

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

Easter

4 April 2021

Liturgies this week

Easter Eve

G 6.30pm **FIRST MASS OF EASTER** People of our Parishes

Easter Day

S 8.30am **Mass** Fr Michael Tully & Parents *RIP*

G 10.30am **Mass** Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue *lately dead*

The end of the Easter Triduum

Mon **S** 10.00am **Mass** Bernard Warriner *lately dead* [B]

Tue --- **Mass** Gerry Steel *RIP*

Wed **G** 6.30pm **Mass** Janet Pearson *RIP-birthday*

7.00pm **Rosary** *in our homes*

Thu **S** 10.00am **Mass** Charlotte McAleer *anniversary*

Fri --- **Mass** Infirm clergy

Sat **G** 10.00am **Mass** Neal Walmsley *RIP*

Second Sunday of Easter

Sun **S** 8.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes

G 10.30am **Mass** John & Alice Towers *lately dead* [V]

The end of the Easter Octave

The Pope's Easter blessing

The Pope's Easter Blessing *Urbi et orbi* – to the city and to the world – will be broadcast on BBC1, Easter Sunday, 11.00am. If you'll still be at Mass, you can always record it, ... or watch later on the Vatican website:

<http://www.news.va/en>

Our Lady's grotto at Garstang

The figures of Our Lady & Bernadette are now back in place after having been renovated; in front of the grotto, for your prayerful use, is a bench installed in memory of our late parishioner, Brenda Richardson.

Sincere thanks to our parishioners who arranged and paid for the renovation; to those who paid for the flagstones and the bench; and to those who erected it.

Garstang Parish Draw yearly subs

We are still in challenging times and would like to do things a little differently this year to help us all stay safe.

Yearly subs will stay at £20 for the year. At present the intention is to recommence the draw later in the year and make two draws each month until we have caught up any missing months.

Below are ways you can pay this year's subs:

- If you already have a yearly standing order in place, no action is required.
- By setting up a yearly standing order; on-line or direct with your bank;
- By making a one-off BACS payment for this year's subs;
- Place a cheque or cash in an envelope enclosing your full name, address and contact number. Label the envelope Parish Draw and drop it off at the presbytery.

BACS payments to be set up as soon as possible, please.

Parish of SS Mary & Michael, Garstang – Draw Account (*on-line setup select – add Business*); account no: 01589091; sort code: 40-27-02.

Please use your full name as the reference so we can match the payment against our list of members.

Cheques made payable to: SS Mary & Michael Parish Draw.

If you have any problems with any of the above payment methods this year please contact Trish & Kevin via the Parish office and they will contact you.

Please pass this information to anyone who might not see it in the bulletin.

Easter collection

In our diocese the Easter collection forms a significant portion of the priests' income for the year. Thank you for your support. *Fr Geoffrey.*

Musings from my hermitage

On Easter morning, resurrection is wonderful! So wonderful, we might wonder whether Good Friday had been necessary. But the cross was no tragic end. Jesus had lived, attuning himself to God's vision. His sense of oneness with God was deep, intense.

Our Lord's mission had been to convince people of the nature of God, how urgently God wanted to love and be loved by the people he'd created. Jesus was well equipped for his mission: He was intelligent; had a great capacity for learning; clear vision. Jesus had an extremely winning and engaging personality; he was endlessly patient, and able to suffer fools. He was a supreme judge of character; fearless; blessed with great physical stamina.

No wonder he had many followers, women and men who loved him, respected him as their teacher; people whom he inspired, who became his disciples. For all that, when the crunch came in Jerusalem, when Jesus most needed them, they deserted him.

They fled (partly) because still they hadn't grasped Jesus' picture of God. Jesus knew the deep relationship God yearned to have with us; the only relationship in which we can truly be free. Jesus brought people to the water of life, and they didn't recognise how thirsty they were.

There was nothing more Jesus could say. Something else was needed, and that something was the cross. Only his death would prove the bountiful mercy, the limitless love God has for our human kind. By handing himself over to death, Jesus was saying, "Look! This is what God's love is like. This is how much God longs for you to return to his embrace." That's why, with the last effort of his body, Jesus shouts from the cross, "It is finished"; the new and eternal covenant is accomplished.

That profound love is held out to us today. The resurrection of our Lord Jesus proves that God's love cannot be snuffed out. Easter celebrates a love that can never be defeated, a love that will never desert us, because it's written in our heart. And God's love we know more deeply the more we let ourselves be caught up in it, changed by it. Easter faith is a gift; it's always a challenge. Let's drink deeply from the waters of life, ... and allow this Easter to renew our service of Christ, ... our Risen Lord.

Gift Aid envelopes

Gift Aid Envelopes 2021 - 2022 are now ready for collection at the back of church. Thank you for the support you give to the church.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations to our March winners, Bob Tomlinson and Gerry Morley; and to all who take part in the draw: thank you for supporting our parish.

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 so, in the first instance, please have a word with Fr Geoffrey.

It's unlikely that our Ministers of Holy Communion will be able to resume their ministry at Mass any time soon. If you'd like to take a turn serving as a Reader instead, please contact Frank Miller.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Doug Willoughby, Joan Wilkes, Jimmy O'Neill, John Towers.

Those who are ill or infirm. Yvonne Shaw (known to Helena Leaper), Sue Ratelitte (known to Tony Clark), James Costain jr, Barry Robinson, Viktoria Nurse, Elaine Stajniack, Austin Walmsley, Ethel Davis, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, Keith Jones, Tony Smith, Sarah Preston, Roger Bevins, Andrew Whipp, Charlie Robinson (4 years old), Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Revd Andrew Shaw, Wendy Seed, Graham Markham (Australia), Colin & Marie Swarbrick, Seamus Martin, Peter Holland, Bob Cross, Martina Cople, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe.

Those whose anniversary we keep. John Bevins, Aileen Dearn, George Swarbrick, Mary Bowles, Canon Alban Cochrane, Charlotte McAleer, Mgr Michael Tully, Joe Walmsley, Joseph Nickson, Mary Wellings, John Adamson, John Cunningham, Joseph Davis and Richard Winstanley.