley, Ewan, Kathryn, Lucy & family.

**Those whose anniversary we keep.** Bert Maddock, Mary Spencer, James Greenall, Elizabeth Keefe, John Cross, Geoffrey Smith, Terry Murphy, Gerard Rawlinson, Jack Pinnington, Frances and Gerard Wearden, Thomas Jennings, Elizabeth Wignall, Bernard Cummins, Jane Billington, Francis Purkis, Gladys Mary Stanley, Margaret Gelderd and Margaret Hogg.