

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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The Epiphany of the Lord

7 January 2024

Sat 6 **G** 6.00pm **Mass** Margaret Samitier *lately dead* [JW]

Sun 7 **S** 8.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes

G 10.30am **Mass** Michael Crosson *lately dead* [G+RM]

Mon 8 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

S 10.00am **Mass** Infirm clergy

First Week in Ordinary Time : Year 2 readings

Tue 9 --

Wed 10 **G** 6.30pm **Mass** Sheila Richardson *anniversary*

Thu 11 **S** 10.00am **Mass** Fr Peter Johnson *RIP*

Fri 12 St Aelred of Rievaulx *religious*

G 10.00am **Mass** Eleanor *anniv.* & Thomas Bolton *RIP* [V]

G 10.45am **Burial of Ashes : Megan Doris Clifton**

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for Peace

Sat 13 **G** 6.00pm **Mass** Mary Swarbrick *anniversary*

Sun 14 **S** 8.30am **Mass** Donald Lynch *lately dead* [V]

G 10.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place on the following dates: **7 January**, 4 February, 3 March, 7 April. "We are still a small team of catechists and would welcome and support any volunteers for this ministry." If you're able to help, please contact Nancy Walbank, directly or through the office.

Tea & coffee ...

... will be served after 10.30am Mass this Sunday, **7 January**.

Parish SVP meeting

The members of our parishes' St Vincent de Paul Society will meet on **Tuesday 9 January**, 6.30pm, in the Plessington Chapel. New members and enquirers are always welcome.

Climbing St Walburge's spire

The spire of St Walburge's church, Preston, is the tallest church spire in England. For three Saturdays in January there's an opportunity to climb the 172-steps, 309 feet, 94 metre, and enjoy the views of the city and surrounding countryside. Those heading up later will catch the sunset and see the cityscape at night.

Saturdays 13, 20, 27 January, 1.00pm-5.00pm. Children aged seven and over are allowed if accompanied by an adult. All proceeds from the tours go to the restoration and maintenance of St Walburge's. Tickets are £12 and available from [Ticket Tailor](#).

Parish Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will take place on **Wednesday 17 January**, 10am-noon, Plessington Chapel, Garstang. It's free to attend but donations are invited for charitable purposes. If you've not been before, do think about coming: it's a good opportunity to meet up with old friends and make some new ones. Hope to see you there. *The Coffee Morning Team*.

Men's trainers?

If you have any pairs of these spare, a box for collection will be at the back of church in Garstang, near the stairs, until **Sunday 28 January**. At Scorton, you can leave them near the stairs up to the organ loft.

They will be forwarded to the *Jesuit Refugee Service* who have an ongoing need. *Many thanks*.

Cemeteries and grounds

Many thanks indeed to all those who have helped to maintain our cemeteries over the past year, and a special thanks to the ladies – we hope the gents don't mind – who have worked tirelessly on the pots, planted areas, shrubbery, and bushes. We hope you have gained a certain amount of satisfaction from all your efforts.

To other parishioners: if you would like to help over the coming year, please let me know and I will point you in the appropriate direction. Fr G

Christmas greetings from Chivuna

Dear Father and all Parishioners of Ss Mary and Michael's church, Warm greetings this Christmas.

It is my prayer and hope that all of you are fine. May the birth of Christ bring each one of you peace, love, and joy. Merry Christmas.

We are fine and started receiving regular rainfall last week and the people's hearts are joyful because it has been so dry, and fear of hunger in the coming year was so high.

We are really grateful for your prayers and financial support. The clinic managed to procure a gear box and it was brought to Chivuna last week awaiting fixing. It was quite difficult to find this spare part. It was bought from Malawi as we couldn't find it in Zambia. The Landcruiser will be handy during this rain season.

Wishing you joy, good health, and all blessings in the New Year. *Sr Mutinta*

St Vincent de Paul Society

Thank you all so much for the generous response to the recent SVP collection. A total of £615 was given, including £54 from Scorton. We will be making good use of the money early in the New Year to help local families in need, as well as supporting the SVP baby feeding programme in Sudan.

With blessings and sincere thanks for your kindness. *SVP Garstang & Scorton.*

Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bishop Paul invites you to join him on the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, **21-28 July**. Booking forms are available at the back of our churches, or to download on the diocesan Lourdes website: www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk. Alternatively, contact Joe Walsh Tours, 0161-8208790. More information from Linda Wisdom, operationsdirector@lancasterlourdes.co.uk.

Molly Singleton RIP

St Mary & St Michael's is very grateful to Laurence Singleton, for a donation of £500 donation in memory of his late mother, Molly.

We'll put the donation towards the cost of repairing the next section of our cemetery paths, which we'll need to attend to during this year.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations go to Heather Every and Celia Lowe who are our December winners and Mrs Winnie Parker and Philip Wood who are our Christmas winners.

Happy New Year and thank you all for your support with our Parish Draw during 2023.

If you would like to know more about our Parish Draw contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon via the parish office.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. George Williams, James Parkinson.

Those who are ill or infirm. Pat McKenna, Joe Rooney, Bert Lowe, Vicki Doherty, Deacon D'Arcy Ryan, Carley Cowburn, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Mary McCann, Fr Bob Horn, Pat Errington, Rita Whittaker, Margaret Brocklehurst, Rory Montgomery, Mary Jo Counsell, Theresa Thompson, Caroline Nurse, Philippa Haynes, 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, Jessica Holmes.

Those whose anniversary we keep. Fr Arthur Speight, Sarah Ann Garvey, Eira Weaver, John Edwards, Annie Bisby, Mary Alexander Kenyon, Gerard Swarbrick, Vincent Parker, Stephen John O'Regan, Winifred Doyle, Mary Dickinson, Theresa Cole (1st anniversary), John Finlay, Frank Higham, Rev Patrick Smyth, Christopher John Newman, Peter Winstanley, Jane Greenall, Beryl Bellamy, Marina Poulton, Monica Elder-Woodward, Teresa Fox, James Wilson, Rosemary Austin, Monica Jepson, Winifred Kavanagh, Paul Haslehurst and John Tully.