

# 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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## Second Sunday of Lent

28 February 2021

### Liturgies this week

Sat	<b>Mass</b>	Walter & Marjorie Drake <i>anniversary</i> [w]
Sun	<b>Mass</b>	Intentions of LMS
Mon.....	<b>ST DAVID</b>	<i>bishop, religious, patron of Wales</i>
	<b>G</b>	11.00am <b>Burial Liturgy : Margaret Walmsley</b>
	<b>Mass</b>	Intentions of Joyce & Edward Bilsborrow
Tue	<b>Mass</b>	Infirm clergy
Wed	<b>Mass</b>	William & Ellen Greenall <i>anniversary</i> [AC]
		7.00pm <b>Rosary</b> <i>in our homes</i>
Thu	<b>Mass</b>	Revd John Horn <i>RIP</i>
Fri	<b>G</b>	11.00am <b>Burial Liturgy : Maureen Hall</b>
	<b>Mass</b>	Intentions of James Costain jr [SVP]
Sat	<b>Mass</b>	Neal Walmsley <i>RIP</i>

## Third Sunday of Lent

Sun **Mass** In thanksgiving : Fr Robert Horn [F+BC]

### Cafod Fast Day appeal

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

Abdella lives in a remote, mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes this young man ten hours a day to collect water. Your donations will help vulnerable communities like his to have access to clean water and provide vital support.

To donate: [www.cafod.org.uk/lent](http://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, 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.

### RISE // Online Youth Group

Castlerigg Manor is launching an online Youth Group in **March**. It's free of charge and open to anyone in Years 7 to 9. Every other Thursday, 7.00-8.00pm. [www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/riseonline](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/riseonline)

### Fairtrade

Zoom presentation, *United by Fairtrade*, **Wednesday 2 March**. 7.00pm. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us more than ever how interconnected we are globally. This is at the very heart of the Fairtrade message, bringing people of all faiths and none together. Adam Gardner, Head of Campaigns at the Fairtrade Foundation, will talk about the challenges currently faced by farmers and workers in the global south – the 'key workers beyond our borders'. To register: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/united-by-fairtrade-tickets-141951722423>

Traidcraft's *spring catalogue* is out now: [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk).

## Garstang Parish Draw – *monthly winners*

Congratulations go to Margaret & John Walmsley and Sadie O'Neill for being our February winners. If you would like to know more about our Parish Draw contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon via the parish office.

## Faith & Justice newsletter

The latest edition of the newsletter from our diocesan Faith & Justice Commission can be downloaded at: <https://tinyurl.com/32ovn7s4>.

Reports and newsletters mentioned in this issue are available at: <http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/newsletter/>

## Musings from my hermitage

This Sunday's passage from St Mark's gospel relates the Transfiguration. At this point in the gospel, Jesus has begun to speak of his approaching suffering. There's a sense of life closing in: instead of addressing the crowds, Jesus teaches his disciples, and in private. But they're confused, perplexed. Rising from the dead? What could that mean?

Jews, Christians, and Muslims all honour Abraham, "our father in faith." And like all living faith, Abraham's faith changed and grew, faced difficulties and seemingly impossible odds. Abraham and Jesus alike faced the incomprehensible mystery of God. Their response? Trust. Risk. They opened themselves to the mystery; attuned themselves to God's vision. And that's what Lent's for; a time to attune our heart and mind to God. Prayer, self-denial, helping others, reflecting on the scriptures, all help us to walk Christ's way of sacrifice: dedicated to God and to serving our neighbour.

The Transfiguration of Jesus offers a vision of hope. The world is still a long way from peace; there's untold hardship in many lands, including our own. How does God want us to respond? As our parishes face challenge and change, what response does God seek from us?

The disciples descending the mountain pondered what they'd heard and seen. They didn't get it right, as we'll hear, but Jesus kept faith. Eventually, they came to understand what being his disciple meant, how Jesus had challenged them to live.

Abraham, Jesus, and his disciples all encountered the mystery of God. They trusted, they risked, they opened themselves to God's vision. Abraham, Jesus, and his disciples all allowed God space and time. If we are to discern God's vision for our life and our parishes, we have to do likewise.

## Reopening our churches

Our Health & Safety leads in Garstang and in Scorton and I have consulted again following the Government's review on 22 February. Our judgement is that it is prudent for our churches to remain closed just now. We will keep abreast of Government guidance with a view to reopening on Wednesday 10 March, and making any announcement in the preceding week's newsletter.

In the meantime, please continue to pray for everyone involved in helping to roll out the vaccine; and 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*.

## Job advertisement : Faith & Justice worker in the diocese

The Diocese is looking for a part-time Faith & Justice worker to work throughout the Diocese to engage with parishes, schools, and other institutions: an informed and enthusiastic person is needed with good communication skills. Salary c. £8300 p.a. **Applications by 22 March.**

For further details: Margaret McSherry, [lfjcomm@gmail.com](mailto:lfjcomm@gmail.com), 07864-012385.

## Please pray for ...

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

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Doug Willoughby, James Costain jr, Barry Robinson, Viktoria Nurse, Elaine Stajniack, Jimmy O'Neill, 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, Bob Cross, Martina Cople, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe.

**Those whose anniversary we keep.** Josephine Wright, Eileen Fenna, Frank Moreland, Teresa Langley, James Foy, Ruth Curwen, Pauline Lord, Robert Waddington, Richard Dodd, Donald Slater, Ellen Greenall, Margaret Mary Holden, John Foley, Eileen Gleeson, Sister Catherine Waring, Martin Mears, Dorothy Hayes, Elizabeth Griffin, Jane Brown, Annie Grayston, Maureen Hollis, Maureen Ingleby, George Pearce, Mary Ann Smith, John Conway, Mary Bevins, Madeleine Looby, Alice Ann Lydiate, Dorothy Nugent and Ellen Moxham.