

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

5 May 2024

Sat	4	G	6.00pm	Mass	Gordon Johnson <i>RIP-birthday</i>
Sun	5	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	David Carr <i>RIP-birthday</i>
Mon	6	S	10.00am	Mass	Intentions of Paul Wright
Tue	7	--			

The Ascension of the Lord

Wed	8	G	6.30pm	Mass	Carmel Hayden & Sr Aidan Mary LSA <i>RIP-birthdays</i>
Thu	9	S	10.00am	Mass	Price-Jones, Hull, Ackers families <i>RIP</i>

Fri	10	G	10.00am	Mass	Ints. of Rachael Mason & family [SD]
		G	10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sat	11	G	6.00pm	Mass	Ray Pollit <i>lately dead</i> [B]
Sun	12	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Frank, Rita & Tony Moreland <i>RIP</i>

Sudan : Cafod appeal

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at www.cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Do you know anyone in Year 7 or older who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? This year, Confirmation will be on **Pentecost Sunday, 19 May**, 200pm, Lancaster Cathedral. There will be **two preparation sessions: Sunday 5 & Sunday 12 May**, both after Mass, 11.45am-3.00pm. Lunch will be provided.

If you would like more information, or an electronic copy of the form, please email Heather Hogarth, hogarth_h@yahoo.co.uk. Alternatively, you can collect a form from the back of church and return it to the presbytery as soon as possible. Please pass this on to anyone who may be interested.

Parish SVP meeting

The members of our parishes' St Vincent de Paul Society will meet on **Tuesday 7 May**, 6.30pm. New members and enquirers are always welcome. The meeting will be held at Phillipa's; contact the parish office for the venue.

Promoting the Gospel in schools

NISCU is a local Christian charity working in schools. They employ workers who visit schools to take assemblies, deliver RE lessons, run clubs and Christian Unions, and provide resources for teaching the Christian faith. St Mary & Michael's is one of the local schools that they regularly visit, and they are active in almost all our local primary schools. They also run weekly clubs at Our Lady's Catholic College in Lancaster (and LRGS, LGGS and Ripley).

NISCU are holding an information evening at Garstang Free Methodist Church on **Tuesday 7 May**, 7.30pm. An opportunity to learn more about their work in our local schools, to meet the schools' workers, and to see the resources that they produce. It will be accessible to people from all Christian denominations and experiences and anyone is very welcome to attend.

Bluebell teas

It's bluebell time again, and teas will be served in Calder Vale Village Hall **every Sunday in May, 11am-4.00pm**. "Look forward to seeing you all again and thank you for your continued support." *Brenda*

Relishing the fruits of the Holy Spirit

The Carmelites are offering a daily online retreat, **10-18 May**. No charge; donations welcome. "The gifts of the Holy Spirit are seven, but what are gifts if they do not bear fruits? During the nine days leading to the great feast of Pentecost, we will be reflecting on the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.

"During this retreat, you'll recognise the fruits of the Spirit in your life; be empowered to live each day in the joy and power of the Spirit; learn how the Holy Spirit is gradually bringing about your transformation; identify opportunities for co-operating with the Spirit's grace in your life.

"Each day we'll send you a five-minute video reflection on one fruit of the Spirit. You'll gain insights that will inspire you and invite you to allow the Holy Spirit to anoint the rest of your day."

To register: <https://www.carmelite.uk.net/online-talks-retreats/pentecost-retreat-2024/>

The cloud of unknowing

Explore this mystical text written in the 14th century, a profound guide on prayer. **Monday 13 May**, 11.30am-3.00pm, Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella, Browndge Road, Lostock Hall PR5 5AA.

<https://www.christianretreats.live/online-retreats/in-situ-retreats/in-situ-the-cloud-of-unknowing-explore-this-incredible-mystical-text-written-in-the-14th-c-a-profound-guide-on-prayer>

For bookings: parish office, 01772-335387 or office@saintgerards.org.uk.

Coffee Morning

The next Parish coffee morning in Garstang will be on **Wednesday 15 May**, 10.00am-12 noon in the Plessington Chapel. Donations will be accepted for charitable purposes.

We've recently welcomed some new parishioners; these coffee mornings are a great way to meet fellow parishioners. Do come if you are able. We look forward to seeing you later in the month. *The Coffee Morning team*.

Fr Michael Murphy

Former priest at St Mary & St Michael, Fr Michael Murphy, will be 72 on **Sunday 5 May**. If you wish to send a card, Michael is currently in Clifton Hospital, Ward 2-D Bay, Pershore Road, Lytham St Anne's FY8 1PB.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations go to Darnar Davis and Peter Swarbrick who were our April winners. If you would like to know more about our Parish Draw contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon via the parish office.

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 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*.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. William Flynn, Bernard Goodwin, Fr Tom Forster & Fr John Heaney.

Those who are ill or infirm. Alice Oxby, Bob Cookson, Martha Billington, Pat Stockdale, Jim Costain, Fr Michael Murphy, Pat McKenna, Joe Rooney, Bert Lowe, Vicki Doherty, Deacon D'Arcy Ryan, Noreen Hargreaves, Mary Purkis, Harold Jepson, Frank Davis, Federico Lema, Fr Bob Horn, Pat Errington, 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. Teresa Topping, Fred Garvey, Teresa Garner, James Pedder, Winifred Bilsborrow, William Wignall, Stephen Richardson, Henry Banks, Marjorie Ann Cookson, Violet Eydmann, Lucia Tesseyman, Mary Speight, Peter Nickson, Brenda Lever, Sarah Turner, Elizabeth Wrennall, Joseph Grayston, Cyril Lamoury and Jane Gornall.