

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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Christ the King

Last Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 November 2023

Sat	25	G	6.00pm	Mass	Maureen Pyke <i>anniversary</i>
Sun	26	S	8.30am	Mass	Fr Michael Tully & Parents <i>RIP</i>
		G	10.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
Mon	27	S	10.00am	Mass	Carole Holden <i>lately dead</i> [MB]
Tue	28	--			
Wed	29	G	6.30pm	Mass	Tony Hickey <i>anniversary</i> [LB]
Thu	30	ST ANDREW <i>apostle, patron of Scotland</i>			
		S	10.00am	Mass	Fr Brendan Alger <i>RIP</i>
Fri	1	G	10.00am	Mass	Pritchard & Bowen families <i>RIP</i> [MB]
			10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	

First Sunday of Advent

Sat	2	G	6.00pm	Mass	Joan Walbank <i>anniversary</i>
Sun	3	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Bolton & Langely families <i>RIP</i> [V]

Christmas cards & gifts ...

... are on sale in the church shop at Garstang. All profits to parish funds.

Special collection this weekend : Diocesan Youth Services

This weekend is the annual collection to support the work of our Diocesan Youth Services, and the team based at Castlerigg Manor, Keswick.

There will be a second collection plate at the back of both churches.

Special collection next weekend: Diocesan Poor Missions Fund

Next weekend there is the annual collection for the *poor parishes of our diocese*. There will be a second basket at the back of both churches.

A Festive Christmas

Preston Orpheus Choir invites you to *A Festive Christmas* with Music Director Dan Adams, accompanist Paul Greenhalgh and featuring Freckleton Brass Band and St Pius X Catholic Preparatory School Choir. **Saturday 9 December**, 7.00pm, St Michael and All Angels' church, Egerton Road, Preston PR2 1AJ.

Christmas music old and new with opportunities for audience participation.

Adults £13, under 18s £5, family £30 (2 adults and 2 under 18s). Advance tickets available from: <https://tinyurl.com/2smjybpbk> (no booking fees) or pay on the door: cash, card, contactless or cheque. More details at: www.prestonorpheuschoir.org

Christmas concert by Lancaster Singers

If you like to hear live choral music at Christmas, including carol arrangements and other larger-scale works, then you're in luck. The Lancaster Singers are coming to our church in Garstang once again.

Following last year's successful collaboration with a group of young singers from our school, this year's concert will take place in church, **Tuesday 12 December**, 7.30pm. Parents, carers, and families of children at the school: apply for tickets at the school.

Tickets on general sale are £12 and will be available from the Lancaster Singers website at www.lancastersingers.org or you could turn up on the day and pay at the door. We hope to see you there for what promises to be another exciting, heart-warming, and uplifting concert.

Parish Coffee Mornings

After two coffee mornings, £150 has been handed to Fr Geoffrey for parish funds. *Thank you all very much for your support.*

The next coffee morning will raise funds for Cafod's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal [Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal \(cafod.org.uk\)](https://cafod.org.uk): **Wednesday 13 December**, 10.00am-12 noon, Plessington Chapel, Garstang.

Hopefully, there will be mince pies. At the same time there will be a sale of homemade cakes. Christmas jumpers or accessories are not obligatory but do feel free to wear them! *The Coffee Morning Team.*

Safe in Faith

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), together with *Safe in Faith*, have compiled a number of acts you can partake in during the next 16 days in their campaign *Invest to prevent violence against women and girls*.

Investing can take many forms, whether it be donation of money, time, or resources. To find out more, see the poster at back of Church, or visit <https://www.csan.org.uk>.

6.00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Once again, we will be operating an allocated seating plan for this Mass. If you wish to attend, please complete the Seat Request form or email directly to ssmm.christmas.mass@gmail.com. Please supply the following information: Your name; number of seats required; number of those U12; any special requests/considerations (e.g. mobility issues, etc.); contact phone number (mobile preferred).

Please note that we will only be using the main body of the church: current fire regulations mean we cannot use the balcony or have parishioners standing at the back of church.

Seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis, and every effort will be made to accommodate everyone who wants to attend. There are no restrictions on the number in a bench and all rows will be filled to their safe capacity. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Faith resources for children

New items are available in the Children's Library at the back of church in Garstang: Faith in Phonics books for early readers, puzzles, and colouring.

Tea & coffee ...

... will be served after 10.30am Mass next Sunday, **3 December**.

Votive candle stands at Garstang

I'm looking for someone to take care of the votive candle stands, and clean them as necessary. Please have a word with me. Many thanks, Fr G.

Don't know what to buy friends and family?

This Christmas you can choose a meaningful "good gift" which makes a real difference to the poor and vulnerable, as well as being a joy to receive. Some options below. More information in the church porch.

CAFOD: *World Gifts* - catalogues available in Church porch or order online at <https://cafod.org.uk/>

Aid to the Church in Need helping persecuted and vulnerable Christians and the those who minister to them. Visit <https://acnuk.org/> to buy *Gifts of Faith* (search "Gifts of Faith" in the online shop).

Refugee Gifts available online from the **Jesuit Refugee Service** <https://www.jrsuk.net/>.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Ian Shepherd, Peter Lancaster, Fr James William (Billy) Bootle (retired priest of the diocese), Revd Graham Lavery (retired deacon of the diocese).

Those who are ill or infirm. Bert Lowe, Vicki Doherty, Deacon D'Arcy Ryan, Carley Cowburn, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Fr Harry Holden, Federico Lema, Mary McCann, Fr Bob Horn, Pat Errington, Rita Whittaker, Margaret Brocklehurst, Rory Montgomery, Mary Jo Counsell, Theresa Thompson, Caroline Nurse, Philippa Haynes, Yvonne Shaw, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Peter Holland, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes.

Those whose anniversary we keep. George Bamber, Nellie Winder, Thomas Cooney, Patricia (Pat) Nickson, Joan Walbank, Dr Gerard Flood, Cath Bagot, Eleanor Elizabeth Ratcliffe, Mgr Paddy O'Dea, Eugenia McCarthy, Sarah Ingleby, Maureen Pyke, V. Revd Canon Joseph Tootell, Jack Noblett, Margaret Stopforth, Nellie Bateson, John Robert Boulter, William Kelsall, Joseph Smith, Patrick (Pat) Henry and Grace Lillian Salles.