

# 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](mailto:ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com) : [www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk](http://www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk)

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4 February 2024

Sat	3	<b>G</b>	6.00pm	<b>Mass</b>	People of our Parishes
Sun	4	<b>S</b>	8.30am	<b>Mass</b>	Fr Stephen Cooney <i>lately dead</i> [v]
		<b>G</b>	10.30am	<b>Mass</b>	Caroline & Elaine Spratt <i>RIP</i> [R]
<b>Mon</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>St Agatha</b> <i>virgin, martyr</i>			
		<b>S</b>	10.00am	<b>Mass</b>	Phyllis Steel <i>RIP-birthday</i>
Tue	6	--			
Wed	7	<b>G</b>	6.30pm	<b>Mass</b>	Charles & Evelyn Langley <i>RIP</i> [v]
Thu	8	<b>G</b>	10.00am	<b>Funeral Mass : Rita Whittaker</b>	
Fri	9	<b>G</b>	10.00am	<b>Mass</b>	Kathleen & Harold Smith <i>RIP</i> [HF]
		<b>G</b>	10.30am	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	
Sat	10	<b>G</b>	12.15pm	<b>Baptism : Joseph Davis</b>	

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Day of the Sick

Sat	10	<b>G</b>	6.00pm	<b>Mass</b>	David Pyke <i>10<sup>th</sup> anniversary</i>
Sun	11	<b>S</b>	8.30am	<b>Mass</b>	People of our parishes
		<b>G</b>	10.30am	<b>Mass</b>	Tomas Bernardo <i>anniversary</i>

## SVP matters

There will be a **retiring collection** this weekend, **3-4 February**, in both our parishes to support the work of our parish St Vincent de Paul Society.

The members of our parishes' St Vincent de Paul Society will meet on **Tuesday 6 February**, 6.30pm, in the Plessington Chapel. New members and enquirers are always welcome.

## Visit by Blackburn Society of Artists

Parishioners might like to know that *Blackburn Society of Artists* will be working in St Mary & St Michael's, **Thursday 8 February**, 11.15am-3.00pm.

## Lent : Stations of the Cross

The Season of Lent is fast approaching. Once again, I encourage parishioners from either parish to lead the Stations of the Cross, Fridays of Lent, 6.30pm at Garstang: individuals, couples, friends, parish groups.

If you're willing to take a turn, please let me know, **by Ash Wednesday, 14 February**. Thank you, Fr Geoffrey

## Lenten lunches, Garstang : urgent

Are you willing to co-ordinate our turn of the Lenten Lunches with Sally Watson of the URC? Date to be chosen. Please contact Philippa on 01995 238331 or [mpcatterall@btinternet.com](mailto:mpcatterall@btinternet.com). *Thank you; we need your help.*

Supported by *Christians Together in Garstang*, the lunches take place in Garstang URC Hall, Croston Road, 12noon-1.00pm, each of the six Wednesdays in Lent, **14 February to 20 March**.

Enjoy a meal of soup, bread & cheese in a warm & friendly environment. Donate the cost of your lunch, if you are able, to Christian Aid. Please Gift Aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer.

## Garstang Sports Club ...

... is trying to raise funds to replace the run-down facilities at Garstang rugby/cricket club so that a wider community can also love it and use it. There are lots of public consultations around Garstang to help keep everyone informed and raise a crucial £160,000 of funding to release grant funding for the new building.

See the poster at the back of church, or visit [Garstang Sports Club - Shape the future of sport in Garstang](#).

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## First Holy Communion 2024 : candidates : helpers

If your child was born before September 2016 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 **Sunday 18 February**. Thank you. Fr Geoffrey & Mrs Luena Archibald.

This year we are looking for volunteers to help prepare our young parishioners for Reconciliation and Holy Communion. If you are willing to be involved in this, please contact Helen Crone, directly or by e-mail, [helenccrone@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:helenccrone@hotmail.co.uk).

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## Thinking faith

Is a group of professional Catholics who meet on zoom and at live retreats hosted by Sr Margaret Atkins, an Augustinian Sister at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria, and Fr Richard Finn, a Dominican at Blackfriars, Oxford (and at times other Dominicans).

Our *Thinking Faith* summer weeks began for Catholic students and young professionals nearly 20 years ago. They have grown and developed into something that provides for that 'post-youth' group who are trying to live out their Catholic faith in responsible positions at work and also perhaps in their families. At the same time, a regular core of participants has developed, who meet at Boarbank for the residential summer week and keep in touch with zoom retreats in between.

They warmly welcome anyone to get in touch who might enjoy either the zoom or the residential week. You can just dip your toe by joining our Lent retreat. If you are looking for friendly, fun but also serious and thoughtful support from fellow-Catholics in living out your faith in daily life, this could be for you. And you might get a week's break in Cumbria into the bargain.

More information from Sr Margaret, [margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk](mailto:margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk), or visit: [www.boarbankhall.org.uk](http://www.boarbankhall.org.uk).

Lent Zoom Retreat: **8-10 March**. Evenings only. Theme: *Fasting and Feasting*. Summer Residential: Date **27 July - 3 August**. Theme: *What Catholics Really Believe*. A week of prayer, study, conversation, walks and fun. Explore the basics of Catholic faith with the help of books by GK Chesterton and Fr Richard Conrad OP.

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## Many thanks ...

... to Fr John Gibson, who celebrated the Masses while Fr G was taking his post-Christmas break, to those who opened church and prepared everything for Mass, and those who kept an eye on the properties and the office. Fr G

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## Gift Aid : many thanks ...

... to our parishioners who have signed a Gift Aid form in favour of St Mary & St Michael's. We have recently been credited with **£4444.39**.

May I encourage all parishioners who are UK tax-payers to sign a Gift Aid form for their parish: we can't afford to forego free money. Just to illustrate, a set of candles for the Big Six at Garstang costs £233.00.

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## Big Lent Walk

Sign up for CAFOD's *Big Lent Walk* and challenge yourself to walk 200km in forty days. You can sign up as an individual, or as a group from the parish or school. Please see poster at the back of church or visit [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk).  
*Thank you.*

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## Please pray for ...

**Those who have died recently.** Mary McCann (mother of Paul), Mary Josephine Davis, Rita Whittaker.

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Dick Gornall, 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.** Hannah Marie Swarbrick, James Carter, Bill Jennings, Mary Whiteside, Angela Mary O'Regan, Eric Bayman, Alice Wells, Nora Bernadette (Berney) Murphy Smith, Stephen Sartin (1<sup>st</sup> anniversary), Martha Horn, Stephen Turton, Winifride Swarbrick, Elizabeth Swarbrick, Ted Lydiate, Fred Dagger, John Bailey, Harry McNamara, Mary Bilsborrow, Elizabeth (Betty) Ball and William Roland Price-Jones.