

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

The Body & Blood of Christ

14 June 2020

Mass intentions this week

Sunday People of our Parishes

Ordinary Time: Week 11

Sundays Year A : Weekdays Year 2 : Liturgy of the Hours Week 3

Monday Catherine & Revd D'Arcy Ryan *50th wedding anniv.*

Tuesday Someone who is ill [VB]

Wednesday Gillian Macmillan *lately dead* [JMCG]

Thursday Tadeusz Gawlik *anniversary*

Friday..... **THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

Robert Beesley *anniversary* [LR]

Saturday..... **The Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Florence Ackroyd *anniversary*

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day for Life

Sunday People of our Parishes

Golden Wedding

Congratulations and prayerful good wishes to Catherine & Revd D'Arcy Ryan, celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary, 14 June. *Ad multos annos!*

Prayerful reflection for the Body & Blood of Christ

Accompanying the newsletter this week is a reflection for the Body & Blood of Christ. This is also available on our parish website: Liturgical Seasons / Ordinary Time.

Opening our churches for individual private prayer

With this printed newsletter is a copy of Bishop Paul's letter to priests and parish Health & Safety representatives. The Bishop's letter is also on the Homepage of our website: "Click to see guidelines."

From Monday 15 June we are permitted to open our churches for individual private prayer, under strict criteria.

As you might expect, before we can open the doors there is a great deal of practical work to be done, arrangements to be made, equipment to be purchased, notices affixed, and so on. Before opening, we then have to secure diocesan approval for the arrangements we have put in place.

The key challenge for us is this:

Whenever church is open there must be two stewards on duty, one of whom must have diocesan safeguarding clearance and none of whom can be in the recognised categories of 'vulnerable' or 'higher risk'.

Because of all the necessary work, our aim is to open for individual private prayer initially on Monday 22 June, for a couple of hours. By then we will know whether we have sufficient stewards to be able to open on other days.

If you are able to volunteer to serve as a steward, for Garstang please contact Frank Miller, frankmiller_bhs@hotmail.com or 604030; for Scorton please contact Kevin Morley, kevinmorley2@gmail.com or 07907-433391. Thank you, and please pray for right judgement in all of this.

Praying the Rosary with other parishioners

You are invited to pray the Rosary in your home, **Wednesdays**, 7.00pm, with your fellow parishioners. If you'd like to pray with others on Zoom, please contact Liz Billington stubbinsfarm@outlook.com; 07918-662711.

St Vincent de Paul – update

Over the past three months of lockdown the SVP have been continuing to provide help to those in need. Support has ranged from keeping in touch to providing furniture. Money has also been used to assist the food banks at Ingol and Caritas on a regular basis. Any local needs have been responded to as and when requested.

Special thanks to parishioners who have made this work possible. Whilst SVP funds are limited, because there have been no regular collections after Mass, we still have money available.

If you would like to make a financial donation please pop it through the presbytery letterbox.

If you need practical help or would just like a chat, or if you know of someone who might (please speak to them first), contact the SVP on their dedicated number: 07535-736975.

Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

I found yeast in one of our local shops last week, for the first time since lockdown. Why the shortage? The closure of the breweries, or the expansion in homebrewing?

Each week I bake a loaf, almost always the same recipe, and freeze three quarters. The smell, the texture, the chew factor, the taste. Wonderful. One of life's great experiences.

Bread and wine; Body and Blood; taking, giving thanks, breaking, and sharing; the four great actions of the eucharist from the time of the apostles.

And then Covid-19. That put a stop to the public celebration of the eucharist since ... since when, I wonder?

Celebrating Mass privately over these past weeks, I've sought to be mindful of all of you out there beyond the walls of the church, who would have loved to be in church for Mass, sharing together in the Body and Blood of Christ. Whatever might have been going on in your life and heart and mind, I've desired to bring it into my solitary celebration at the altar of the Lord.

In the eucharistic prayer, we pray for the transformation not just of the bread and wine, but the transformation of ourselves: into "one body, one spirit in Christ", "an eternal offering to [God]". In the still-strange circumstances in which we find ourselves, pray for the grace to allow God to continue to transform us, into faithful and courageous disciples.

Diocesan Faith & Justice newsletter

The latest edition of our diocesan F&J newsletter is available here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y8ltte6l>

Votive lights

Each morning when I go into church first thing, I light votive lamps for all of us at the statues of the Sacred Heart and Our Lady, and at the shrine of our martyr, St John Plessington.

If you have a particular intention for which you'd like me to light a votive candle for you, please let me know and I'll gladly do so. *Fr Geoffrey*.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Kath Eyre (Scorton), Revd Dr Peter Campbell (retired deacon of the diocese), the mother-in-law of one of our parishioners, John Parkinson (Moor Farm), Bill Campbell (Bowgreave Rise), Christine Cobane (sister-in-law of Tony Clark), Terry Horan (brother-in-law of Tony Clark), Celene Elizabeth McLaughlin, Margaret Docherty (mother of Fr Michael), Carmel Cusack (friend of Noel & Christine Birch).

Those who are ill or infirm. Jean Andrews, Roger Bevins, Vin Cahill, Paul Cain, Eileen Cartner, John Cookson, Martina Copple, Bob Cross, Simon Crossley, Dorothy Evans, Louise Gornall, Michael Hendry, Pat Hickey, Peter Holland, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe, Kevin Horan, Janet Howarth, Keith Jones, Nigel Lord, Graham Markham (Australia), Seamus Martin, Ian Moran, Pat Nickson, Caroline Nurse, Matthew Pearson, Margaret Pendleton, Sarah Preston, Francisca Rainford, Charlie Robinson (3 years old), Wendy Seed, Revd Andrew Shaw, a Sick Parishioner, Teresa Smith, Tony Smith, Colin & Marie Swarbrick, Austin Walmsley, Andrew Whipp, Ann Wicks, Louise Williams, Mary Winstanley, Ewan, Kathryn, Lucy & family.

Those whose anniversary we keep. Brian James Richardson, Francis Grayston, Charles Price, Ada Annie Oxby, Joan Billington, Terry Fitzpatrick, Canon Michael Taylor, Ellen Kelsall, Jane Winstanley, James Marsden, Philomena May, William Swarbrick, Mrs Kendrick, Betty Watson, Valerie Smith, Anthony Monaghan, Joseph Barton and Veronica Billington.

Please e-mail the parish with the name of anyone you would like to be remembered in this way.