

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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Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Day of the Poor

15 November 2020

Liturgies this week

Sat	Mass	Janet Pearson <i>lately dead</i> [W]
Sun	Mass	George Gidlow <i>anniversary</i>
Mon	Mass	Intentions of Ethel Davis [AH]
Tue.....	St Hilda	<i>abbess of Whitby</i>
	Mass	Intentions of Adrian & family [LB]
Wed	Mass	Deceased members of the Catenians
	7.00pm	Rosary <i>in our homes</i>
Thu	Mass	Anne Gelderd <i>anniversary</i> [C]
Fri	Mass	Infirm clergy
Sat.....	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	Mass	Mavis Lee <i>lately dead</i> [EH]

Christ the King

(Last Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Sun	Mass	Peter Cole <i>anniversary</i>
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Safeguarding in the Church – statement from Bishop Paul

On Tuesday 10 November, the Independent Inquiry into Child Abuse (IICSA), published its report into the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Bishop Paul's statement and his heartfelt prayer were included with last weekend's newsletter, and are now on our parish website: see Parish Safeguarding / sub-heading: Child Abuse.

Coming to Mass at Christmas

In order to make best use of the capacity of our churches at Christmas, we need you to book for Mass. A link to the booking form is on the Homepage of our website, and copies are available in the presbytery yard.

At this stage, please book for only one Mass; and book seats only for people in your household or bubble. Closer to the time, if there's lots of space remaining for one or other Mass, we'll let you know and you can book again.

To help us make best use of the space, you will be assigned a specific seat.

Please note that Christmas Eve, 6.00pm, Garstang is now fully booked, and we'll be unable to allow people to enter who are not already booked in.

Post your completed form through the presbytery letterbox, or scan it and e-mail it to the parish office. Thank you, *Fr Geoffrey*.

Morecambe Bay Foodbank

For obvious reasons we're unable to collect food at church this Advent to send to the foodbank. If you'd like to support this important work financially:

- Bank transfer: Morecambe Bay Foodbank. 01-05-78. 42209552. Ref: SSM&M RC.
- Cheque payable to Morecambe Bay Foodbank. Send to 48 Euston Road, Morecambe LA4 5LE, or post through the presbytery letterbox.

Hummingbirds raffle

Hummingbirds nursery, in our Castle Lane Community Centre, isn't able to sell Christmas raffle tickets in the normal fashion this year. Tickets are 50p each; email Janet Miller, millerja63@gmail.com, with the number of tickets you require. You can pay for them:

- Bank transfer: LRCD AGAR HU; 40-27-02; 71568876; Ref. Raffle.
- Cheque payable to Hummingbirds Nursery. Post your envelope through the presbytery letterbox. Include your name & phone number or address.

Christ the King

Accompanying the newsletter this week are some prayer prompts to help us prepare for the forthcoming feast of Christ the King. These are also available on our parish website: Liturgical Seasons / Ordinary Time.

Faith & Justice newsletter

The latest edition of the newsletter from our diocesan Faith & Justice Commission can be downloaded at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2qb82pe>.

Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

The Scripture readings this Sunday urge us to live with meaning. Look at the third slave in the gospel: he protected what he'd been given, buried the money, kept it safe. But the master had been looking for something else, something imaginative.

"Here's your one talent back." That wasn't the point. That wasn't why the master had entrusted the talent to him. The slave hadn't been a good steward. He hadn't invested himself; he didn't give back with increase.

In contrast, look at the capable wife in that first reading; the trustworthy slave in the gospel. They both have wisdom. The proverbial capable wife managed her family and her business and cared for those in need. The trustworthy slave produced ten talents out of five. What imagination they must have had; what courage, persistence. What risks they must have taken.

So where are we in this picture?

Christ our master has given gifts and talents to each of us. He expects us to be responsible for what he's given; dares us to become the people he knows we truly are: children of light, children of the day; whose obedience to God's vision isn't surly or grudging, but courageous and imaginative because we know ourselves to be securely grounded in God.

God has chosen us to help create that vision. No single one of us has the blueprint, and each one of us has a unique role. Each has a contribution that no one else can make — because what we're asked to give is ourself.

Christ in St Matthew's gospel urges us to grasp the big picture, be confident in our faith, courageous in how we witness and serve. The God who took our flesh and blood did so that all people might be saved. That's the plot, and each one of us is a part of it.

Now. What gifts and talents has God entrusted to you? What's God looking for from you? How will you use your gifts and talents to build God's vision?

St Paul Sunday Missal 2021

Covid regulations mean it's unlikely we'll be able to have multiple copies of the *St Paul Sunday Missal* available for people to use at will.

If you'd like a personal copy of the 2021 edition of the *St Paul Sunday Missal*, cost £6.00, depending on the numbers ordered: e-mail the parish office, phone and leave a message, or post a note through the letter box.

Deadline for orders: 30 November.

Cafod Fast Day

Thank you to everyone who has contributed, whether online, by text donation, or through the parish. From the Fast Day Collections, £209 has been forwarded to CAFOD. Many thanks.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Paul Cain (relative of Teresa Cole), Sarah Davis, David Leece (related to Frank Miller), Deacon Bernard Loveland, John Steel (uncle of Fr Geoffrey), Sister Cecilia (Carmelite Community, Fulwood), Janet Pearson (mother of Marie).

Those who are ill or infirm. Ethel Davis, Anne Hunt, John Skillen, Joyce Bilborrow, 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, 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, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Ann Wicks, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe.

Those whose anniversary we keep. Margaret Dilworth, John Cookson, George Gidlow, William E Barton, Imelda Newsham, Joan Baines, Barbara Berry, Mary Coope, Peter Cole, Elizabeth Richmond, Madge Holliday, Stephanie McDonald, Tony Hickey, John Francis Rigby, Bernard Watson, William Haydock Barton, Frank Blessing, Cuthbert Billington, Brian Hargreaves and Sheila Bourke (1st anniversary).