

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

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

26 January 2025

Sat 25	G	6.00pm	Mass	Sheila Murphy <i>RIP-birthday</i>
Sun 26	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Tomas Bernardo <i>8th anniversary</i>
Mon 27	Holocaust Memorial Day			
	S	10.00am	Mass	Malcolm Alexander <i>lately dead</i>
Tue 28	--			
Wed 29	G	6.30pm	Mass	Tomas Bernardo <i>8th anniversary</i>
Thu 30	S	10.00am	Mass	Infirm clergy
Fri 31	St John Bosco <i>priest, religious founder, educator</i>			
	G	10.00am	Mass	Rachael Mason <i>lately dead</i>
	G	10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	

The Presentation of the Lord

(Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Sat 1	G	6.00pm	Mass	Patrick O'Hanlon <i>RIP-90th birthday</i>
Sun 2	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Diane Pattinson <i>anniversary</i> & Neal Walmsley <i>RIP</i>

Lepra : special collection this weekend

There will be a special collection the weekend of **25-26 January** to support the work of *Lepra*. To watch a video marking World Leprosy Day, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iuTZbjOAKv0>.

First Holy Communion 2025

If your child was born before September 2017 and you'd like to help them prepare for their First Holy Communion, please request an application form from our parish school office or e-mail the presbytery.

Please return your completed application form to the presbytery by the evening of **Monday 10 February**. Thank you. Fr Geoffrey & Mrs Archibald.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

Tuesday 11 February marks the patronal feast of our diocese. Bishop Paul will celebrate Mass at 12.15pm in the cathedral, at which the choir from the cathedral primary school will sing. He will also celebrate Evening Prayer of the Church (Vespers) at 6.00pm. All welcome.

Lenten lunches for Christian Aid

From Philippa Catterall: We need a new person to organise our contribution to these lunches. I can help whoever is prepared to do this rewarding job. Not a lot is involved because often people make the soups.

For more information ring Philippa, 01995-238332, a.s.a.p., please.

Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bishop Paul invites you to join him on the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, **23-30 July**. Booking forms are available at the back of our churches, or to download on the diocesan Lourdes website: www.lancasterlourdes.co.uk. Alternatively, contact Joe Walsh Tours, 0161-8208790. More information from Linda Wisdom, operationsdirector@lancasterlourdes.co.uk.

There is also a poster advertising the Youth Group pilgrimage. Bookings made for this before 11 February will receive a £100 grant from the diocese. For more information, please contact Katie O'Donnell, youth@lancasterlourdes.co.uk.

Listed places of worship grant scheme : your help is needed

This Government scheme, renewed each year, allows our two churches to reclaim VAT on works that are carried out to maintain our listed buildings. This has been a huge saving to us in recent years, especially the repair to the church tower and roof at Garstang.

There is no guarantee that the Government will renew the scheme, and its withdrawal will add 20% to the cost of any building works.

Our Bishops' Conference has set up on their website an automated way of contacting our local MP to petition for the renewal of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. It would be a great help if as many of you as possible could contact our MP about this issue.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/listed-places-of-worship-grant-scheme/>

A Year of Hope : introduction to the Jubilee Year

How can we respond to Pope Francis' call to be "tangible signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year? Find out by watching this video from Cafod. <https://cafod.org.uk/news/events/a-year-of-hope-an-introduction-to-the-jubilee-year>

It features Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission at the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, and CAFOD Director Christine Allen. Discover how we can act in faith and in love as pilgrims of hope this Holy Year.

The search for Truth : Edith Stein

Fr Matthew Blake OCD will offer a weekend exploring the life and teachings of Edith Stein, or St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, and her search for truth that led her to the Catholic faith. Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhust, **14-16 March**. To book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-search-for-truth-edith-stein/>

Stella Maris (previously Apostleship of the Sea) update

Stella Maris (previously Apostleship of the Sea) has appointed a new chaplain in Northwest England, reviving its port chaplaincy service in the Northwest after an absence of almost 10 years. Seafarers in Liverpool, Fleetwood, Maryport, Whitehaven, Barrow and Fleetwood will receive support. See www.stellamaris.org.uk and leaflets next to Holy Water stoop in St Mary & St Michael's, for ways you can help. *Thank you.*

Fr John Gibson : many thanks ...

... to Fr John, who celebrated the Wednesday and weekend Masses while I was away, to those who opened church and prepared things for Mass, and to those who kept an eye on the properties.

I am always very grateful. Fr G.

SVP : many thanks ...

Members of the parish SVP would like to thank those who made some very generous donations through the parish over Christmas.

The money will be used to help people locally and some projects overseas.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations to our January winners: Beryl Bradley and Mary & Tom Ibison. If you have changed your contact number or removed your landline, please update us by contacting Trish & Kev O'Hanlon via the parish office.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Robert Ball (dad of Janet Worthington), Mary Mason.

Those who are ill or infirm. Joyce Bilsborrow, Joseph Hardacre, 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, Bert Lowe, Deacon D'Arcy Ryan, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Margaret Brocklehurst, Mary Jo Counsell, Caroline Nurse, 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. Mary Swarbrick, Thomas Bamber, Hugh Grimbaldston, John (Jack) Hornby, John Thomas Graham, Teresa Rogerson, Richard Hargreaves, John McArdle, Edwin Curwen, Jeanie Richmond, Ruth Fairey, William (Bill) Myerscough, Tony Waters, Joan Finlay, Robert Edwin Brown, Rev Francis Carr, Alice Winstanley, Robert Tomlinson, Michael McBride, Agnes Evans, Tony Derbyshire, Elizabeth Cook, Harold Harwood, and Ernest Cecil Clark Firth.