

# 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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## Fifth Sunday of Easter

10 May 2020

### Mass intentions this week

Sunday	People of our Parishes
Monday	Betty Gregson <i>lately dead</i> [F+BC]
Tuesday	Intentions of Teresa & Jim Thompson [WA]
Wednesday	Tommie Morley <i>anniversary</i>
Thursday	<b>ST MATTHIAS apostle</b>
	Margaret Gigli <i>lately dead</i> [F+BC]
Friday	Susan Stringer <i>lately dead</i> [SL]
Saturday	Price-Jones, Hull & Ackers families <i>RIP</i>

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday	People of our Parishes
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### Betty Gregson RIP

The Burial Liturgy for Betty, sister-in-law of Betty Carter, will take place at SSMM, **Monday 11 May**, 1.30pm. Please join in prayer for Betty at that time. A photograph and a copy of her Burial Liturgy are on our parish website. Current restrictions in place limit attendance and require social-distancing.

### Praying the Rosary during May

Liz Billington has organised a group to pray the Rosary during May, **Wednesdays, 7.00pm**. She invites you to use the Zoom app, which enables participants to see and hear one another. Alternatively, simply pray the Rosary at the same time in your own home.

Download Zoom to your smart device, and register (free of charge). After you've registered, please send your e-mail address to Liz, who will then invite you to join the group meeting: [stubbinsfarm@outlook.com](mailto:stubbinsfarm@outlook.com); 07918-662711.

**Intentions for prayer.** At the beginning of the session, the group members mention those requesting prayers, and include these in their intentions that week. If anyone would like to request prayer, please contact Liz.

If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself, please ensure you have their permission for them to be named. If not, you can always petition for e.g. 'a private intention' or 'someone suffering from ...'.

### Carmel Hayden RIP

SSMM parish gratefully acknowledges donations of £306.00, given in memory of our late parishioner, Carmel Hayden. May she rest in peace.

### What inspires you?

There's now a page on our parish website, *Shared Words*, for parishioners to contribute poems, thoughts, etc that have been or are, meaningful to them.

If you'd like to share something in this way, please e-mail it to Fr Geoffrey. Please remember to acknowledge the author and any copyright details.

### Cafod appeal video

On our parish website is a link to a coronavirus appeal video by the Director of CAFOD. It's also available here:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising>

## Votive lights

Each morning when I go into church first thing, I light votive lamps for all of us at the statues of the Sacred Heart and Our Lady, and at the shrine of our martyr, St John Plessington.

If you have a particular intention for which you'd like me to light a votive candle for you, please let me know and I'll gladly do so. *Fr Geoffrey*.

## Musings from my hermitage ... Fr Geoffrey

"You know the way to the place where I am going." That passage in John's gospel follows immediately on the last supper, where Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. Then he told them he's going to the Father; they must have felt that Jesus was going to leave them. Imagine their sense of loss, pain.

So Jesus spoke encouragingly, promised to return; but not sometime in the future. He explained that his return to them was somehow already underway, part of his journey to the Father. ... What sense did they make of that? ... What sense do you and I make of it?!

John's gospel was written in a time of conflict and persecution. The writer wanted to convince his faith-community of the abiding presence of Christ. Even though Christ was no longer physically present, the risen, exalted Christ continued to work through his disciples; not in one, small corner of the world, but now across the entire planet. Christ's journey to the Father had released the Holy Spirit into the world. And the Holy Spirit, working today through us, continues to make Christ known, through us.

The abiding presence of Christ sustains us on our journey — the journey of the entire human race to the city of the heavenly Jerusalem; the city where God is the architect, and we are the living, breathing stones. The keystone of this city is Christ. Set close to Christ, we are rock-solid.

In the living city that God commands us to build and to be, God sees room for everyone: "There are many dwelling places in my Father's house." In God's living city, no one lacks shelter or food; no one is excluded, vilified, or violated.

We'll not find God's living city somewhere else; we build it here, with what lies at hand, with the people we have, in this place, at this time.

We are each of us living stones, and we build the city of God in the fine detail of daily living; yes, even in the current strange circumstances.

## Diocesan newspaper

For the time being, *The Catholic Voice* is available only in digital form, a link to which on our parish website. [https://www.ssmaryandmichaelsgarstang.org.uk/newsletters/Lancaster%20May%202020\\_Final.pdf](https://www.ssmaryandmichaelsgarstang.org.uk/newsletters/Lancaster%20May%202020_Final.pdf)

## Do you need practical help or support?

If you are elderly or vulnerable or self-isolating and need assistance or support, please contact our St Vincent de Paul group on their dedicated mobile number: 07535-736975.

If you know of someone who might need help, please speak to them first and then contact our SVP on their dedicated number.

## Please pray for ...

**Those who have died recently.** John & Mary Turner (brother & sister-in-law of Fr Aidan), Betty Gregson (sister-in-law of Betty Carter), Brenda Richardson, David Winstanley (brother of Brian RIP), Aileen Seward (aunt of Fr Geoffrey's mother), Ellen Worsley.

**Those who are ill or infirm.** Jean Andrews, Roger Bevins, Vin Cahill, Paul Cain, Eileen Cartner, Christine Cobane, John Cookson, Martina Copple, Bob Cross, Simon Crossley, Jean Dunne, Dorothy Evans, Louise Gornall, Michael Hendry, Pat Hickey, Peter Holland, Jessica Holmes & Phoebe, Kevin Horan, Janet Howarth, Keith Jones, Nigel Lord, Graham Markham (Australia), Seamus Martin, Ian Moran, Pat Nickson, Matthew Pearson, Margaret Pendleton, Sarah Preston, Francisca Rainford, Charlie Robinson (3 years old), Wendy Seed, Revd Andrew Shaw, a Sick Parishioner, Teresa Smith, Tony Smith, Colin & Marie Swarbrick, Austin Walmsley, Andrew Whipp, Ann Wicks, Louise Williams, Mary Winstanley, Ewan, Kathryn, Lucy & family.

**Those whose anniversary we keep.** Mary Speight, Peter Nickson, Brenda Lever, Sarah Turner, Elizabeth Wrennall, Joseph Grayston, Cyril Lamoury, Jane Gornall, Ellen O'Brien, Wilfred Swinburne, Ray Wilcock, Tommie Morley, William Gillett, Mary Agnes McKenzie, William Thompson, Leonard Thomas Carter, Father Charles Moah, Winifred Cross, John Barnacle, Dick Helme and Samuel Carr.

*Please e-mail the parish with the name of anyone you would like to be remembered in this way.*