

**St Mary and St Michael's Catholic Church
Garstang and Calder Vale
and
SS Mary & James, Scorton**

Parishes of the Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity, no. 234331



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Fr Geoffrey Steel & Rev Deacon D'Arcy Ryan (Retired)
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30th November / 1st December 2019
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Year A



"Stay awake so that you may be ready."

We welcome SS Mary & Michael's school children, who are taking a lead in our Mass this Sunday at the 10.30am Mass.

This Sunday – 1st Sunday of Advent Special Collection for Poor Missions

Hummingbirds Christmas Fair this Sunday, 1st Dec from 11.30 am to approximately 1 pm. Refreshments available as well as Santa's Grotto, Tombola, Raffle AND Turkey Sandwiches! (no tea/coffee after Mass). *Please do come to support us!*

A Rosary Service Carmelite Church Fulwood, Tues 3rd Dec at 2.00pm. We will pray for all expectant mothers and their unborn babies. Speaker: Fr Paddy Duffy. See poster.

Coffee Morning time again! On Wednesday 4th December, 10am to 12 noon, in the Plessington Chapel at Garstang we will have our monthly Coffee Morning. This week it promises to be even more special as Infant Children from School will join us to sing their Nativity songs; this is always a lovely occasion! Everyone welcome.

First Eucharist / First Reconciliation We are starting to prepare for the 2020 Holy Communion programme for children in year 3. If you have a child or know of any children that do not attend SS Mary & Michael's School, Garstang who would wish to take part in the programme, could you please inform Fr Geoffrey as soon as possible.

Garstang Church Shop: Christmas cards and gifts now on sale after Sunday Masses. We would appreciate volunteer/s to ensure the shop can open each Sunday after the 10.30am Mass during Advent. Please contact Jen on 602341 if you can do this. *Thank you*

Churches of Scorton are holding a Christmas Meal Together 2019 at the Priory, Friday 6th December, 6.30 for 7.00pm at SS Mary & James, Scorton. Bring a friend, all welcome – 3 courses £18; 2 courses: £16. See poster at the back of church.

Advent Vigil Cardinal Newman College, Tuesday 3rd December, 6.30pm (see poster)

The Catholic Voice Newspapers for December 2019 are now available – please take your free copy from the back of church.

SVP The total from the recent collection is £446.70. Thank you to our parishes of Garstang and Scorton.

Stars at Christmas – 2019 This year we will continue our established tradition of hanging stars in our church at Christmas. By writing the names of loved ones on a star we symbolise the prayers we offer on their behalf whilst we worship together during this important time of the year. There is no charge, but any donation you choose to make will go towards helping the poor people of Chivuna. Stars will be available from 7th Dec.

Live Simply In 2015, Pope Francis in his encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*: 'care for our common home' called us to 'Live Simply so that others may simply live'. There is an urgent need for radical change in our conduct and the ill-considered exploitation of nature... we are called to: 'Live simply and sustainably in solidarity with the poor'. With this in mind, the Cafod group would like to invite you, throughout Advent, to participate in a 'reverse Advent calendar'. Rather than receive, we ask that you donate some of the items listed on the calendar (copies available at back of church **or can be downloaded from the link on the Live Simply page on our website**) each week of Advent. All items donated will be collected and delivered weekly to Sr Eileen for the Food Bank at Share-IT in Ingol. For further information please contact Helen on 01995 238652. *Thank you*
"Love, a Guide for Prayer" by **J. S. Bergan & S. M. Schwan**: 3 prayer periods, based on sessions in this book, are being offered in the Plessington Chapel on Tuesdays Dec 3, 10 and 17, 7.00pm for 7.15pm start with prompt 8.15pm close. Each session stands alone so you can taste and see if it is for you, with no commitment needed. Please come along if you feel drawn to put a toe in the water! No-one will be put on the spot. The main focus will be on guided silent prayer. For enquiries contact Winifride Adamson 01995 606245, Vee Bolton 604973 and Pat Costain 605793.

Catholicism Series of DVDs, including commentary (on DVD) by Bishop Robert Barron, acclaimed author, theologian and engaging speaker, commencing Thurs, 5th December at 7.00pm, in the Plessington Chapel at the back of SS Mary & Michael's Church. This is an opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith, open to all, Catholic and non-Catholic. Film / discussion / questions. Everyone is welcome.

'The God Who Speaks' Advent Series begins Thursday 5th December, with the talk 'John 1: The Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us' by Br John Michael OFM, a Franciscan Friar involved with the THOMAS Project in Blackburn, working with those on the margins of society. 7.30 – 9.30pm, St Wilfrid's Parish Centre, Preston. ALL WELCOME! More information at the back of church or please contact Joe/Ruth on 07957 566741 www.metanoiproject.co.uk.

Apostleship of the Sea Christmas cards available at the back of church; to send greetings to seafarers who are a long way from home at this time of year please write a card and put it in the box provided (please do not include your surname/contact details; envelopes will be provided). They will be passed on by the Apostleship of the Sea port chaplains; we understand they make a real difference. *Thank you.*

Oaklands (former Leonard Cheshire Home on Dimples Lane) table-top sale on Sat, 7th December, 1pm-4 pm. Tables available in advance at £8 by calling 01995 602290, or from Paul Ferguson on 07944 603684. On the day, entry will be £1 for adults, children free; refreshments available. *All welcome; come and grab yourself a bargain!*

Warm clothing for homeless people You are invited to donate items of warm clothing: coats, scarves, gloves, socks, hats, etc. Please leave them at the back of either Garstang or Scorton church, clearly labelled. *Thank you*

Castlerigg Manor Advent Retreat 6th-8th December, open to young people in year 9 and above. It is a great opportunity for young people to step back from the busy-ness of life and spend some time with God and with other young people. They often tell us these experiences and the friendships they make are what sustain them in their faith. See website for more info: www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/events-whats-on

'Lancashire Sings Christmas' A countywide event organised by Churches Together in Lancashire with Radio Lancashire. This year we have a live link at St Peter's Church, Scorton. **Thursday, 19th December:** gather at 6.00pm for broadcast from 7.00-8.00pm. All welcome, and let's have a good representation from our parishes. For more information: <https://lancashiresingschristmas.co.uk/>

Preston Orpheus Choir "A 90th Season's Festive Christmas" featuring Freckleton Brass Band. Saturday 14th December from 7 pm, St Michael & All Angels, Egerton Road, Preston, PR2 1AJ. Pay on door: Adults £12; under 18s £5; Family: £30. For further information see poster at back of church.

Monthly Prayer Meeting for Schools: An ecumenical group of Garstang parishioners who pray together for all who work in our local schools, sharing prayer requests and supporting adults & children in their work and faith. Representatives from our Church and School would be greatly welcomed and encouraged by quiet time of devotion & dedication in prayer. Next date **Fri 6th Dec 2-3pm** at Garstang Free Methodist Church. For further enquiries contact Julia Horn 601508/Alex Fernhead 606738.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sheila Bourke, lately dead. *May she rest in peace.*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time in Garstang and

Scorton: Margaret Stopforth, Nellie Bateson, William Kelsall, Joseph Smith, Grace Lillian Salles, May Ball, Bridie O'Connor, James Aloysius Horn, William Morrison, Robert Bilsborrow, Mary Bilsborrow, Lucy Walmsley, Richard Noel Bamber, William Norman Nixon, Winifred Storey, John Skillen and Marie McGrath. *May they rest in peace. (There are blank forms at the back of both Sts Mary & Michael & Sts Mary & James' Churches on which can be added the name of anyone you would like to be remembered in this way.)*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners,

families and friends in Scorton and Garstang, including: Janet Howarth, Austin Walmsley, Eileen Cartner, Andrew Whipp, Brenda Richardson, Charlie Robinson (3 years old), Ellen Worsley, Simon Crossley, Mary Winstanley, Kevin Horan, Paul Cain, Frances Dickinson, Jean Dunne, Louise Williams, Teresa Smith, John Cookson, Reverend Andrew Shaw, Wendy Seed, Graham Markham (Australia), Louise Gornall, Colin and Marie Swarbrick, Jacqui Elliot, Pat Nickson, a Sick Parishioner, Seamus Martin, Peter Holland, Kathryn, Vin Cahill, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Matthew Pearson, Dorothy Evans, Christine Cobane, Ian Moran, David Winstanley, Pat Hickey, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Lucy and Family, Ann Wicks, Jessica Holmes and Phoebe. *(If you would like to add someone, please ask the person involved if they wish to be put on the sick list, write down their name and hand it to Father or to D'arcy, or send in by email. Please also let us know when a name is to be removed. Thank you.)*

Wednesday Word – copies for the Sunday Masses of 8th November can be found on green paper at the back of church. If you would like a copy, please help yourself.

Psalm response

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 30th November – Sunday 8th December 2019

Sat	30 th	6.00 pm (Garstang)	Neal Walmsley RIP
Sun	1 st Dec	8.30 am (Scorton)	All Our Parishioners
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Bill & Nellie Bateson RIP
Mon	2 nd	9.30 am (Scorton)	Alice Graham RIP
Tue	3 rd	No Mass	
Wed	4 th	7.00 pm (Garstang)	Brian Winstanley RIP
Thurs	5 th	9.30 am (Garstang)	Anthony & Maureen Ingleby RIP
Fri	6 th	9.30 am (Scorton)	Simon Ryan RIP
Sat	7 th	9.30 am (Garstang)	All Our Parishioners
		6.00 pm (Garstang)	Tony McManmon RIP
Sun	8 th	8.30 am (Scorton)	Rev Michael Tully & Family RIP
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Cathie Cadden RIP

Devotions and Celebrations this week

Wed	4 th	6.45 pm (Garstang)	Rosary
Sat	7 th	9.00 am (Scorton)	Saturday Liturgy of the Word
		10 - 10.30 am (Garstang)	Confessions

Special Days this week:

Sun	1 st Dec	First Sunday of Advent, Year A	
Tues	3 rd	St Francis Xavier	
		Migrants Day	
Sat	7 th	St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor	
Sun	8 th	Second Sunday of Advent, Year A	Bible Sunday

Meetings this Week:

Tues	3 rd	7.00pm	1st of 3 guided prayer periods, based on 'Love, a Guide for Prayer'
Wed	4 th	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	5 th	7.00pm	Catholicism series dvd

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	16 th	6.00 pm (Garstang)	Adults: 137	Children: 14	Total: 151
		8.00 am (Scorton)			Total: 69
Sun	17 th	10.30 am (Garstang)	Adults: 108	Children: 17	Total: 125

Monies Received last week:

Garstang: Offertory: (Inc. £390 Standing Orders): £1,065; Special Collection - Youth Services: £145.00; Votive Lights: £41; Shop: £50. *Many thanks to you all.*

Scorton: Offertory (Inc. £150 standing orders): £298.51; Votive Lights: £14.24; Special Collection - Youth Services: £61.03. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

Ecumenical Morning Prayer is held at 7.45 am each Tuesday in December at SS Mary & Michael's.

Hymns at 6.00 pm (Garstang):

Ent:	On Jordan's Bank	94
Gloria:		
G.A.	Stay awake, be ready	72
Off:	In bread we bring you, Lord	609
Sanctus:	Celtic	553
Amen:	Save us, Saviour of the world	554c
Com:		
Rec:	Keep on looking	320
	(tune: Ode to Joy)	

Hymns at 10.30 am Mass (Garstang):

Ent:	Maranatha	64
Kyrie:	Russian	519
G.A:	Triple + Missal	
Off:	Take our bread	605
S,D:	Celtic	553, 554a, 555
A,D	Paul Inwood (v 1,6,7,8)	611a
Com: (1)	Oh Lord hear my prayer	929
(2)	May you walk	253
(3)	Wait for the Lord	88
Rec:	City of God	824