

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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The Assumption of the Virgin Mary into Heaven

(Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

16 August 2020

Liturgies this week

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

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

Mon **S** 10.00am **Mass** Des Hewson *10th anniversary*

Tue

Wed **G** 6.30pm **Mass** Fr David Elder *1st anniversary* [ER]

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

Thu.....**St Bernard** *abbot, doctor of the Church*

S 10.00am **Mass** In thanksgiving [J]

Fri.....**St Pius X** *pope*

Sat.....**The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

G 10.00am **Mass** Brenda Richardson *lately dead* [VB]

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun **S** 8.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes

Sun **G** 10.30am **Mass** Michael O'Neil *anniversary*

Closure of Castle Lane

Electricity Northwest has announced that Castle Lane will be closed for two weeks, 9.00am-3.00pm, beginning **Monday 17 August**. This will preclude vehicular access to our car park, the cemetery, and the presbytery.

Face coverings

It is now a legal requirement to wear a face-covering in church.

When you arrive, please secure your covering and *then* sanitise your hands.

At Communion, please leave your covering in place until after I have placed the Consecrated Bread on your open palm. If you remove your covering before that point, you will have touched your face with the risk of then touching my hand. Thank you. *Fr Geoffrey*.

Seating in SSMM

Because face-coverings are now obligatory, we are no longer required to keep the seating arrangements at two metres. In the main body of the church, every other bench is now in use. This will increase our capacity and, we hope, avoid us having to use a booking system.

When walking around the church, and during the procession to Holy Communion, please maintain the 2-metre social distance.

Praying the Rosary with other parishioners

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 ...'.

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.

Diocesan Directory 2021

If you would like 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, £4.50; standard, £4.00.

Deadline for orders: Friday 28 August, noon.

Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

The Assumption celebrates Mary's passing over, body and soul, from this world to the glory of her risen Son: and that's the destiny of all who model themselves on Christ.

Mary already shares in the blessings of her Son's death and resurrection; she is the promise of what we shall become, with God's grace. This is a feast of hope and encouragement.

We call Mary not simply the Mother of Jesus, but 'Mother of God.' It's her oldest title, and touches deep into the mystery of how God saves us.

God in Jesus Christ came into our world through Mary. Mary's 'yes' enabled God's gift of new, eternal life to be born into the human race. And when we look to the fullness of God's gift, the vision God has for all who believe in Jesus, there is Mary: with Christ now in the glory of heaven.

The feast began in Jerusalem, sometime before the fifth century. It was called the "Falling Asleep of the Mother of God", the "Dormition;" and that's how it's known to this day among the Christians of the Eastern traditions.

The feast focused on Mary's death as her sharing in Christ's victory over death, the paschal mystery. Later reflection made Mary's entrance into God's kingdom explicit; and images were drawn from the bible to point to Mary's being "lifted up" into heaven. It was in Rome, during the eighth century, that the feast became known as "the Assumption".

Mary shares already in the blessings of her Son's death and resurrection — she's the promise of what we shall become. Mary said 'yes' to God out of love, and in a spirit of service: her response is the model for our openness to God; her discipleship is the pattern for our own.

We ask Mary, Mother of God, to inspire us on our own pilgrim journey of faith: that we might be strong disciples, filled with faith, devoted servants of God and of God's people.

Beirut : CAFOD & Aid to the Church in Need

On the evening of Tuesday 4 August, two large explosions at the port of Lebanon's capital sent enormous shockwaves across the city.

Homes and livelihoods are destroyed. More than a hundred people have been killed. Thousands more are seriously injured. You can help.

Aid to the Church in Need is appealing for support for its relief work in Beirut. Lebanon expert Fr Samer Nassif said that the Christian zone of Beirut was "completely devastated", with at least 10 churches destroyed. Hundreds of thousands of people are homeless, and many others suffering, with livelihoods ruined by the blast.

To support ACN, visit <https://acnuk.org>, or send a cheque to ACN, 12-14 Benhill Avenue, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4DA.

CAFOD. Your support of CAFOD's Beirut Emergency Appeal will provide people with the things they need to survive: medical supplies, emergency food, hygiene kits, and shelter. Through the work of local experts across the Church network, CAFOD can reach survivors and their families.

Please go online to <https://CAFOD.org.uk>.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Paul Joseph Noblet, Gerald Derbyshire, Mavis Lee, Louise Gornall, Matthew Pearson, Joan Baines.

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, 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. Jane Billington, Francis Purkis, Gladys Mary Stanley, Margaret Gelderd, Margaret Hogg, Jack Carr, Mary Bate, Agnes Pyke, William Hall, Jeanette Mears, Sean Jepson, Fr David J Elder, Les Lunn, Dorothy Richardson, Michael O'Neill, Robert Woodruff and Dennis Wilkes.