

# 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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## Third Sunday of Advent

17 December 2023

Sat 16	G	6.00pm	Mass	Molly & George Singleton <i>RIP</i>
Sun 17	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Monica <i>anniversary</i> & Sam Carr <i>RIP</i>
		12.15pm	Baptism	Liam Lamoury
Mon 18	S	10.00am	Mass	Mike Sexton <i>lately dead</i> [y]
Tue 19	--			
Wed 20	G	6.30pm	Mass	Ian Shepherd <i>lately dead</i>
Thu 21	S	10.00am	Mass	Gordon Wright <i>RIP</i>
Fri 22	G	10.00am	Mass	Phyllis Steel <i>2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary</i>
		10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sat 23	G	6.00pm	Mass	David Carr <i>2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary</i>
Sun 24	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Richard Gaughan <i>anniversary</i>

## The Birth of the Lord

Sun 24	G	6.00pm	Mass	People of our Parishes
Mon 25	S	8.30am	Mass	Agnes & Bob Thompson <i>RIP</i>
	G	10.30am	Mass	Revd John Horn <i>anniversary</i>

## Christmas cards & gifts ...

... are on sale in the church shop at Garstang. All profits to parish funds.

## This weekend : SVP collection

There will be a retiring collection this weekend, **16-17 December**, in both our parishes to support the work of our parish St Vincent de Paul Society.

## Scorton village carol service

The village carol service will take place, **Thursday 21 December**, 7.00pm, Scorton Methodist chapel, led by Deacon Pru Cahill. All welcome.

## Church decorating at Garstang

Extra help is needed with the Christmas flower arranging this year due to illness, so if you could offer help either arranging flowers or helping to clean up you'd be very welcome.

We are going to meet on **Saturday 23 December**, 9.30am for 10.00am, in the Plessington chapel. Tea, coffee, and mince pies will be provided.

Any greenery would be appreciated. If you need it collecting, please email Heather Hogarth: [hogarth\\_h@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hogarth_h@yahoo.co.uk).

## Lancaster & District Homeless Action Service

LDHAS is preparing for their Christmas shelter. They'll provide their clients with meals and a place to shelter during Christmas week in a congenial atmosphere.

During the financial year ending March 2023, LDHAS supported 35 homeless people into accommodation; provided their services to 76 street-homeless and vulnerably-housed people; provided 1762 breakfasts, 1160 lunches, and 421 showers. Thirteen agencies worked from their building.

If you'd like to support this important work:

- Bank transfer: Account name: LDHAS; 40-52-40; 00031967; Ref. "Shelter2022".
- Cheque payable to LDHAS. Post to: LDHAS-Finance, Edward Street, Lancaster LA1 1QH.

For more information, visit [www.ldhas.org.uk](http://www.ldhas.org.uk).

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## Seating for Christmas Eve Mass

All those who have requested a seat for our Mass on Christmas Eve, 6.00pm, have been allocated one.

There are lists in church this weekend for people to see where they are sitting, and email/text messages will be sent out over the coming days. Many thanks, *Michael Hoffman*.

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## Readers & Welcomers

We could do with more **Readers** for the Masses at Garstang. If you'd like to serve the liturgy in this way, please let me know. I'll gladly offer some preparation; you won't be left to sink or swim. Many thanks, *Fr Geoffrey*.

Likewise, at Garstang more **Welcomers** would be appreciated for the Saturday & Sunday Masses, and for funerals.

My thinking and hope is that if more folk are familiar with the ministry of welcoming at the weekend and what it involves, we'll likely have more cover for our funerals.

If you'd be willing to take a turn, please let Frank Miller know, either directly or through the parish office. Thank you.

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## Parish coffee morning : many thanks

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the coffee morning by baking, attending, and spending. A total of **£299** was raised and will be sent to Cafod in response to their Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal.

Check the newsletter early in 2024 for the next coffee morning date. Thank you all. *The Coffee Morning Team*.

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## Hummingbirds : thank you

Thanks to a generous donor from the parish the children at Hummingbirds are having a great Christmas including a number of dance sessions with Diddi Dance. Potential contenders for Strictly in a few years? Your generosity has been much appreciated. *Frank Miller*.

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## Ways into prayer

Here's an initiative from the Diocese of Southwark:  
<https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/ways-into-prayer>

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## Hospice : can you help?

"I have been a Spiritual Care Volunteer at St John's Hospice Lancaster for the past year and a half and am finishing next month. This opportunity has been rich and rewarding, meeting patients, their loved ones and staff and listening to their concerns, hopes, needs and lives. I wonder if anyone in the congregation may feel called to offering a session a week or a fortnight to be a spiritual care volunteer? If you feel this might suit you I would be happy to have a chat, answer questions and outline the expectations."

Please contact Mark Brackley, through the parish office.

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## Faith resources for children

New items are available in the Children's Library at the back of church in Garstang: *Faith in Phonics* books for early readers, puzzles, and colouring.

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## Red Mission Boxes

2024 calendars are now at the back of church, feel free to take one even if you do not have a mission box.

Any boxes to be emptied, please bring them to church this weekend.

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## Please pray for ...

**Those who have died recently.** James Parkinson, Ian Shepherd, Peter Lancaster, Fr James William (Billy) Bootle.

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Canon Dunstan Cooper & Fr Jim Allen, Joe Rooney, Bert Lowe, Vicki Doherty, Deacon D'Arcy Ryan, Carley Cowburn, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Mary McCann, Fr Bob Horn, Pat Errington, Rita Whittaker, 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, Jessica Holmes.

**Those whose anniversary we keep.** Charles Taylor, Joe Browne, Lucy Cahill, Barbara Ellen Crone, Gregory Place, Sally Foley, Joan Norcross, Josephine Black, Helena Holland, Rev Patrick Flynn, Ann Nugent, Jack Singleton, Ada Rawlinson, Annie Cusack, Phyllis Steel, David Thomas Carr, Jim Winstanley, Mary Grayston, Margaret Nixon, John Francis Green, Thomas Leo Horn, Doris Mary Wilson, Mary Winstanley and Jas G. Hall (Benefactor).