

# 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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## Fourth Sunday of Easter

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

21 April 2024

Sat 20	G	6.00pm	Mass	Terry Murphy <i>RIP-birthday</i>
Sun 21	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Intentions of Jenn & Stephen McGuigan <i>40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary</i>
Mon 22	S	10.00am	Mass	Intentions of Rosemary Armstrong
Tue 23	--			
Wed 24	G	6.30pm	Mass	Tony <i>anniversary</i> & Maureen Clark <i>RIP</i>
Thu 25	<b>ST MARK evangelist</b>			
	S	10.00am	Mass	Infirm clergy
Fri 26	G	10.00am	Mass	James Walmsley <i>anniversary</i>
	G	10.30am	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sat 27	G	6.00pm	Mass	Brenda Richardson <i>4<sup>th</sup> anniversary</i> [AP]
Sun 28	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Betty Ball <i>RIP-birthday</i>

### Special collection this weekend

This Sunday is the annual *Day of Prayer for Vocations*. There will be a special collection for the diocesan training fund for priests and deacons.

### Church maintenance projects at Garstang

Work was carried out last year to improve drainage and some of the pathways in the cemetery. I am very grateful to those of you who helped to fund the project.

A second phase of work is now required, to address health and safety concerns about the path from the newly-prepared section of the cemetery round to the front of church.

We will be seeking grant funding for the project, although grants will not cover all the costs. To assist our application, we need to be able to demonstrate the extent to which parishioners support the project.

**This weekend, 20-21 April**, there will be a short questionnaire at the back of the church. I would be grateful if you could spare a couple of minutes to complete it and to support the project.

The same questionnaire will also seek your support to help us apply for a grant towards a significant repair of the organ and its continuing maintenance. Thank you for your assistance. *Fr Geoffrey*

### Sacrament of Confirmation

Do you know anyone in Year 7 or older who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? This year, Confirmation will be on **Pentecost Sunday, 19 May**, 200pm, Lancaster Cathedral. There will be **two preparation sessions: Sunday 5 & Sunday 12 May**, both after Mass, 11.45am-3.00pm. Lunch will be provided.

If you would like more information, or an electronic copy of the form, please email Heather Hogarth, [hogarth\\_h@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hogarth_h@yahoo.co.uk). Alternatively, you can collect a form from the back of church and return it to the presbytery as soon as possible. Please pass this on to anyone who may be interested.

### Hummingbirds

If you have any knowledge of HR (Human Resources) and/or TUPE regulations the Management Committee of Hummingbirds would appreciate your advice. Please contact Frank Miller on 01995 604030 or [frankmiller\\_bhs@hotmail.com](mailto:frankmiller_bhs@hotmail.com).

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## The cloud of unknowing

Explore this mystical text written in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, a profound guide on prayer. **Monday 13 May, 11.30am-3.00pm**, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella, Browndedge Road, Lostock Hall PR5 5AA.

<https://www.christianretreats.live/online-retreats/in-situ-retreats/in-situ-the-cloud-of-unknowing-explore-this-incredible-mystical-text-written-in-the-14th-c-a-profound-guide-on-prayer>

For bookings: parish office, 01772-335387 or [office@saintgerards.org.uk](mailto:office@saintgerards.org.uk).

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## SVP report on “levelling up”

The St Vincent de Paul Society (England & Wales) has published a new report that highlights charity’s vital role in delivering locally-based support to “left behind” communities.

The research - *From the Frontline: Tackling Regional Inequalities from the Ground Up* - provides a snapshot of the St Vincent de Paul Society’s (SVP) community-based “levelling up” work in 10 regional centres and through locally-based volunteer members, working in 17 of the 20 most deprived communities in England.

The report highlights: A 49 percent increase in the number of requests for help to SVP’s support line, nearly 2300 in the last 12 months, showing an alarming trend of reliance on charities like SVP to deliver frontline services.

The report can be downloaded here: <https://svp.org.uk/levelling-up>.

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## Pilgrimage walk

The *John Bradburne Memorial Society* is holding a pilgrimage climb on Cross Fell, Cumbria, **Saturday 8 June**. There will be Mass beforehand in St John the Evangelist church, Skirwith CA10 1RQ at 10.00am. Flyers are at the back of church. For more information visit [www.johnbradburne.com](http://www.johnbradburne.com), or e-mail Kate at [info@johnbradburne.com](mailto:info@johnbradburne.com).

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## Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham : message from Bishop Paul

“I am renewing the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, the National Shrine to Our Blessed Lady, **September, 2-6**. I invite you to join me.

For more information and booking details contact the pilgrimage organiser Deacon Charlie Conner, 07895 742 732 or [charlie.conner@lrcd.org.uk](mailto:charlie.conner@lrcd.org.uk). With my blessing, + *Paul*”

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## Many thanks ...

... to Fr John Gibson, who celebrated the Masses while I was taking my post-Easter break; also, to those who opened church and prepared everything for Mass, and those who kept an eye on the properties and the office. Fr G

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## SVP : many thanks ...

Members would like to thank you all very much for the money donated to the recent collection. A total of £296 was given, including £58 from Scorton, which will be used to support local people in need.

God bless you all for your kindness.

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## Tuesday morning prayer

A small group of Christians from different churches gather at St Thomas’, Garstang, for Morning Prayer on **Tuesdays**, 8.55-9.25am. *All welcome*.

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## Bishop Paul and Cardinal Nichols on the fighting in Sudan

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/49435>

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## Please pray for ...

**Those who have died recently.** Fr Tom Forster & Fr John Heaney (retired priests of the diocese), Anne Stobbs.

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Bob Cookson, Martha Billington, Pat Stockdale (Carlisle), Jim Costain, Fr Michael Murphy, Pat McKenna, Joe Rooney, Bert Lowe, Vicki Doherty, Deacon D’Arcy Ryan, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Fr Bob Horn, Pat Errington, 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.** Tom Gorton, Mark Damien Lavelle, William McCall, Jane Ann Wareing, Henry Towers, Harold Rawlinson, Brenda Margaret Richardson, Doris Wade, Edith Ellwood, Margaret Horn, Isabel Clarke, Monica Stansfield, Barbara Rogerson (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary) and Fr Joseph Haydon (25<sup>th</sup> anniversary).