

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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Seventh Sunday of Easter

World Communications Day of Prayer

24 May 2020

Mass intentions this week

Sunday	People of our Parishes
Monday.....	St Bede <i>priest, religious, doctor of the Church</i> Joan & Bob Tomlinson <i>58th wedding anniversary</i>
Tuesday.....	St Philip Neri <i>priest</i> Infirm clergy
Wednesday.....	ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY <i>bishop, religious, missionary</i> Gerry Steel <i>20th anniversary</i>
Thursday	Nicholas James Burns <i>RIP [GM]</i>
Friday.....	St Paul VI <i>pope</i> Brenda Richardson <i>RIP-birthday [CH]</i>
Saturday	Carmel Hayden <i>lately dead</i>

Pentecost

Sunday People of our Parishes

The end of the Season of Easter

Prayerful reflections for Ascension & Pentecost

Accompanying the newsletter this week are reflections for the Ascension of the Lord and the Seventh Sunday of Easter. These are also available on our parish website: [Liturgical Seasons / Easter](#).

Next week, there will be a reflection for Pentecost.

Praying the Rosary during May

Liz Billington has organised a group to pray the Rosary during May, **Wednesdays, 7.00pm**. She invites you to use the Zoom app, which enables participants to see and hear one another. Alternatively, simply pray the Rosary at the same time in your own home.

Download Zoom to your smart device, and register (free of charge). After you've registered, please send your e-mail address to Liz, who will then invite you to join the group meeting: stubbinsfarm@outlook.com; 07918-662711.

Intentions for prayer. At the beginning of the session, the group members mention those requesting prayers, and include these in their intentions that week. If anyone would like to request prayer, please contact Liz.

If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself, please ensure you have their permission for them to be named. If not, you can always petition for e.g. 'a private intention' or 'someone suffering from ... '.

Pentecost Rosary rally

Following the request of Pope Francis, on Pentecost, **Sunday 31 May**, there will be a Rosary rally across England, Scotland, and Wales, 9.00am-9.00pm. We are invited to pray especially for deliverance from Covid-19. We in Lancaster diocese have been asked to pray a Rosary Hour at 5.00pm.

Weekly Church Offerings

Thank you to everyone who has a Standing Order for our parishes. If other parishioners are able to support the parishes with a Standing Order, please e-mail or phone the parish and ask for one, or download one for either parish from our website.

If you give weekly through the collection, please set your donations aside at home and, once we are back to public celebrations, please make a cheque payable to the parish. This avoids folk having to count and bank the money.

Please continue your regular donations to Cafod and other charities.

Update on our Bishop

Our Bishop, Paul, is recuperating well from his bicycle's altercation with a White Van. Please continue your prayer for his full and speedy recovery.

What inspires you?

There's a page on our parish website, *Shared Words*, for parishioners to contribute poems, thoughts, etc that have been or are, meaningful to them. If you'd like to share something in this way, please e-mail it to Fr Geoffrey. Please remember to acknowledge the author and any copyright details.

Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

Together with believers in those early days of the Church, we are a people shaped by our Lord's resurrection: freed from sin; filled with the Holy Spirit; commissioned for mission.

The feast of the Ascension acclaims Christ as Lord of heaven and earth. Yet we celebrate Christ's abiding presence, proclaim the risen One who never leaves us.

Christ's ascension enabled him to continue his mission on earth, through the lives and witness of his followers, people enlivened by the Holy Spirit, this "other Advocate" of whom Jesus spoke in the gospel.

Our Lord's own ministry was inspired from the outset by the Holy Spirit. That same Spirit is now vital in the life and mission of the Church.

The Twelve had been transformed by meeting their Risen Lord, and the Acts of the Apostles tells how the witness of the Twelve connects the life of Jesus on earth with the continuing life of the Church.

Just as the Twelve strove to come to terms with their experience of Jesus, risen and glorious, so we are on a journey of similar discovery.

The gentle and insistent message of the gospel is that, because of Jesus, we share now in the life and love of God; all because of God's Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is moving among us now no less than two thousand years ago; and the more we allow ourselves to be caught up in this sacred mystery, the more we allow Jesus to be Lord in the depth of our being, the more meaningful will be our membership of this spirit-filled body of Jesus' friends, the Church, and the better we'll carry out the mission entrusted to us: to make Christ known.

Do you need practical help or support?

If you are elderly or vulnerable or self-isolating and need assistance or support, please contact our St Vincent de Paul group on their dedicated mobile number: 07535-736975.

If you know of someone who might need help, please speak to them first and then contact our SVP on their dedicated number.

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. Margaret Docherty (mother of Fr Michael), Carmel Cusack (friend of Noel & Christine Birch), John Francis Birch (brother of Noel), John & Mary Turner (brother & sister-in-law of Fr Aidan), Betty Gregson (sister-in-law of Betty Carter).

Those who are ill or infirm. Bishop Paul, Jean Andrews, Roger Bevins, Vin Cahill, Paul Cain, Eileen Cartner, Christine Cobane, John Cookson, Martina Cople, Bob Cross, Simon Crossley, Jean Dunne, 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, 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. Ann Mary Swarbrick, Thomas Richardson, Mary Agnes Gornall, Alice Bilsborrow, Timothy John Richardson, Dennis Oxby, Barbara Walters, Richard Redhead, Victor Richmond, John Garret, John Ryan, Jerome Grayston, Margaret Madge Wrennall, Renee Rafferty and Thomas Hezel.