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

First Sunday of Lent

21 February 2021

Liturgies this week

Sat Mass Thomas & Mary Ibison RIP

Sun Mass Intentions of Ted Richardson birthday

Mon..... THE CHAIR OF ST PETER apostle

G 10.30am Burial Liturgy: Berney Murphy

Mass Price-Jones, Hull, Ackers families RIP

Tue Mass Carmel Hayden 1st anniversary [JD]

Wed Mass Janet Pearson lately dead [H+TF]

7.00pm **Rosary** in our homes

Thu Mass John Cadden lately dead [v]

Fri......Family Fast Day—Day of Prayer

for the Hungry & Needy of the World

Mass Lilian Nickson RIP [LB]

Sat Mass Walter & Marjorie Drake anniversary [w]

Second Sunday of Lent

Sun Mass Intentions of LMS

Keeping a holy Lent

Talk of "giving things up," "doing without" can make Lent seem dull, negative even; as if we hadn't enough to contend with at the moment.

But Lent's not an end in itself; it's the season in which we prepare joyfully to celebrate the mystery of Easter with mind and heart renewed.

In Lent, the community of faith is blessed with a spirit of loving reverence for God and of willing service to neighbour. Thus, Lent is a time for more intense prayer and reflection and for particular attention to the word of God, especially the Sunday readings.

Our Lenten penance is not only inward and personal but also outward and social. How might our prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and other works of charity deepen our conversion to Christ and be of benefit to others?

Above all, what is it that we'd like God to do for us this Lent?

Cafod Fast Day appeal

This Lent CAFOD invites you to watch this video about Abdella's walk for water: https://youtu.be/bjpUxg7fRmg

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes this young man ten hours a day to collect water. Your donations will help vulnerable communities around the world to have access to clean water and provide other vital support.

To donate: www.cafod.org.uk/lent or phone 0303 303 3030. You can also donate by text: To 70460 text LENT 5 to give £5, LENT 10 to give £10, LENT 20 to give £20. After you make your initial donation, you'll receive a standard, follow-up text, regarding 'Gift Aid'.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We will be unable to celebrate our customary Lenten Liturgy of Reconciliation. However, if anyone would like to celebrate the Sacrament individually, please contact Fr Geoffrey to make arrangements.

Pope Francis has said: "It is very clear: If you cannot find a priest to confess to, speak directly to God, your Father, and tell him the truth. Say, 'Lord, I did this, this. Forgive me,' and ask for pardon with all your heart." He urges us in these circumstances to say an Act of Contrition or the *I confess* from the Mass, and promise to confess individually as soon as we are able.

Mass from our cathedral

Mass for this First Sunday of Lent, 21 February, will be broadcast from the Cathedral via the internet at 10.30am.

Main Link https://vimeo.com/512854495. Back-up link if the Vimeo link fails: https://youtu.be/M1lmZtgcxsc

Shams of Tabriz

Shams lived in Tabriz, now in modern day Iran, from 1185-1248. He became spiritual mentor to the great Persian poet Rumi. At some point in this process, together they entered into seclusion for 40 days and 40 nights. Each day they meditated, discussed and sat in silence with one of Shams' forty teachings/spiritual pieces of advice.

If you want more information or to receive daily emails in Lent each containing one of these short 40 rules of Love, then e-mail Winifride Adamson, either directly or through the parish office.

Lent Retreat

Developed by the Ignatian Centre in Glasgow and taken up by the BBC Daily Service, this offers various options for people to take part.

Get to know and love the person of Jesus better in order to live a deeper and more authentic Christian life of service. This Lent Retreat includes scripture and prayer material, art and music to pray with and other prayer resources to help you deepen your faith. Visit: Lent Retreat 2021 | Pathways to God

Free ecology talks during Lent

Bishop John Arnold of Salford, our lead bishop on the environment, is taking part in a series of evening talks and reflections on ecology.

The aim is to inform and challenge participants to respond to Pope Francis' call to care for "our common home". Six Thursdays to **25 March**, 7.30-8.30pm. To register: jane@catholicclimatemovement.global.

Musings from my Bishop Paul's hermitage

This week, have a read of the Bishop's Pastoral Letter for this First Sunday of Lent. It's on our website, and printed copies are in the presbytery yard.

If you watch the Mass from our cathedral, the Bishop will read it to you.

Stations of the Cross

A free video reflection to watch: https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/stations-of-the-cross-then-and-now-free-reflections

Other forms of Stations of the Cross are on this parish's website: http://www.holyangels.org.uk/Stations%20of%20the%20Cross.htm

Continuing closure of our churches

Our Health & Safety leads in Garstang and in Scorton and I will consult again following the Government's own review on 22 February. In the meantime, please continue to pray for everyone involved in helping to roll out the vaccine, so that we'll be able to open again for public worship in safety and with confidence; and let's all of us play our part in keeping ourselves and others safe. God bless, *Fr Geoffrey*

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Maureen Hall, Christopher Pearson (brother of David, uncle of Marie), Margaret Walmsley, Berney Murphy, Bill Myerscough, Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue.

Those who are ill or infirm. Doug Willoughby, James Costain jr, Barry Robinson, Viktoria Nurse, Elaine Stajniack, Jimmy O'Neill, Margaret & Austin Walmsley, Ethel Davis, Anne Hunt, John Skillen, Jean Andrews, Keith Jones, Tony Smith, Sarah Preston, Roger Bevins, Andrew Whipp, Charlie Robinson (4 years old), Simon Crossley, Kevin Horan, Jean Dunne, Teresa Smith, John Cookson, Revd Andrew Shaw, Wendy Seed, Graham Markham (Australia), Colin & Marie Swarbrick, Seamus Martin, Peter Holland, Vin Cahill, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe.

Those whose anniversary we keep. John Horn, Thomas Ibison, Marjorie Edge, Henry Gornall, John Dilworth, Mary Gillett, Margaret McKevitt, Marjorie Kirkman, John McHale, James Houlihan, Robert Winder, Samuel Smith, Robert Hull, Grace Barton, Catherine Eastham, Agnes St John Firth, Frank Richardson, Dorothea Agnes Mary Rafferty, Neil Brady, Tom Rawlinson, Neil McLaughlin (1st anniversary), Christine Ackers, Revd Robert Turpin (builder of SSMJ church), Josephine Wright, Eileen Fenna, Frank Moreland and Teresa Langley.