

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

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Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for Unemployed People

27 February 2022

Sat 26 **G** 6.00pm **Mass** William & Ellen Greenall *anniversary* [AC]

Sun 27 **S** 8.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes

G 10.30am **Mass** Paul Turkstra *lately dead* [HL]

Mon 28 **S** 10.00am **Mass** Gerry Steel *RIP*

Tue 1 ---

Wed 2 ASH WEDNESDAY – Day of Fasting & Abstinence

G 6.30pm **Mass** Fr David Elder *RIP*

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

Thu 3 **S** 10.00am **Mass** Revd John Horn *RIP*

Fri 4 **G** 11.00am **Funeral Mass : Josie Higham**

First Sunday of Lent

Sat 5 **G** 6.00pm **Mass** Maureen Ingleby *anniversary*

Sun 6 **S** 8.30am **Mass** David Carr *lately dead* [PG]

G 10.30am **Mass** People of our Parishes

Lent

The Season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. Mass for our parishes will be at the usual time of 6.30pm. If you'd like to attend Mass during the day, there is Mass at the Cathedral at 12.15pm.

If you're unable to attend Mass, seek to keep Ash Wednesday in your home.

Early in the day, if you're able, be prayerfully mindful: Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent, a season for conversion of heart and renewal of spirit.

Make your own ash as part of your prayer. Perhaps you have a palm cross from last year or the year before. Or as a sign of your desire for conversion, prayerfully write on a piece of paper the sins of which you truly repent and desire mercy and forgiveness. Burn the palm cross or your piece of paper – safely – and mix the ash with a little oil. You could also use soil from your garden or a flowerpot. Anoint one another in your household, or anoint your own head with the ash or soil saying either "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Read and reflect on one or other Scripture reading for Ash Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18; Psalm 50; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18.

Keeping a holy Lent

Talk of "giving things up," "doing without" can make Lent seem dull, negative even; as if we hadn't enough to contend with at the moment.

But Lent's not an end in itself; it's the season in which we prepare joyfully to celebrate the mystery of Easter with mind and heart renewed.

In Lent, the community of faith is blessed with a spirit of loving reverence for God and of willing service to neighbour. Thus, Lent is a time for more intense prayer and reflection and for particular attention to the word of God, especially the Sunday readings.

Our Lenten penance is not only inward and personal but also outward and social. How might our prayer, fasting, almsgiving, and other works of charity deepen our conversion to Christ and be of benefit to others?

Above all, what is it that we'd like God to do for us this Lent?

Resources for Lent

A great collection of online resources for Lent: talks, retreats, Stations of the Cross, and so on: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/44124>

Fasting & abstinence

Pope Francis has invited everyone to make 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. "I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war," he said.

Fasting means having only one full meal, though a little food may also be taken at breakfast, and midday or evening: from our 15th to 59th birthday.

Abstinence, abstaining from meat, is expected of us every Friday throughout the year, except on Fridays which are liturgical solemnities.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both fasting and abstinence.

Apart from these two days, abstaining from meat may be substituted by any of the following penances:

- abstaining from another food;
- abstaining from alcohol, smoking, or some form of amusement;
- some form of special prayer;
- fasting from food for longer than usual, giving the proceeds to the poor;
- especially helping people who are poor, sick, elderly, or lonely.

Chivuna annual report

On our website it the full report with pictures from Sr Mutinta, describing the challenges and achievements of 2021. Visit: [Groups/Outreach/Chivuna](#).

At the back of church are some paper copies, without all the photographs.

Sacrament of Confirmation

For the parishes of our Deanery, the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at the Cathedral on the feast of Pentecost, **Sunday 5 June**, 2.00pm. Candidates are to be in Year 7 or above. Preparations will be held centrally in Lancaster, and details will be available next month.

Day of renewal

"When anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible." (Ephesians 5:13.) This is the theme of a day of renewal offered at St Clare's Parish Hall, Preston PR2 9HH, **Saturday 19 March**, 10.00am-4.00pm, beginning with Mass at 10.00am. Led by Sean Booth, a lay missionary with St Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity.

Our Lady's Catholic College : many thanks ...

... to all parishioners for making us feel so welcome last weekend. Everyone was very supportive and extremely generous. The total raised at the three Masses was £872.60, which is an amazing total. This money will be sent to the Home of Divine Mercy Vocational School in Uganda to provide toilets and showers for the newly built girls' dormitory.

A few people asked the students if they could send a donation by bank transfer and this would be very welcome: Account No: 01386663. Bank and Sort Code: Lloyd's Bank, Lancaster Branch 30-14-60 - please put "Uganda22" on the transfer so it goes into the correct section of this account.

Thank you once again for your support and we hope some of you can make it to our concert on 22 April, 7.00 pm. *Mrs Ruth Lowe*

First Holy Communion 2022

If your child was born before September 2014 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 **Monday 28 February**. Thank you. *Fr Geoffrey & Mrs Archibald.*

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Agnes Gallagher, Josie Higham, Betty Ball.

Those who are ill or infirm. Margaret Brocklehurst, O Murphy, Rory Montgomery, Tony Clark, Mary Jo Counsell, Theresa Thompson, Pat Kennedy, Caroline Nurse, Caroline Rigby, Tony Blunt, Philippa Haynes, Yvonne Shaw, Barry Robinson, Elaine Stajniack, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, Tony Smith, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Marie Swarbrick, 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 Smith, Rev Robert Turpin, Josephine Wright, Eileen Fenna, Frank Moreland, Teresa Langley, James Foy, Ruth Curwen, Pauline Lord, Robert Waddington, Richard Dodd, Donald Slater, Ellen Greenall, Margaret Mary Holden, John Foley, Eileen Gleeson, Sr Catherine Waring, Martin Mears, Dorothy Hayes, Elizabeth Griffin, Jane Brown, Annie Grayston, Maureen Hollis, Maureen Ingleby, George Pearce, Mary Ann Smith, John Conway, Mary Bevins and Madeleine Looby.