

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-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4 October 2020

Liturgies this week

Sat	G	10.00am	Mass	William & Ellen Greenall <i>RIP</i>
Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Thomas & Eleanor Bolton <i>RIP</i>
Mon.....	ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF LANCASTER CATHEDRAL			
	S	10.00am	Mass	In thanksgiving: 50 th wedding anniversary [B]
Tue	---			
Wed.....	Our Lady of the Rosary			
	G	6.30pm	Mass	Fr David Elder <i>RIP</i> [EH]
		7.00pm	Rosary <i>in our homes</i>	
Thu	S	10.00am	Mass	Brenda Richardson <i>RIP</i> [PC]
Fri.....	St John Henry Newman <i>priest, religious founder</i>			
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Sat.....	St Paulinus of York <i>bishop, religious, missionary</i>			

G 10.00am **Mass** Brian Winstanley *RIP*

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Marie McLaughlin <i>lately dead</i> [AML]

Places of worship and contact-tracing

We have recently received further guidance on introducing contact-tracing measures within our churches. When attending Mass, you will now be asked to provide a contact number together with your name. Either complete a simple form or sign in via our QR Code using the NHS Test and Trace App. In line with Government guidelines, your data will not be shared with anyone else and will be disposed of after 21 days.

For more information on the NHS Test & Trace App: covid19.nhs.uk

London Marathon comes to Garstang *this weekend*

Frank Miller is still planning to get around 26 miles this **Sunday, 4 October**, to raise money for *Mary's Meals*, a charity providing school meals for children in Africa. Many thanks to all who have sponsored him: but it isn't too late! So far between church, running club, family and friends Frank has reached just over £1000 which is brilliant. It is a great charity to support so it would be good to get a bit higher.

If you would like to support him:

- Go online at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/FrankMiller>;
- Leave donations in an envelope in the labelled basket at the back of either church, or through the presbytery letter box.

If you see him, please wave!

Sites of Christian pilgrimage in the Holy Land

Next weekend, **10-11 October**, is the annual Holy Places special collection, which we were unable to take on Good Friday this year. This collection helps to support the Christian sites of pilgrimage in the Holy Land. Thank you.

Cafod Harvest Fast Day : Friday 9 October : special appeal

This is a Harvest like no other. Many families face chronic food shortage, malnutrition and poverty as the result of coronavirus. With your support, Cafod can help people all over the world rebuild their lives.

Cafod's online events include a live Mass on Friday 9 October and a live talk at 11.00am that day on Cafod's coronavirus response. There's a "Harvest like no other" online quiz, Saturday 10 October, 7.00pm. Visit www.cafod.org.uk for more ways to get involved, including a downloadable prayer card.

For Cafod's Appeal Video: <https://vimeo.com/453718072/66db9d386d>.

A retreat for the Season of Creation

Living Laudato Si': Your Parish and Your Planet, is the title of a Zoom Retreat, led from Boarbank Hall, **16-19 October**. No fee, but voluntary donations welcome. Guest speakers and lots of practical advice. To apply, email Sr Margaret Atkins on margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk.

Receiving Holy Communion at Mass

If you would like to return to Mass but are unable to walk to the altar to receive Holy Communion, when you arrive at church please speak to the stewards and they will make arrangements with you.

Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

St Matthew's gospel reminds us that life in the kingdom is something God gives, not something we achieve, or deserve.

Whose kingdom is it? God's. Whose place is it to invite or to exclude? God's. St Matthew wants us to recognise the sheer gift of God, and let God be the basis of our entire life.

Last Sunday in the gospel, our Lord called us "to think better of" how we respond to God, because the gift of faith is to be life-giving for others, not merely be a comfort for ourselves.

In this Sunday's parable, our Lord's point is: see how desperate those tenants were to get their hands on the inheritance; they stopped at nothing, not even murder.

Well, we don't need to cheat or murder to obtain God's gift. God offers life in the kingdom freely, and to all. Our Lord's pleading with us to accept the gift; and the Gospel still calls us to live the gift of faith to the full, in every aspect of our life.

St Matthew uses the parable also to challenge religious leaders. Those who would lead God's people are to minister with zeal and integrity: otherwise the kingdom of God will be taken from them and given to people who do produce its fruits.

All of us are challenged by our Lord's parable to ask ourselves: What's the quality of my membership of the Church, Christ's risen body? What fruit do I produce? Daily prayer; daily seeking to become more like Christ in every aspect of our life; that's what will produce the fruit of the kingdom of God. The rest is in God's hands.

Matthew Pearson RIP

Mick, Tricia and Clare would like to thank everyone for your prayers, kindness and support following the loss of Matthew.

Donations to the *Cenacolo* community in the UK raised £433 in Matthew's memory. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Job vacancy in the diocese

An experienced Personal Assistant is required for the Bishop's Office. This is an existing permanent post, based mainly at the Pastoral Centre in Lancaster, next to the Cathedral. Approximately 25 hours per week, spread over Monday to Friday. Closing date for applications: **Thursday 15 October**, noon; interviews, Thursday 22 October. For an application form, please email: hew@lancasterrcdiocese.org.uk.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations go to Fr Geoffrey [*what a swiz*, Ed.], Paul McCann, Anne Cahill & Ellis Preston: our September winners. If you would like to know anything about our Parish Draw please contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Clare McManmon.

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), 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. John Towers, Hilda Redhead, Jenny Jackson, Margaret McDonald, Edward Ross, Hugh Ferguson, Gordon Watkins, Alan John Carter, Joan Farnworth, Richard Wrennall, Barry Speak, Rose Ellen Shorrocks, Margaret Horn, Kathleen Barnacle, Cecily Gornall and Florence McHale.