

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

Third Sunday of Advent

11 December 2022

Sat 10	G	6.00pm	Mass	Brenda Richardson <i>RIP</i> [AP]
Sun 11	S	8.30am	Mass	Sarah A Davies <i>RIP</i>
	G	10.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
Mon 12	S	10.00am	Mass	Monica <i>anniversary</i> & Sam Carr <i>RIP</i>
Tue 13	--			
Wed 14				St Lucy <i>virgin, martyr</i>
	G	6.30pm	Mass	Intentions of Martha Billington
Thu 15	S	10.00am	Mass	Gordon Wright <i>anniversary</i>
Fri 16	G	10.00am	Mass	Phyllis Steel <i>anniversary</i> [EW]

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sat 17	G	6.00pm	Mass	Mary Agnes Ibison <i>anniversary</i>
Sun 18	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Alice <i>anniversary</i> & John Towers <i>RIP</i>

St Vincent de Paul collection : this weekend

From the organiser of St Thomas' Food Bank: "Thank you so much for the gifts SSMM have donated. It is very much appreciated. It is wonderful to be supported so well by other local churches. We really are working together to shine the Light of Christ into our community. Every blessing." These gifts were purchased with your generous donations.

This weekend, **10-11 December**, will be the final SVP collection for 2022. We hope to continue to support the Food Bank with weekly donations of food. In addition, we would like to support the SVP Baby Feeding Programme in Sudan where the food situation is dire.

We trust that you will be as generous as you are able. With good wishes to you for Christmas and the New Year.

Parish SVP meeting

The members of our parishes' St Vincent de Paul Society will meet on **Tuesday 13 December**, 6.30pm, in the Plessington Chapel. New members and enquirers are always welcome.

Lancashire sings Christmas

In Scorton the three churches are staging Radio Lancashire's *Lancashire Sings Christmas*, **Thursday 15 December**, 7.00pm, at the Methodist Chapel; please gather at 6.30pm or so.

Pies, mulled wine as well as coffee and tea making it a "warm hub". There will also be loudspeakers outside for that hour so people can listen in, meander about, or whatever suits. All welcome.

The four candles of Advent

A series of Advent reflection webinars, **Thursdays**, 6.00-7.00pm.

15 December. John the Baptist: the candle of love. Dominic White OP.

22 December. Mary, Mother of Jesus: the candle of joy. Fr Nicholas King SJ.

To sign up: www.thetablet.co.uk/events.

Advent Meditation by Christmas Candlelight

St Joseph's Church, Lancaster, **Friday 16 December**, 7.30pm. An opportunity to meditate on the coming of Christ at Christmas. Tickets, £5.00, can be bought on the day; proceeds towards the restoration of St Joseph's church.

Warm Spaces initiative

Thank you to everyone who has donated refreshments and/or their time to get this initiative started. We have an embarrassment of riches.

The warm space will be available for two further Saturdays: **17 & 24 December**. Do come along from 10.30am-12.30pm for warmth, good company, a free brew and festive treats. There may even be the odd Jaffa Cake if a certain person (initials GS) has left any.

Christmas flower arranging at Garstang

Christmas flower arranging will take place on **Friday 23 December**, 11.00am in the Plessington chapel. All welcome to come and help. Any greenery would be appreciated. Thank you.

6.00pm Christmas Eve Mass

We are 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: 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.

This year there will be 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.

Christmas Mass times

Christmas Eve, 6.00pm & 10.00pm, Garstang. *Please book for 6.00pm.*

Christmas Day, 8.30am, Scorton; 10.30am, Garstang.

Red Missions' Box

Mission calendars for 2023 can be collected from the church porch at Garstang, even if you do not have a mission box. If you do have a box and would like it emptying, please bring it into church next weekend. Thank you.

Cards of St Mary & St Michael's

Pauline Warriner, a local artist, very kindly donated her original painting of the Church to us. We have decided to reproduce it on cards to be sold to raise funds for the cemetery work.

Price: **£1 per card and envelope** or **£4.50 for 5 cards and envelopes**.

Two versions are available: *No message*; **OR** *Message*: 'I lit a candle for you in St Mary and St Michael's Church, Garstang.'

Cards will be on sale after Mass on Saturday from Helen Forshaw and on Sunday from Janet Worthington in December (except 24th/25th), or direct from Helen 01995 603944.

A3 full-sized mounted print available; price depends on the level of interest.

Christmas cards & gifts ...

... are now on sale in the church shop in Garstang.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations go to our November winners Anne Miller and Mr & Mrs Luke. Last chance to be included in our extra draw for Christmas and the remaining 4 months: £10 per number (pro rata), contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon via the parish office for details.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Molly Singleton, Eileen Bolton, Oonagh Murphy.

Those who are ill or infirm. Jim Costain, Fr Harry Holden, Annie Billington, Federico Lema, Mary McCann, Fr Bob Horn, Pat Errington, Anthony Monks, Rita Whittaker, Margaret Brocklehurst, Rory Montgomery, Tony Clark, Mary Jo Counsell, Theresa Thompson, Caroline Nurse, Tony Blunt, Philippa Haynes, Yvonne Shaw, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, 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: John Gavin Nixon, George Cowburn, Annie Gregson, Lucy Madeleine Price-Jones, Grace Ross Darling, John Paul Cadden, Ethel Carroll, Alice Towers, Denis Regan, Arthur J Nickson, Charles Taylor, Joe Brown, Lucy Cahill and Barbara Ellen Crone.