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

<u>ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com</u> : <u>www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk</u>

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Liturgies this week **G** 10.00am Mass Joan Walbank RIP [NW] Sat People of our Parishes Sun 8.30am Mass S 10.30am Intentions of Celia Lowe G Mass 10.00am Martha & John Bashall RIP [HF] Mon S Mass Tue Mass Wed G 6.30pm Mass Janet Pearson RIP 7.00pm in our homes Rosary Thu S 10.00am Mass In thanksgiving [J] **Burial Liturgy : Colin Swarbrick G** 11.00am Fri ---Mass Intentions of Christine Jamieson [A] Sat G 10.00am Mass Timothy Richardson *anniversary* Pentecost People of our Parishes Sun 8.30am Mass S

G 10.30am Mass Barbara Crone lately dead

The end of the Season of Easter

Pentecost novena

Leading up to Pentecost, a Novena of Prayer for evangelisation and the renewal of the Church is underway. Visit:

https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/thy-kingdom-come/pentecostnovena/

Welcome back to Mass

If you're fairly recently returned to Mass: welcome back; it is good to see you once again. Please take a copy of the leaflet at the back of church *Welcome back to Mass*, which indicates the changes in place on how we are celebrating Mass in the present circumstance.

You might wish also to take a copy of the *Order of Mass* to enable you to pray the Apostles' Creed and, perhaps, to say the *I confess* as part of your own preparation for Mass. Mark the copy with your name, and retain it for your personal use.

The Day of the Lord : a statement from our Bishops

Now that the many and various restrictions are easing, the Bishops of England & Wales have issued a statement reaffirming the importance of Sunday as the Day of the Lord.

Some copies are available at the back of church, and there's a link on our Homepage.

Rosary Mission

Our Lady's Shrine, Walsingham, holding a *Rosary Mission*. Each night, 8pm, there will be a foundational Rosary led from a different Parish/Shrine. **Sunday 30 May**, 5.00-6.00pm is the Rosary Hour for our diocese.

Food bank in Garstang : can you help?

Our parishes and school support the foodbank run from St Thomas' church, Garstang. In the coming weeks they are starting up a Food Club which will enable users to come into their hall and choose their own food. For this they need the help of volunteers.

If you would like to help or to receive a weekly "best to buy" email recommending items to buy for the food bank please contact Kathryn Sperring: <u>kathrynjsperring@gmail.com</u>, or 01995-606288. Thank you.

New headteacher for our school

"We are delighted to announce that Mrs Luena Archibald has been appointed as the new Headteacher for our School. Luena is currently Deputy Head at St Augustine's Primary in Preston and will join officially on 1 September. She is keen to maintain and strengthen the link between School and the Parish, and I'm sure you will join me in welcoming her into the Parish Community." Paul McCann, *Chair of Governors*.

Bishop Paul reads a poem by John Bradburne https://youtu.be/Wzx5pqganfA

Musings from my hermitage

For St Luke in the Acts of the Apostles the witness of the Twelve connects the life of Jesus on earth with the continuing life of the Church: in his own day and in ours. Our Lord's story is our story, the story of the Twelve is our story, too; we're connected; involved.

So how are we to continue the work our Lord has entrusted to his Church, entrusted to us? That question has particular focus as, please God, we continue to emerge, tentatively, into a new phase of parish life and witness.

One challenge is to recognise and acknowledge God's gifts to us, gifts and talents many and varied, and to do so with thanksgiving and gratitude.

A second challenge is to use our God-given gifts to the full. The good steward in the Gospels is one who cherishes and tends God's gifts responsibly.

If everything is God's, does not belong to us but is entrusted to our care, then whatever God has given us, is given to be shared, equally and fairly with others. It's no good just sitting on our talents. We're called to discern and acknowledge them; use them wisely, develop and grow them, offering them to God in thanks for the blessings we've already received.

Just as the Twelve strove to come to terms with their experience of Jesus, risen and glorious, so we are on a journey of similar discovery.

It can be both a struggle and a challenge to be open to the prompting of God's Holy Spirit. But the more we allow ourselves to be caught up in this mystery, acknowledge Jesus as Lord in the depth of our being, the clearer we will discern the Lord's way ahead, and the more significant and fruitful will be our membership of the Church, this spirit-filled family of Jesus' friends.

Flat for rent

Ss Mary & James parish, Scorton, owns The Old School House, on Snow Hill, adjacent to our church, which is a one-bedroom flat completely renovated, with lounge, kitchen, and bathroom. This has now become available to rent.

If this might interest you, or someone you know, please drop an e-mail to <u>kevinmorley2@gmail.com</u>. Thank you.

Diocesan levy

Each year parishes pay a ley to the diocese to fund the central operations.

The levy is calculated from the information included on the parish annual return for the year ended 5 April 2020 and, where relevant, supplementary returns. The rate of levy on offertory income remains unchanged at 24.70% and the rate on rental income, including qualifying hall income, has increased from one sixth of gross rental income to one fifth.

For this year, Scorton's diocesan levy is £3787.30; Garstang's is £15074.11.

Faith & Justice newsletter

The latest edition of the newsletter from our diocesan Faith & Justice Commission can be downloaded at: <u>https://tinyurl.com/mmj7sy77.</u>

Reports and newsletters mentioned in this issue are available at: http://www.lancasterfaithandjustice.co.uk/newsletter/

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. John Skillen (brother of Margaret Lamoury), Colin Swarbrick, Sue Ratelitte (known to Tony Clark).

Those who are ill or infirm. Phyllis Steel (sister-in-law of Fr G), Yvonne Shaw, James Costain jr, Barry Robinson, Elaine Stajniack, Austin Walmsley, Ethel Davis, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, Tony Smith, Roger Bevins, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Marie Swarbrick, Peter Holland, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes.

Those whose anniversary we keep. Winifred Cross, John Barnacle, Dick Helme, Samuel Carr, Celene Elizabeth McLaughlin (1st anniversary), Dick Edge, Eddie Finnegan, Frank Eastham, Jessica Pinnington, Roger Marsden, Jane Delaney, Joseph Hodgson and Raymond Fitzgerald.