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
ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com : www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

27 July 2025

Sat	26	**G**	6.00pm	**Mass**	Sheila Murphy *anniversary*
Sun	27	**S**	8.30am	**Mass**	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	**Mass**	Betty Carter *3rd anniversary*
Mon	28	**S**	10.00am	**Mass**	In thanksgiving [J]
Tue	29	---			
Wed	30	**G**	6.30pm	**Mass**	Deacon D'Arcy Ryan *lately dead* [FC]
			7.00pm	**Rosary**	*in our homes*
Thu	**31**	**St Ignatius of Loyola** *priest, religious founder*			
		S	10.00am	**Mass**	Muriel Metcalfe *RIP*
Fri	**1**	**St Alphonsus Mary Liguori** *bishop, religious founder, doctor of the Church*			
		G	10.00am	**Mass**	Martha & John Bashall *RIP* [HF]
		G	10.30am	**Sacrament of Reconciliation**	

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	2	**G**	6.00pm	**Mass**	Deacon D'Arcy Ryan *lately dead* [N+CB]
Sun	3	**S**	8.30am	**Mass**	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	**Mass**	Diane Pattinson *RIP-birthday* & Neal Walmsley *RIP*

Headteacher changes

From Paul McCann, Chair of Governors: Mrs Archibald has been appointed as the new Headteacher at St Ignatius Primary in Preston. Obviously we are very disappointed to lose her but wish her every success in her new role.

I'm delighted to announce that after a successful recruitment process we have appointed Mrs Alison Dodd as her successor. Mrs Dodd is currently Assistant Head at Holy Family in Warton. Many of you will know her through her work in the parish and as a teacher here for many years.

We expect the changes to happen at the end of the Christmas Term, with both in place at the start of next year. We wish both Mrs Archibald and Mrs Dodd good luck with their new roles. Please keep them both in your prayers.

Choir One : many thanks

Choir 1 of Garstang performed a thoroughly enjoyable concert on 18 July in St Mary & St Michel's church, raising a magnificent **£967.53** for Croston House Cancer Care, Garstang.

The choir performed a programme of uplifting songs such as Hallelujah, Bring Me Little Water Sylvie and Do You Hear The People Sing. The evening was enhanced by wonderful performances from guest soloists Marion and Ivan Gaughan, and Louise Coupe. David Kennedy, the choir leader, also sang 2 trios with Louise and Marion and a flute solo accompanied by Ivan.

Choir 1 rehearse on Tuesdays at Kirkland and Catterall Memorial Hall. They take a break over summer with the next rehearsal on 16th September. All welcome. For more information contact David Kennedy: 07510-557081 or davidkennedy2930@gmail.com.

Parish coffee morning

At the last event **£127** was donated to MSF (Medecins Sans Frontieres). Thank you all for your generosity, with special thanks to the ladies who bake the delicious cakes we all enjoy.

The next coffee morning will take place on **Wednesday, 13 August,** 10.00am – 12 noon, Plessington Chapel, Garstang. This is a week earlier than normal to accommodate staff leave!

We will be raising funds for a very local charity: Croston House/Cancer Care. We very much look forward to seeing you there. *The Coffee Morning Team*.

Diocesan pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady, Cleator

This year's diocesan pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator is on **Sunday 7 September.** The principal celebrant and preacher will be Bishop Paul. Tea and coffee will be provided; you are welcome to take a packed lunch. This is a special year for the Diocese as we celebrate our centenary.

Pilgrimage to Ladyewell

The diocesan pilgrimage to St Mary's Fernyhalgh & Ladyewell shrine will be on **Saturday 20 September**, 11.00am, led by Bishop Paul.

In this, our diocesan centenary year, **Bishop Paul invites all altar servers** to be part of this occasion and join in the procession: young and not-so-young, male and female. Afterwards, there will be a barbecue for all servers, prepared by the Catholic Scouts of Preston.

Attending servers are to meet at St Mary's, Fernyhalgh at 10.30am, and take with them their cassock & cotta / alb, and St Stephen's medal, as applicable.

If you plan to attend, please let me know **by 31 August**.

Sponsored climb up Croagh Patrick

Our parishioner, Shiron Renaghan, is seeking sponsorship for a climb up Croagh Patrick in September, in aid of funds for St Mary & St Michael's.

Croagh Patrick, meaning (St) Patrick's Stack, is 764m high and is also known as "The Reek". The mountain overlooks Clew Bay in County Mayo, Ireland. The summit is reputed to be where St Patrick fasted for 40 days and nights and at the summit is a church which has stood there since the 5th century.

On Reek Sunday each year, the last Sunday in July, there is a pilgrimage in Mayo to the top of Croagh Patrick. It is a challenging trek, but many of the pilgrims do the climb in their bare feet. Shiron will not be in bare feet.

Please show your support via the sponsorship forms at the back of St Mary and Saint Michael's church or via Shiron's *Just Giving* page. **All funds raised go to the church.**

Sanitising station at St Mary & St Michael's

The table at the back of church with the sanitising units on is going to be removed. This will help keep that exit route from church clear in case of any emergency. The sanitising unit on the wall by the toilet will remain.

Parish accounts 2024-25

If any parishioner would like an e-copy for your relevant parish, please e-mail. Some paper copies are available at the back of both churches. *Fr G.*

Many thanks to all those parishioners involved in our parishes' finances: book-keepers, Alejandra, and the now-retired Barry; our external auditors, Matt and Mick; our counters, Catherine, Helen, Jo, Marie, Michael, Ruth & Phil; and Karine, who takes care of the Gift Aid. I am very grateful. *Fr G.*

Diocesan Directory 2026 : last call

To order a copy of next year's diocesan directory: for *Scorton*, please contact Catherine Pickering; for *Garstang*, please e-mail the parish office, phone and leave a message, or leave a note in the collection plate.

Please specify which edition: ring-bound, £7.50; standard, £6.50. **Deadline for orders: 31 July**.

A B Grace Trust : many thanks

St Mary & St Michael's parish gratefully acknowledges the receipt of **£1,200** from the AB Grace Trust. It was Mrs Grace's wish that the funds be used for the upkeep of the cemetery. We will do some remedial work on several of the headstones, to keep them safe.

Please pray for …

Those who have died recently. Bob Tomlinson.

Those who are ill or infirm. Mary Evans, Pat & Harold Jepson, Celia & Bert Lowe, Gerry & Rita Marley, Liz Boden, Fr Tony Walsh, Steve Masterman, Bob Cookson, Pat Stockdale, Jim Costain, Fr Michael Murphy, Pat McKenna, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Margaret Brocklehurst, Mary Jo Counsell, Caroline Nurse, Yvonne Shaw, 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. Bill Williams, Betty (Theresa) Carter, William Billington, Robert Bilsborrow, Thomas Davis, Sheila Murphy, Benjamin Gelit, Joan Anne Baines, Fred Oxby, Ronnie Johnson, Elizabeth Wardle, Teresa Tully, Margaret Dickinson, Helen Mary Beale, Beatrice Horn, Robert Berry, Margaret Hine, Matthew John Pearson, and Anne Elizabeth Dawson.