

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

The Birth of the Lord

25 December 2021

Fri	G	6.00pm	Mass	Mary Agnes Ibison <i>anniversary</i>
	G	10.00pm	Mass	Revd John Horn <i>anniversary</i>
Sat	S	8.30am	Mass	Fr Michael Tully & Parents <i>RIP</i>
	G	10.30am	Mass	Bob Billington <i>1st anniversary</i>

The Holy Family

Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Anthony Ingleby <i>anniversary</i>
Mon	S	10.00am	Mass	Eileen Fogharty <i>lately dead</i> [ES]
Tue		---		
Wed	G	6.30pm	Mass	Terry & Sheila Murphy <i>RIP</i>
		7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	S	10.00am	Mass	Lucas A Backhouse <i>lately dead</i> [TS]
Fri	G	10.00am	Mass	Diane Pattinson <i>anniversary</i>
		10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	

Second Sunday after Christmas

Sat	G	6.00pm	Mass	Lucas A Backhouse <i>lately dead</i>
Sun	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
	G	10.30am	Mass	Margaret & Joseph Walmsley <i>anniversary</i>

Christmas blessings asnd every good wish ...

... to all parishioners and your families, from *Fr Geoffrey & Deacon D'Arcy*.

Thank you to everyone who has worked and helped in so many different ways to ensure the smooth running of our parishes in these still-challenging times. May God keep us all safe and well in the coming year. *Thank you*.

Letter from Bishop Paul

Accompanying the newsletter is Bishop Paul's letter to us all for the Feast of the Holy Family. It is also on our website: [Homepage / Pastoral Letters](#).

Christmas Collection

In this diocese, the Christmas collection forms the major part of the priests' annual salary. *Thank you for your support*.

Lancaster & District Homeless Action Service

LDHAS is preparing for their Christmas shelter. They'll provide their clients with meals and a place to shelter during the day in a congenial atmosphere.

It seems likely that there will be increasing demand for their services. For more information, visit www.ldhas.org.uk. To support this important work:

- Bank transfer: Account name: LDHAS; 40-52-40; 00031967; Ref. "Shelter2021".
- Cheque payable to LDHAS. Post to: LDHAS-Finance, Edward Street, Lancaster LA1 1QH.

Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator

The diocese is looking to recruit a suitably qualified individual with significant safeguarding experience to the post of diocesan safeguarding coordinator.

This vacancy has arisen due to the forthcoming retirement of the current post holder. The post will be advertised from 3 January 2022 on www.indeed.co.uk, and through other internal channels.

Application packs will also be available from the Diocesan Safeguarding Office: e-mail safeguarding@lancasterrcdioocese.org.uk.

Red Box Holders

2022 Calendars are now available for collection from Garstang church porch. If you would like a mission box or want your box to be emptied, please contact Celia Horn either directly or through the parish office.

Morecambe Bay Poverty Truth Commission

This Commission is being established to:

- Discover how people think about poverty.
- Show the truth of people living in poverty.
- Challenge the stigma of poverty.
- Share stories and change the understanding of poverty.
- Find solutions together that directly tackle poverty.

The organisers are inviting people who have experienced poverty to join this conversation. You can join one of the group sessions held locally or meet at their monthly Zoom meeting from home.

For venue details and all other information, phone 07766-933884 or email info@morecambebaypovertytruthcommission.org.uk.

Help for an elderly parishioner?

Elderly female parishioner in Garstang is looking for a relief carer to help out on occasional weekends and in the week when main carer is on leave.

Needs to have experience of personal care and have valid DBS and is able to provide references. Please contact Fr Geoffrey for details.

Mary's Meals

Until 31 January, every gift given to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.6m.

This means a gift of £15.90 will feed, not one, but two children, a life-changing daily meal for a whole school year. For more information, please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk.

Garstang tower – new pinnacle

A photograph of the newly-carved pinnacle has been added to our website: <https://www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk/gallery/2021/refurbishment-of-the-church-tower.html>.

Many thanks to the anonymous parishioner who has donated **£1000** towards the cost of carving the new pinnacle.

If anyone else would like to make a donation to help maintain our parish heritage for the generations to come, your support would be most welcome.

Christmas Appeal by the John Bradburne Memorial Society

The John Bradburne Memorial Society was founded in 1995 to help support Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre in Zimbabwe, in memory of John Bradburne. Born in Skirwith, Cumbria, John has been nominated for canonisation to become Zimbabwe's first Saint. John dedicated his life to look after the poorest, most needy leprosy patients and society's outcasts, providing ten years of selfless physical and spiritual care. He was murdered in 1979. The society raises funds for the care centre and educates people regarding John's saintly life and his prolific poetry writings.

The Christmas Appeal is to raise funds to change the narrative of children living in Mutemwa by giving them education, uniforms and transport. Please contact Kate McPherson, 07979 187498, or: info@johnbradburne.com or www.justgiving.com/campaign/JBMSXMAS.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations go to our December winners Mr & Mrs T McCall and Darnar Davis. Next draw: Christmas Eve. Good luck, everyone.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Phyllis Steel (sister-in-law of Fr G), David Carr, Brian Rushton, Bob Cross.

Those who are ill or infirm. Teresa Cole, Theresa Thompson, Pat Kennedy, Caroline Nurse, Caroline Rigby, Josie Higham, 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. Thomas Leo Horn, Mary Wilson, Mary Winstanley, Jas. G. Hall (Benefactor), Keith Barton, Kathleen Boden, John Kirby, Winifred Bracegirdle, Thomas Wilcock, Kathleen Collins, Anthony Ingleby, Rev John Michael Horn, Thomas Francis Horn, Louis Appleton Darbyshire, Mary Ibison, Elizabeth Quick, Katie McDonald, Agnes Cross, Leonard Lister, Celia Swarbrick, Mary Agnes Ibison, Alice Bernadette Swarbrick, Jim O'Brien, Margaret Walmsley, Frank Piela, Peggy Barton, Ellen Law, Marie Kendall, Diane Elizabeth Pattinson, Robert Ibison, Alice Ibison, Michael Hoyle, Mary Ainsworth, Moya Casey, Richard Swarbrick, Winifred McArdle, William Boden and Mary Teresa (Tess) Rogerson.