

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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Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

23 August 2020

Liturgies this week

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

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

Mon.....**ST BARTHOLOMEW** *apostle*

S 10.00am **Mass** Brian Winstanley *RIP*

Tue

Wed **G** 6.30pm **Mass** Alan Bradley *anniversary*

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

Thu.....**St Monica** *married woman,
mother of St Augustine of Hippo*

S 10.00am **Mass** Mgr Michael Regan *5th anniversary* [GS]

Fri.....**ST AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO** *bp, doctor of the Church*

Mass Gerry Steel *RIP-birthday* [GS]

Sat.....**The martyrdom of St John the Baptist**

G 10.00am **Mass** Evelyn & Charles Langley *RIP* [VB]

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun **S** 8.30am **Mass** Thomas O'Reilly *lately dead* [LY]

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

Castle Lane

Electricity Northwest will *not* be working on Castle Lane over the weekend, and so we will have use of our car park for our Masses on Saturday and Sunday. However, they will be working on the junction with Bonds Lane beginning Monday, 9.00am-3.00pm. This will preclude vehicular access to our car park, the cemetery, and the presbytery.

Stewarding at Garstang – can you help?

If you are coming to Mass at St Mary & Michael's please consider volunteering to help with the stewarding.

Currently we have eight stewards who are on a rota covering all three masses each week. Because we aim to have three stewards at each Mass, that is a lot of commitment for each of them.

If you are able to take a turn, please contact Frank Miller. Thank you.

Data protection : Garstang – can you help?

Our parish would benefit from having a volunteer who would become the Parish Lead for ensuring all data stored or transmitted within the parish conforms to Government legislation and Diocesan procedures. If you have an interest in this area, or are willing to learn about it, please make yourself known to Fr Geoffrey.

Diocesan Directory 2021

If you'd 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.*

Diocesan Faith & Justice newsletter

The latest newsletter can be downloaded at <https://tinyurl.com/y5boe86c>. Reports and newsletters mentioned in this issue are available at <http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/newsletter/>.

Handmade greetings cards

Kylie Miles, a young woman who lives in the Cheshire Home, Dimples Lane, Garstang, makes greetings cards. If you would like to support her by buying her cards, she can be contacted at the Cheshire Home.

Garstang parish draw

Congratulations go to Mary & Robert Mason, Christine Parkinson, John Cadden & Carl Billingsley for being our two sets of August winners. If you'd like to know more about our Parish Draw, contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon.

Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

Peter recognising Jesus as the Christ is found in all the gospels. But the verse about Peter as the rock, and the mention of the Church, are only in St Matthew. Several times already in this gospel, Peter's been the spokesman for the others. St Matthew certainly makes Peter stand out among the group.

I imagine that Peter was called "rock" because of his character, personality. Did Jesus use Peter's nickname to define Peter's role: he's to serve as the rock of the community? Reliable, secure, solid.

What Jesus says about keys echoes Isaiah's prophecy in the first reading for this Sunday. Eliakim was given command over the gate of the royal palace: he controlled who entered, who left. In the gospel, Peter was given charge over the gate of the kingdom of heaven. Jesus named Peter 'chief steward' of the kingdom. It's a powerful image of service that's the heart of the gospel: serving God, serving neighbour, serving the poor — all in the name of Christ.

In this episode with Peter, Matthew's telling us that the powers opposed to God, even death, will not triumph over the community of Jesus' disciples. It's an encouraging message for us to take to heart in these times that have so upset the familiar pattern and practice of Church worship, life, and witness.

In essence, the Church is the assembly, the gathering of Jesus' disciples; that's who we are; that's what we're called ever more to become and to be.

Gathering together is crucial to St Matthew's picture of what it means to be the Church. Faith in Jesus is deeply personal; private prayer and reading the Bible for ourselves, crucial. But there's also this other dimension: gathering together, we encourage one another in faith and service; gathering together faithfully builds the body of Christ. Gathering is a serious act of witness: we are making Christ all the more visible in the world.

Gathering and worshipping together is the essence of who we are; and how we best live that in our current situation over the (many?) months ahead will require imagination and creativity. Because we are all of us more secure the more we are linked together, gathered on the rock that is Peter.

Beirut : CAFOD & Aid to the Church in Need

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, John Skillen, 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. Michael O'Neill, Robert Woodruff, Dennis Wilkes, Lilian Barnes, Maria Bowker, Robert Horn, Wilfred Garstang, John N. Bamber, Stephen Copple, Alan Bradley, Geo Armer, Margaret Barton, Brian Eydmann, Allan Bury, John Green, Francis Xavier Andrews, John Cahill, John Andrews, Katherine Piela, Raymond Bisby, Anne Lyford, Joe Kendall, Alan Bradley and Rev. Joseph Mary Ilsey.