

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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Palm Sunday

28 March 2021

Liturgies this week

Sat	G	10.00am	Mass	Hugh & André Ferguson <i>RIP</i> [LB]
Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	Intentions of LMS
	G	10.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
Mon	S	10.00am	Mass	Teresa Smith <i>lately dead</i> [PG]
	G	11.30am	Burial Liturgy : John Towers	
Tue		---		
Wed	G	6.30pm	Mass	John Towers <i>lately dead</i>
		7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>

The Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday

G	6.30 pm	EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	Judith Swarbrick <i>anniversary</i> [LB]
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Good Friday

S	11.00 am	Stations of the Cross	
G	3.00 pm	CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION	

Easter Eve

G	6.30pm	FIRST MASS OF EASTER	People of our Parishes
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Easter Day

S	8.30am	Mass	Fr Michael Tully & Parents <i>RIP</i>
G	10.30am	Mass	Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue <i>lately dead</i>

Celebrating Holy Week & Easter

From Bishop Paul to the priests, 3 March 2021. "Please be careful not to give any impression that things are returning to normal at the present time – they are not. Even though places of worship have had, so far, a great deal of success in being Covid-secure establishments, we are still asked to hold essential church services only and our liturgies must be kept brief."

How do we keep our liturgies brief, yet unhurried? Working within the restrictions and prohibitions, how do we best ensure that the principal elements of these ancient liturgies remain front and centre?

For each of the liturgies there will be a leaflet giving the outline of the rite and any necessary instructions for the congregation.

Booking for the liturgies is essential. Forms are available in the benches, online, and in the presbytery yard.

Palm Sunday

Palms will be blessed within all three Masses on the Saturday and Sunday.

Holy Thursday, 6.30pm.

Although there can be no 'watching' at an altar of repose, there will be a short period of adoration at the end of Mass, before the Blessed Sacrament is carried to the sacristy.

Good Friday, Celebration of the Lord's Passion, 3.00pm

The Veneration of the Cross will have to be different. The Wood of the Cross, covered, will be set in place beforehand. During the Liturgy when the Wood of the Cross is revealed, all genuflect in adoration. You will be asked to make a profound bow to the Wood of the Cross later in the liturgy, when you process past it on your way to Holy Communion.

Easter Eve, 6.30pm

It can't be a 'vigil' this year because we are unable to gather round the Easter fire or distribute candles. We will proclaim the essential reading from Exodus and the Easter Gospel. The Exsultet and Solemn Alleluias will be sung by soloists; since people cannot reply in song, those who have a small bell at home might like to bring it and ring it at the conclusion of these chants, to welcome in the Easter Season joyfully. We will renew our baptismal promises and celebrate the first Easter Eucharist.

Thank you for all your support and understanding. Let's all of us continue to play our part in keeping ourselves and others safe. God bless, *Fr Geoffrey*.

Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem

The Ignatian Spirituality Centre is offering a link to view on Zoom the Stations of the Cross on the Vía Dolorosa in Jerusalem. It takes place every **Friday**, 2.00-300pm. Register for the Stations on this link and they will send you the link by email: <https://sites.google.com/view/geneva-isc/home>

Holy Week in our homes

Various resources are available to help our prayer and reflection, whether we are able to come to church or not:

Daily Retreat

Recognising that many people will still be spending Holy Week at home this year, we have prepared a retreat to follow at home. The retreat comprises a daily *Examen*, scripture and reflection focusing on one of the readings you would hear in the Liturgy. They are available on our website: see Liturgical Seasons / Holy Week. Printed copies are available at the back of church and in the presbytery yard. Might you give some time each day in Holy Week?

Prayer leaflets

Simple liturgies for us to celebrate in our homes during Holy Week, prepared by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, are on our website: see Liturgical Seasons / Holy Week. Printed copies of these leaflets are available in the presbytery yard, with the printed newsletters

Readers at Mass in Garstang

We are rather short of Readers for Mass in Garstang. If any of you who have previously served as Readers would like to resume your ministry, please contact Frank Miller.

This is an opportunity to invite anyone else who attends Mass with us to discern whether you might serve the liturgy as a Reader. If so, in the first instance, please have a word with Fr Geoffrey.

It's unlikely that our Ministers of Holy Communion will be able to resume their ministry at Mass any time soon. If you'd like to take a turn serving as a Reader instead, please contact Frank Miller.

Easter collection

In our diocese the Easter collection forms a significant portion of the priests' income for the year. Thank you for your support. *Fr Geoffrey*.

Gift Aid envelopes

Gift Aid Envelopes 2021 - 2022 are now ready for collection at the back of church. Thank you for the support you give to the church.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations to our March winners, Bob Tomlinson and Gerry Morley; and to all who take part in the draw: thank you for supporting our parish.

Keeping us all safe

During this pandemic all churches open for public worship have had a duty to keep all parishioners as safe as they can. For us that has involved frequent submissions to the diocese outlining how we are doing this and the steps we have taken. In our churches we have set up a hand sanitiser station, encouraged you to use Track & Trace, ensuring that those who can are wearing a face covering and that social distancing measures are in place.

Even though the vaccination roll out is going well we have been told that we must not yet relax these steps. Mass takes place because we have taken these precautions, and also because of the fantastic work of our small team of stewards and cleaning staff. Without their help and support we would not be able to open. Thank you for your continued understanding.

Michael Hoffman & Kevin Morley, *H&S Leads*, Garstang & Scorton.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Jimmy O'Neill (nephew of Marion), John Towers, Teresa Smith.

Those who are ill or infirm. Joan Wilkes, Doug Willoughby, James Costain jr, Barry Robinson, Viktoria Nurse, Elaine Stajniack, Austin Walmsley, Ethel Davis, Anne Hunt, John Skillen, Jean Andrews, Keith Jones, Tony Smith, Sarah Preston, Roger Bevins, Andrew Whipp, Charlie Robinson (4 years old), Simon Crossley, Kevin Horan, Jean Dunne, John Cookson, Revd Andrew Shaw, Wendy Seed, Graham Markham (Australia), Colin & Marie Swarbrick, Seamus Martin, Peter Holland, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe.

Those whose anniversary we keep. James Pooler, James Pedder, Mary Carr, Mary Carter, Fleetwood Carter, Fr Odran Callan, Alice Helme, Marie Calvert, John Ellwood, Mary Horn, Frank Gornall, William Darwen, Shirley Hawes and John Bevins.