

# 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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## First Sunday of Advent

Last Sunday in Ordinary Time

I December 2024

Sat	30	G	6.00pm	Mass	Maureen Pyke <i>anniversary</i>
Sun	1	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Lucas Backhouse <i>RIP</i> [B.MCC]
Mon	2	S	10.00am	Mass	Snape family <i>RIP</i>
Tue	3	--			
Wed	4				<b>St Francis Xavier</b> <i>priest, missionary</i>
					<b>Day of Prayer for Migrants &amp; Refugees</b>
		G	6.30pm	Mass	Anthony Ingleby <i>RIP-birthday</i>
			7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	5	S	10.00am	Mass	Intentions of Fr Sony [MB]
Fri	6	G	10.00am	Mass with the school	<i>all welcome</i> John Bolton <i>RIP</i>
		G	10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	
Sat	7	G	10.00am	Liturgy of Reconciliation	

## Second Sunday of Advent

Sat	7	G	6.00pm	Mass	Terry & Sheila Murphy <i>RIP</i>
Sun	8	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Intentions of Keith Donoghue [M.P.]
		G	12 noon	Baptism of Harlie Lillian Czarnota-Bond	

### Calling all Readers : new Lectionary

The new edition of the *Lectionary* comes into use this Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent. There are enough changes in the text to catch us all out, me included. The layout of the pages is also significantly different.

Those of you who are reading during Advent might like to photograph the relevant pages from the *Lectionary*, to assist your preparation. Alternatively, there are a couple of copies of the Sunday Missal 2025 in the sacristies for Readers to borrow. But the layout of the Sunday Missal is not the same as the layout of the Lectionary.

**Additional Readers?** 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.

If anyone would like to join the roster for Readers at **Scorton**, you would be very welcome. Please contact Denise Morley.

This is an opportunity to invite anyone who attends Mass with us to discern whether you might serve the liturgy as a Reader. If you'd like to, please let me know. I'll gladly offer some preparation; you won't be left to sink or swim. Many thanks, Fr *Geoffrey*.

### Parish SVP meeting

The members of our parishes' St Vincent de Paul Society will meet on **Thursday 5 December**, 6.30pm, at Philippa's house. (Contact the parish office for details.) New members and enquirers are always welcome.

### Advent Liturgy of Reconciliation

We will celebrate our Advent Liturgy for our parishes, **Saturday 7 December**, 10.00am, Garstang. An opportunity to pray for reconciliation and healing: in our hearts, our families, and in the wider world with all its conflict and pain.

### Dates for your diary

*Deanery Liturgy of Reconciliation*, **Thursday 12 December**, 6.00pm, at the cathedral. An opportunity for individual confession.

Concert by Lancaster Singers and children from our school, **Tuesday 17 December**, 7.30pm, SSMM.

*Christmas Masses*: As last year, because it worked really well: **Tuesday 24 December**, 6.00pm, Garstang; **Wednesday 25 December**, 8.30am, Scorton; 10.30am, Garstang.

## 6.00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Once again, we will be operating an allocated seating plan for this Mass. If you wish to attend, please complete the Seat Request form or email directly [ssmm.christmas.mass@gmail.com](mailto:ssmm.christmas.mass@gmail.com).

Please supply the following information: Your name; number of seats required; number of those U12; any special requests/considerations (e.g. mobility issues, disabled parking space); contact phone number (mobile preferred).

Please note that we will only be using the main body of the church: current fire regulations mean we cannot use the balcony or have parishioners standing at the back of church.

Seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis, and every effort will be made to accommodate everyone who wants to attend. There are no restrictions on the number in a bench and all rows will be filled to their safe capacity. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

## Thanks from Chivuna

“Dear Father, Greetings to you and all the Parishioners of St Mary and Michael’s Church. I am writing on behalf of Chivuna Mission Rural Health Centre to thank you and all our friends for the money received last month. May the Lord continue blessing you. Kindest regards to all our friends. *Sr Mutinta*.” (The parish was able to transfer £2,000 this year.)

## CAFOD World Gifts

Buying CAFOD’s virtual World Gifts makes a real difference for our sisters and brothers facing the injustice of poverty around the world. There is a range of beautifully illustrated cards, each representing a gift of hope, inspired by real people and real needs. Cards can be sent by post, as an eCard, or printed at home. Purchase World Gifts, Advent calendars, etc. at [www.worldgifts.cafod.org.uk](http://www.worldgifts.cafod.org.uk), or pick up a catalogue in church.

## Christmas Concert

St Peter’s church, Scorton, is holding a Christmas Concert, **Saturday 14 December**, 7.30pm, with around forty choristers of Blackburn People’s Choir. A festive evening of carols and song; mulled wine and mince pies, and other refreshments. Buy tickets on the door or pre-book through [contact@unitedparish.co.uk](mailto:contact@unitedparish.co.uk). £5 for adults, £3 for concessions, children free.

## Special collection this weekend: Diocesan Poor Missions Fund

This weekend there is the annual collection for the *poor parishes of our diocese*. There will be a second basket at the back of both churches.

## Sunday Missal 2025 / Fr Keefe’s book

If you ordered a copy of the Sunday Missal 2025 or Fr Anthony’s collection of his homilies, they’re in the sacristy at Garstang and at the back of church in Scorton. Please leave your money in an envelope with your name.

## Christmas cards

Christmas cards and gifts are now available from the church shop at Garstang. All proceeds to the upkeep of the church. *Thank you*.

## Votive lights : please take care

On the votive candle stands, please **only light votive candles within the individual holders**. Because of the risk of fire, they are not to be placed anywhere else on the stand, or balanced on top of each other. Thank you.

If no individual holders are available, leave your unlit candles on the altar rails nearby and they will be added to the stand when space becomes free.

## Please pray for ...

**Those who have died recently.** Fr Bob Horn, David Stubbs, Fr Alf Parker.

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Deacon Jim Maguire, Liz Boden, Deacon Michael Dolan, Bob Tomlinson, Fr Tony Walsh, Steve Masterman, Rita Marley, Bob Cookson, Pat Stockdale, Jim Costain, Fr Michael Murphy, Pat McKenna, Joe Rooney, Bert Lowe, Deacon D’Arcy Ryan, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, 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.

**Those whose anniversary we keep.** William Kelsall, Joseph Smith, Patrick (Pat) Henry, Grace Lillian Salles, May Ball, Bridie O’Connor, James Aloysius Horn, William Morrison, Robert Bilsborrow, Mary Bilsborrow, Lucy Walmsley, Richard Noel Bamber, Joan Wilcock, William Norman Nixon, Winifred Storey, John Skillen, Marie McGrath, James (Jim) Parkinson, Catherine Mary Andrews, Marie Clark, and Thomas Moxham.