

**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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14th / 15th March 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)



*"Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again;
but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirst again."*

Coronavirus: updated instructions from our Bishop The Bishop has issued the following instructions in addition to those from last week:

- Advise those most vulnerable (elderly, people with weakened immune systems and long term conditions like cancer, diabetes and heart disease) to refrain from large parish gatherings and stay at home.
- Suspend catering (teas, coffees etc.) at large parish gatherings where multiple people touch mugs, utensils, biscuits etc.

As was said last week, the sign of peace at Mass is suspended; Holy Communion from the chalice is suspended; everyone is encouraged to receive Communion in the hand; Holy Water stoups are empty; Ministers of Communion will sanitise their hands before distributing Holy Communion, and we will pick up our own copies of hymnbooks and missals. Finally, our own personal responsibility: for the good of all, and especially those among us most at risk, everyone, please wash your hands thoroughly and regularly in hot soapy water, use tissues in which to sneeze or cough. If you have a noticeable cough or cold, it might well not be Coronavirus but, at this time especially, it can be unsettling for those around you in church so stay at home, ... especially if you have a standing order! Please pray for all who are ill with the virus, all medical staff, and those working in medical research. *Thank you, Fr Geoffrey.*

The advice can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/COVID19-Guidelines-3-090320-1648.pdf>

In light of the Bishop's last point, I think we have to suspend tea & coffee & biscuits after Sunday Mass in both parishes, suspend the Whist & Dominoes, and also suspend the Wednesday coffee mornings. Although these aren't "large parish gatherings", these events take place in tight spaces, and multiple people are touching mugs, utensils, biscuits etc. Also, during this time of concern, Mass, Morning Prayer, and Rosary at Garstang will be in the main church, rather than in the Plessington Chapel. This will enable us to have the recommended space between us. *Thank you. Fr Geoffrey.*

The Breaking of the Bread – In the official instructions for celebrating Mass, we are encouraged to use bread that the priest is able to break into parts and distribute to the congregation. The use of larger breads will foster an awareness of the fundamental Eucharistic symbolism in which the whole assembly, priest and people, share in the same bread. This breaking of bread, which gave its name to the Eucharist in the days of the apostles, expresses more clearly the sign of unity of all in the one bread, and of the sign of charity by the fact that the one bread is distributed among the brothers and sisters. (See 1 Corinthians. Beginning on the Third Sunday of Lent, 14-15 March, in both parishes we'll be using the larger breads you will already have seen me use. This also enables us to have as few vessels on the altar as possible and enhance the symbolism of the One Bread, broken and shared. *Thank you. Fr Geoffrey.*

Ministries and roles for Holy Week

Our two parishes will be celebrating the special Holy Week liturgies together at Garstang. **Readers** from both parishes are invited to serve. Also, if you're not usually a Reader and would like to take a turn, you are more than welcome to do so.

Holy Thursday: If you'd like to be involved in the Rite of Washing Feet, please let Frank Miller know. Tel: 01995 604 030; email: frankmiller_bhs@hotmail.com.

Lent Devotions – Stations of the Cross – During Lent this year some of our parishioners, as individuals or on behalf of various groups, will be leading the Stations, **Fridays at Garstang, 7.00pm; Sundays at Scorton, 4.00pm.**

Friday, 20th March - Mary & Roger Mason (theme Mothers' Day)

Friday, 27th March - school with Alison Dodd **NB: at 2.00 pm, NOT 7.00 pm.**

Friday, 3rd April - Winifride & Manus Adamson (theme Parents)

Friday, 10th April (Good Friday) - Youth Group. Please do come to this special devotion.

St Vincent de Paul Society – The next meeting of the SVP is at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 17th March, in the Castle Lane Community Centre.

Prayerful Preparation for Fourth Sunday of Lent The insert in the bulletin is to help us pray and reflect on the Scripture of the Sunday to come.

Lenten Lunches at Scorton – These have been cancelled.

Lenten Lunches in Garstang – Provided by each local church in turn at the United Reformed Church Hall every Wednesday at 12 o'clock. Please support them. St Mary & Michael's date is **Wednesday 18th March**. Could you make a definite commitment to either make a pan of soup; or spare up to 2 hours to serve the food? Please ring me to offer either. Philippa Catterall 01995 238331. *(This may be subject to change.)*

SVP Clothing Collection: The final clothing collection for former male prisoners for this winter will be 21st/22nd March. Donations may be left in the area beside the balcony steps.

Date for your diary – Weekend for Women Event on 18th – 19th April 2020 at St Cuthbert's, The Old Convent, Wigton CA7 9HU, let by the women from the Cor et Lumen Christi Community. See leaflet and booking form at the back of church.

London Marathon – At the ripe old age of 71 I have decided to run London Marathon again and would really appreciate it if you could sponsor me for the charity **Mary's Meals**. Mary's Meals is focused on one goal – that every child receives a nutritious daily meal in a place of education. I think that actually hits two goals – a good meal AND an education – because to get the meal parents have to send their child to school! Around 64 million of the world's hungriest children do not attend school. In order to survive, they have to work or beg. So there is still a lot of work to do. Currently it costs £15.90 to feed a child school meals for one year. I will be at the back of St Mary & St Michael's next weekend, 21-22 March, and will leave sponsor forms there. There will also be sponsor forms at the back of St Mary & St James. *Thank you. Frank Miller.*

Finance & Property Committee (Garstang) – One key outcome from two recent meetings is the continuing need of the Parish to maintain the necessary funds required to run it. We have decided to explore the opportunities provided by external funders, e.g. Charitable Trusts and Foundations who provide grants to suitable applicants. We therefore need someone who would be willing to approach these types of organisations on behalf of the parish. We have a list of organisations to start with. Please let me know if you can help. *Thank you. Fr Geoffrey.*

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Father Gerald O'Mahoney SJ who died recently. *May he rest in peace.*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time in Garstang and Scorton: Ellen Wells, John James Dewhurst, Celia Lamoury, Agnes Rossall, John Kirkman, Barbara Nelmes, Winifred Moran, Tom Horn, Josephine Seed, John Swift, George Bernard Clarey, André Ferguson, Ann Rigg, Re Bernard Whiteside and Betty Gornall. *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: Jean Andrews, Keith Jones, Tony Smith, Sarah Preston, Roger Bevins, Margaret Pendleton, 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, 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.)*

Response to the psalm at the 10.30 am Mass:

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 14th – Sunday 22nd March 2020

Sat	14 th	6.00 pm Vigil (Garstang)	Sue Tomlinson RIP
Sun	15 th	8.30 (Scorton)	Betty Gornall RIP
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Gerald Whittaker RIP
Mon	16 th	9.30 am (Scorton)	Mgr Michael Tully & Parents RIP
Tue	17 th		No Mass
Wed	18 th	7.00 pm (Garstang)	Hugh and André Ferguson RIP
Thurs	19 th	9.30 am (Garstang)	Neal Walmsley RIP
Fri	20 th	9.30 am (Scorton)	Brian Winstanley RIP
Sat	21 st	9.30 am (Garstang)	Infirm Clergy
		6.00 pm Vigil (Garstang)	Diane Pattinson Lately Dead
Sun	22 nd	8.30 am (Scorton)	All Our Parishioners
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Thomas and Eleanor Bolton RIP

Devotions and Celebrations this week

Wed	18 th	6.45 pm	Rosary (Garstang)
Fri	20 th	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross (Garstang)
Sat	21 st	9.00 am	Saturday Liturgy of the Word (Scorton)
Sun	22 nd	4.00 pm	Stations of the Cross (Scorton)

Special Days this week:

Sun	15 th	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
Tues	17 th	ST PATRICK
Wed	18 th	St Cyril of Jerusalem
Thurs	19 th	ST JOSEPH
Sun	22 nd	FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Meetings this Week:

Tues	17 th	7.30 pm	St Vincent de Paul Society (Castle Lane Community Centre)
Wed	18 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice (Plessington Chapel)
Thurs	19 th	6.30 pm	1 st Holy Communion meeting (session 2)

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	7 th	6.00 pm (Garstang)	Adults: 114	Children: 7	Total: 121
Sun	8 th	8.30 am (Scorton)			Total: 59
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Adults: 117	Children: 30	Total: 147

Monies Received last week:

Garstang: Offertory: £1,015 (Inc. £390 Standing Orders); Donations for Sound System: £25; Votive Lights: £50; Funerals (+ Donation): £460.

Many thanks to you all.

Scorton: Offertory: £298.60 (Inc. £150 Standing Orders); Votive Lights: £5.20; Family Fast Day: £27.50. **Many thanks to you all.**

Churches Together in Garstang & District

Ecumenical Morning Prayer is held at 7.45 am each Tuesday in March at Garstang URC.

Hymns at 6.00 pm (Garstang):

Ent:
Gloria:
G.A.

Off:
S,M,D
Com:
Rec:

Hymns at 10.30 am Mass (Garstang):

Ent: As the deer pants 965
Kyrie: No. 1 (Taizé) 516
G.A: Praise to you O Christ + Missal
Off: Almighty Father, Lord most high 602
S,M,D: Schubert 576, 577a, 578
A.D: Communion Song 3 611a
Com: 1) O God, you search me 779
2) Jesus, remember me 253
Rec: O Lord, my God 721