

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-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 August 2020

Liturgies this week

Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	Thomas O'Reilly <i>lately dead</i> [LV]
Sun	G	10.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
Mon.....				St Aidan , <i>bishop, religious, missionary, and the Saints of Lindisfarne</i>
	S	10.00am	Mass	Harold & Kathleen Smith <i>anniversary</i> [HF]
Tue.....				Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
	G	11.30am	Burial Liturgy : Gerald Derbyshire	
Wed	G	6.30pm	Mass	Jeanette Mears <i>10th anniversary</i> [D.MCC]
		7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu.....				ST GREGORY THE GREAT <i>pope, doctor of the Church</i>
	S	10.00am	Mass	Intentions of the SVP & CWL [PC]
Fri.....				St Cuthbert <i>priest, religious, patron of the diocese</i>
			Mass	Intentions of Winnie Kennedy [TC]
Sat	G	10.00am	Mass	Brenda Richardson <i>RIP</i> [F+BC]

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
Sun	G	10.30am	Mass	Carmel Hayden <i>RIP</i> [JD]

The Season of Creation

The Season of Creation runs each year from 1 September (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 October (the feast of St Francis of Assisi).

This ecumenical season is dedicated to prayer and action for the protection of creation. It is a time to renew our relationship with God our Creator, and with all creation, as we join together in prayer.

We give thanks for all that God has made, repent the damage we have caused, and commit to helping to protect the earth, our common home.

This year we have been made acutely aware of how interconnected we all are, and we come together in hope that we can rebuild and heal our world.

A beautiful presentation of a Novena to St Francis can be found on CAFOD's website: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Season-of-Creation>

Saints, scholars, and spiritual masters

The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst is offering a series of online talks over the next few months. Exploring some of the great figures of Western spirituality with well-known experts, the series is free to attend online. Thursdays, 7.30pm, 3 September - 10 December.

Simply register to receive a link, either online at <https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/saints-scholars-spiritual-masters/> or by email: events@christianheritagecentre.com.

Restored lives

Before, during and after separation and divorce, suffering and pain are inevitable. *Restored Lives* is a new initiative where Catholics and others can find time and support and understanding. In September a short course is being run for people who would like to join in forming start-up teams of 3-5 people. Could you be one of them?

To find out more, or just explore what it might hold for you and your extended family, please contact Pat Chamberlain, a parishioner of St Joseph's in Lancaster: pac4519@icloud.com.

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.

Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

What a change in tone in this Sunday's gospel passage.

Jesus begins "to make it clear to his disciples" that being the Christ, the Messiah, will lead to suffering — his own and that of his followers.

When Peter challenged this, Jesus told him bluntly that Peter the "rock" had become Peter "the stumbling block", an obstacle in the way of people who want to know the Messiah.

I sympathise with Peter. What sense could it make that the Messiah, the "Son of the living God," is "destined to suffer, to be put to death"?

Just a few verses earlier, Jesus had instructed his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ. Why? Because folk – like Peter did – would rush to mis-understanding, assume they knew what "being the Christ" meant, what 'being his disciple' would mean.

And they'd be wrong, as Peter was wrong: "... you are setting your mind not on divine things, but on human things."

We want a world without trouble, where our problems are eased; a world of peace, sufficiency, happiness, where those we love are safe, well.

As the Lord himself reminds us: what has any of us to offer in exchange for our life?

But the life to which Jesus calls us is life lived as God envisages, so that we become the people God has created us to be. That's how we reveal to others the mystery of the kingdom.

To "set our mind on divine things" is to be ever open to the Gospel we've heard countless times; the Gospel that continues to unfold its meaning our whole life long.

To "set our mind on divine things" is in all matters and in all relationships to seek first God's kingdom and its righteousness.

Because whatever we might be fearful of losing can open us truly to welcome the gift of life in Christ.

Stewarding at Garstang – *can you help?*

If you are coming to Mass at Ss Mary & Michael's please consider volunteering to help with the stewarding, an essential requirement for us to be able to open the church.

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.

Praying the Rosary with other parishioners

You are invited to pray the Rosary in your home, **Wednesdays**, 7.00pm, with your fellow parishioners. If you'd like to pray with others on *Zoom*, please contact Liz Billington.

Please pray for ...

Our parish school. Teachers, staff, pupils, parents, and governors, at the beginning of their new year.

Those who have died recently. Pdraig O'Donnell (cousin of Pat Costain), Paul Joseph Noblet, Gerald Derbyshire, Mavis Lee, Louise Gornall, Matthew Pearson.

Those who are ill or infirm. Anne Hunt, John Skillen, Joyce Bilsborrow, Alice Towers, Caroline Nurse, Jean Andrews, Keith Jones, Tony Smith, Sarah Preston, Roger Bevins, Margaret Pendleton, Janet Howarth, Austin Walmsley, Eileen Cartner, Andrew Whipp, Charlie Robinson (3 years old), Ellen Worsley, Simon Crossley, Mary Winstanley, Kevin Horan, Paul Cain, Jean Dunne, Louise Williams, Teresa Smith, John Cookson, Revd Andrew Shaw, Wendy Seed, Graham Markham (Australia), Colin & Marie Swarbrick, Pat Nickson, Seamus Martin, Peter Holland, Kathryn, Vin Cahill, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Christine Cobane, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Ewan, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Ann Wicks, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe.

Those whose anniversary we keep. Revd Joseph Mary Ilsley, Brian Dickinson, Alfred Evans, David Gornall, Harry Kelly, Sarah Adelaide Darwen, Ronald Park, Rosie Cousins, Wilfrid Hull, Henry (Harry) Richardson, Denis Chapman, Richard Winstanley, Carl Gerard Wilkes, James Parker, Hilda Yates, Peter Thomas Davis, Ken Shaw, Matthew Maguire and Agnes James.