

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

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for Unemployed People

2 March 2025

Sat	1	G	6.00pm	Mass	Ellen & William Greenall <i>RIP</i> [AC]
Sun	2	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Alice <i>RIP</i> & John Towers <i>anniversary</i>
Mon	3	S	10.00am	Mass	Horn & Gillett families <i>RIP</i>
Tue	4	--			
Wed	5	ASH WEDNESDAY : day of fasting and abstinence			
		G	6.30pm	Mass	Maureen Ingleby <i>anniversary</i>
			7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	6	S	10.00am	Mass	Intentions of Rita & Gerry Marley
Fri	7	G	11.00am	Funeral Mass	: Ellis Preston

First Sunday of Lent

Sat	8	G	6.00pm	Mass	Tom Ibison snr <i>anniversary</i>
Sun	9	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Thomas & Eleanor Bolton <i>RIP</i>

Lent : Stations of the Cross

The Season of Lent is fast approaching. Once again, I encourage parishioners from either parish to lead the Stations of the Cross, Fridays of Lent, 6.30pm at Garstang: individuals, couples, friends, parish groups.

If you're willing to take a turn, please let me know, **by Ash Wednesday, 5 March**. Thank you, *Fr Geoffrey*

Online formation for Lent

The *Tablet* is offering four webinars for Lent, with different speakers, **Wednesdays, 5 - 26 March**, 6.00-7.00pm. Visit www.thetablet.co.uk/events.

CAFOD Lenten reflections

As we seek to draw closer to God and our global family through reflection and prayer during Lent, CAFOD will be sharing hope-filled stories from across the world, reflecting on the Scripture readings of the day, and seeking to respond in action and prayer. Sign up for their daily e-mails. www.cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar.

Lenten lunches for *Christian Aid*

Lent lunches are being served at the URC Church Hall, Garstang, five Wednesdays during Lent starting on **12 March**, which our parish will be preparing and serving.

We need people to make soup for approximately 40 people. If you are unable to make soup and would like to contribute either with a donation towards bread and cheese or by helping on the day, it would be very much appreciated. Please contact Brenda on 07821-392809. Donations can be given to Brenda or Fr G. Thank you.

Men's Spiritual Exercises

A five-day version of the Ignatian Exercises, **30 March - 4 April**, offered specifically for men (whether lay or ordained), this retreat will be preached by the Benedictine Monks of St Joseph's Abbey, Flavigny (France). Founded in 1988, this community has retained its charism of a specific apostolate to men with a shortened version of the Ignatian Exercises. One-to-one direction will be offered alongside the talks.

Details and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-spiritual-exercises/>

Brass cleaning at St Mary & St Michael's

The brass cleaning in our church has been praised by visitors, but our small team of volunteers has dwindled due to ill health. So we need more people to help. We meet in the sacristy every other Wednesday morning and enjoy a chat and a laugh while we polish for approximately an hour and a half. Please contact Marion on 01995 601469 or Celia on 01995 602341 if you feel you could help. Thank you.

Garstang Parish Draw yearly subs

It is that time of year again that we ask you to pay your yearly subs which will stay at £20 per number for the coming year.

This year we would like as many of you as possible to pay by standing order or one-off BACs payment directly with your bank as this has worked well over the last couple of years. Below are ways you can pay this year's subs:

1. If you already have a yearly standing order in place – no action is required.
2. By setting up a yearly standing order-on-line or direct with your bank (see details below)
3. By making a one-off BACs payment for this year's subs (see details below). BACs Payments to be set up by: 31 March 2025.

If you are not in a position to pay by standing order/BACs, we would prefer you to pay by cash as the Bank is now charging us for any cheques we submit.

Place your cash in an envelope enclosing your full name, address and contact number. Label the envelope 'Parish Draw Subs' and drop it in at the presbytery or place in the collection tray at the back of church.

This year we will also be collecting subs before and after each Mass **next weekend, 8 & 9 March**.

Bank details: LRC DTR Charity No 234331 Parish of SS Mary & Michael - Draw Account (On-line set up select – add Business); Account no: 01589091 Sort Code: 40-27-02 Bank: HSBC; Reference: Please use your initial and surname so we can match the payment against our list of members. (e.g: JP SMITH)

If you have any problems with any of the above payment methods this year, please contact us via the Parish office, ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com (please put Parish Draw in the subject heading), or call 01995 602164; please leave your name and number and we will contact you as soon as we can.

Joyce Bilborrow RIP : many thanks

Edward and the Bilborrow family would like to express their gratitude to Fr Geoffrey and Canon Dunstan for the Reception into Church and Funeral Mass for Joyce.

We would like to thank our friends and parishioners for their sympathetic words and cards received during our recent sad time and loss of Joyce, and for your donations at Joyce's funeral to support the parish.

We are forever grateful for your kindness.

Red Mission Boxes

Please bring to church next weekend any boxes to be emptied, and also pick up a copy of *Mission Today*. Thank you.

Bishop Paul's letter to Pope Francis

Bishop Paul has written to Pope Francis sending our prayers and best wishes. A copy is at the back of both churches and is on our website.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Jim Cottle, Ellis Preston, Deacon Michael Dolan.

Those who are ill or infirm. Gerry & Rita Marley, Joseph Hardacre, Liz Boden, Bob Tomlinson, Fr Tony Walsh, Steve Masterman, Bob Cookson, Pat Stockdale, Jim Costain, Fr Michael Murphy, Pat McKenna, Bert Lowe, Deacon D'Arcy Ryan, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Margaret Brocklehurst, Mary Jo Counsell, Caroline Nurse, 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.

Those whose anniversary we keep. James Foy, Ruth Curwen, Pauline Lord, Robert Waddington, Richard Dodd, Donald Slater, Ellen Greenall, Margaret Mary Holden, John Foley, Eileen Gleeson, Sister Catherine Waring, Martin Mears, Muriel Metcalfe, Dorothy Hayes, Elizabeth Griffin, Jane Brown, Annie Grayston, Maureen Hollis, Maureen Ingleby, George Pearce, Mary Ann Smith, John Conway, Eileen Yvonne Ann Smith, Mary Bevins Madeleine Looby, Alice Ann Lydiate, Dorothy Nugent, Ellen Moxham, The Cookson & Hine Families, Edward Hodgson, Joan McCall, Richard Hogarth, Leo Wells, Constance Mary Rogers, Marie Kelly, and Annie Lillian Henderson.