

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mothering Sunday

14 March 2021

Liturgies this week

Sat	G	10.00am	Mass	Diane Pattinson <i>RIP</i>
Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Jane Fleming, Agnes & John Coote <i>RIP</i> [TC]
Mon	S	10.00am	Mass	Sheila Woof <i>lately dead</i> [CB]
Tue		---	Mass	Intentions of GS
Wed.....				ST PATRICK <i>bishop, missionary, patron of Ireland</i>
	G	6.30pm	Mass	Richard Hogarth anniversary [TP]
		7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	S	10.00am	Mass	Intentions of Patricia Hurley [H]
Fri.....				ST JOSEPH <i>husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
		---	Mass	Intentions of Teresa Thompson (& Jim) [A]
Sat	G	10.00am	Mass	Alice & John Towers <i>lately dead</i> [F+BC]

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Ellen Dwerryhouse <i>lately dead</i> [SC]

Keeping our churches open

From Bishop Paul to the priests, 3 March 2021. "Please be careful not to give any impression that things are returning to normal at the present time – they are not. Even though places of worship have had, so far, a great deal of success in being Covid-secure establishments, we are still asked to hold essential church services only and our liturgies must be kept brief."

Please be aware that, as previously, if we cannot ensure the required number of stewards for a particular Mass, we will be obliged to cancel it. If you are able to take a turn serving as a steward, please contact Frank Miller for Garstang and Kevin Morley for Scorton. Thank you in anticipation.

Inside church:

- Avoid walking around or going to speak to people not in your household or social bubble, even with social distance, and no matter how important.
- Maintain social distance going to Holy Communion and when leaving.
- If you remain in church after Mass, take special care that you do not socialise with – even hang around for a quick catch up with – people from different households.

Outside church:

- Keep the exit clear so that others can leave safely and without anxiety.
- In the church grounds, take special care that you do not socialise with – even hang around to have a quick catch up with – people from different households, even with social distance and no matter how tempting.

Thank you for all your support and understanding over the twelve months. Please continue to pray for everyone involved in helping to roll out the vaccine; and let's all of us play our part in keeping ourselves and others safe. God bless, *Fr Geoffrey*.

Novena to St Joseph

The National Novena to St Joseph is underway **10-18 March** at St Joseph's Church, Maidenhead, led by the Mill Hill Missionaries. The intentions will include those of all contributors in our parishes. The Masses will be online at stjosephsparish.co.uk and at www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena, where you will also find the Novena prayer leaflet.

Send any petitions and/or requests for a printed Novena prayer leaflet to: Novena Director, 41 Victoria Road, Liverpool L37 1LW, or email novenamhm@gmail.com.

Experience the loving presence of Jesus

Encounter: a weekend of seeking the face of Jesus with expectant faith and soaking in his divine presence, **Friday 19 - Saturday 20 March**. For booking and details: www.coretlumenchristi.org, phone 016973-45623 or e-mail stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org.

Supporting our fellow Christians in Lebanon

What if you could provide a hot meal for a desperate Christian family in Lebanon while you enjoy your Sunday lunch at home?

You are invited to join *Aid to the Church in Need* and parishes all across the UK for a virtual Sunday Lunch, **21 March**, to support an initiative that serves daily meals to over 1,000 Christians in and around the city of Zahle. Many of these families are refugees from Syria or local people who have lost their livelihoods because of the national financial crisis or the pandemic. They struggle every day to get by, but you can help.

<https://acnuk.org/event/acn-virtual-sunday-lunch/>

Musings from my hermitage

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus recalls an episode from the Old Testament: Just as many were saved from death in the wilderness while Moses lifted high the bronze serpent, so many will be saved when he, the "Son of Man," is lifted high on the cross. Just as people looked upon the bronze serpent and lived, so all who believe in the redeeming cross of Jesus will be saved.

In Christ, God has entered with us into the new and eternal covenant. This is no repeat of God's past efforts: God's own Son has given his life for us. The One who was truly God and truly human carried to his cross the sin of the world. The cross and resurrection — the paschal, Easter mystery — reveals Jesus as the One who offers life eternal.

For the entire human race, for a world still blighted by conflict, hunger, and oppression, the cross of Jesus is a new start, just as it's a new start for each of us. Through baptism, we have been united with Christ in his cross and resurrection; our names now feature in the chronicle of God's tireless quest; the Creator's quest to draw all people into his life and love and vision.

God has brought us to life in Christ. How might we live this gift more fully? We are God's "work of art." How can we allow God to shape us into the people he created us to be?

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, lfjcm@gmail.com, 07864-012385.

Students in Lower Sixth

The Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst, is offering a *Christian Leadership Formation programme* in partnership with St Mary's University, Twickenham and the Catholic Union of Great Britain.

Open to students in Lower Sixth committed to their faith and aspiring to some form of public life. Details and application forms: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/clf/>

RISE // Online Youth Group

Castlerigg Manor has launched an online Youth Group. 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

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. John Towers, Teresa Smith, Maureen Hall, Christopher Pearson, Margaret Walmsley.

Those who are ill or infirm. Joan Wilkes, 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, 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. John Grayston, James Thomas Slater, Agnes Horn, Eddie Walmsley, John Hindle Law, Thomas Gornall, Ellen Wells, John James Dewhurst, Celia Lamoury, Agnes Rossall, John Kirkman, Barbara Nemes, Winifred Moran, Tom Horn, Josephine Seed, John Swift, George Bernard Clarey and André Ferguson.