

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

ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com : www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk

Christ the King

(Last Sunday in Ordinary Time)

21 November 2021

Liturgies this week

Sat	G	6.00pm	Mass	Peter & Mary Ibison <i>RIP</i>
Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	Fr Michael Tully & Parents <i>RIP</i>
	G	10.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
Mon	G	11.00am	Funeral Mass : Gordon Johnson	
Tue		---		
Wed	G	6.30pm	Mass	John & Alice Towers <i>RIP</i> [NW]
		7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	S	10.00am	Mass	Brian & Mary Winstanley <i>RIP</i>
	G	2.00pm	Baptism	Tessa & Ginny Sharples
Fri	G	10.00am	Mass	Fr Austin Smith <i>RIP</i>
		10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Sat	G	12.15pm	Baptism	Benji & Reggie Bottomley

First Sunday of Advent

Sat	G	6.00pm	Mass	Joan Walbank <i>1st anniversary</i>
Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Ed Lowe <i>lately dead</i> [v]

Music for Advent at Garstang

At the start of the church's new year, we'll reintroduce singing the acclamations in the Eucharistic Prayer; *Celtic Liturgy* (revised), Holy holy; We proclaim your death, O Lord; Through him, with him, ... Amen.

The pattern of music at Sunday Mass will be: Week 1 of the month, no hymns, unaccompanied sung Gospel Acclamation etc. Week 2: organ. Week 3: singers & musicians. Week 4: organ.

Rehearsal for Advent. Anyone who plays an instrument or sings and who is interested in becoming involved with the music for Advent is invited to come to a rehearsal after 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 21 November**.

Red Wednesday

Your chance to say NO to Christian persecution and NO to religious persecution and to use your voice to call for change. This year the focus is on the kidnap, forced marriage and conversion, rape and sexual enslavement of Christian women and girls.

Organised by *Aid to the Church in Need*, **Wednesday 24 November**. To add your voice please visit <https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/redwednesday/>

Advent Liturgy of Reconciliation

We will be able to celebrate our Advent Liturgy for our parishes again this year, **Saturday 4 December**, 10.00am, Garstang.

Pope Francis and the synodal journey

Just in case you're wondering about our involvement in the synod process, we're awaiting the documentation from the diocese. Meanwhile, on the diocesan website is a survey which will go live from 15 December; that's to say you can read it now, but complete it only after that date.

Pope Francis wants this to be a process of attentive listening, above all to the Holy Spirit, to discern what the Spirit is saying to the Church today. Our personal prayer in all this and our openness to the prompting of the Holy Spirit will be crucial. Make that your prayer now.

Claire Watkins, reader in Ecclesiology and Practical Theology, University of Roehampton, and Director of the Theology Action Research Network, wrote in the *Tablet*, 23 October 2021: "We need only ask, in prayer, this: where is the Spirit at work in the world? And how can we join in?"

Christmas Masses at Garstang

Our Christmas Masses this year will be as follows:

- Friday 24 December, Christmas Eve, 6.00pm & 10.00pm.
- Saturday 25 December, Christmas Day, 10.30am. (Please note: there will be no Mass on the Saturday evening.)
- Sunday 26 December, Boxing Day, 10.30am.

We are mindful that we want our liturgies to be safe for all who attend. Current mitigations against the virus will remain in place: hand sanitiser will be available as you enter the church, and our Bishops ask that face coverings continue to be worn by all who can and who are over 12 years of age.

In order to plan for this, we are allocating seating for the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; maximum capacity of 200 for each Mass; two households per bench with a maximum of four persons. For extended family households with children, this can be up to seven per bench.

Please be aware that fire regulations mean that we can no longer use the balcony in the church and there can be no standing in the narthex or at the back of the church.

Christmas Masses at Scorton

We will not be operating a booking system this year. Our Masses will be:

- Saturday 25 December, Christmas Day, 8.30am.
- Sunday 26 December, Boxing Day, 8.30am.

Christmas Gift ideas

To help transform lives, please consider a **CAFOD** World Gift for Christmas (or baptisms, birthdays, etc); ideal for posting abroad. <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/World-Gifts>. Catalogues are available in the Plessington chapel at Garstang and at the back of church in Scorton.

There is an extensive range, with new gifts including an energy-saving stove and saving the rainforest. Also available: the Real Advent Calendar with Fairtrade Chocolate.

Traidcraft. Although we are not collecting parish orders this year, you can visit Traidcraft's online shop which has many ethical food and gift ideas. Also available this year are crafts made by refugees. <https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk>

Parish Christmas cards ...

... are now on sale in the Plessington chapel.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations go to our November winners Jane Greenwood and Margaret Gaughan. If you would like to know more about our Parish Draw contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon, directly or via the parish office.

Bird tables : open to offers

In the porch at Garstang are two handmade bird tables: wood not treated, legs & main stem new wood, remainder is good quality recycled timber.

The tables have been identified as A and B. Offers over £35, please, for parish funds; be sure to indicate your preferred table. There's a box in which to place your offers. Closing date: end of November.

St Paul Sunday Missal 2022

If you'd like a personal copy of the 2022 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.

Last orders: 21 November.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Gordon Johnson, Roger Boden (cousin of David), Lucas A Backhouse.

Those who are ill or infirm. Theresa Thompson, Pat Kennedy, David Carr, Caroline Nurse, Caroline Rigby, Josie Higham, Tony Blunt, Philippa Haynes, Phyllis Steel, Yvonne Shaw, Barry Robinson, Elaine Stajniack, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, Tony Smith, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Marie Swarbrick, Peter Holland, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes.

Those whose anniversary we keep: Bernard Watson, William Haydock Barton, Frank Blessing, Cuthbert Billington, Brian Hargreaves, Sheila Bourke, Edward Storey, Marjorie Addison, Rev. Austin William Splain, George Bamber, Nellie Winder, Thomas Cooney, Patricia (Pat) Nickson (1st anniversary), Joan Walbank (1st anniversary), Dr Gerard Flood, Cath Bagot and Eleanor Elizabeth Ratcliffe.