

**St Mary and St Michael's Catholic Church
Garstang and Calder Vale
and
SS Mary & James, Scorton**

Parishes of the Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity, no. 234331



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4th/5th January 2020

THE EPIPHANY



"We saw his star and have come to do the king homage"

Many thanks indeed to everyone for your 'Christmas offerings' which, in this diocese, form the major part of the priests' salary for the year. So *thank you most sincerely for your generous support*, and thank you for your many cards, expressions of appreciation, and personal gifts. I am very grateful *Fr Geoffrey*

Christmas liturgies *Thank you:* to all who prepared and decorated the church, polished the brasses, and erected the cribs; those who prepared the refreshments after the 10.00pm & 10.30am Masses; those who led the children's Liturgy of the Word on Christmas morning; and to all who served the Christmas liturgy as welcomers, musicians, singers, servers, readers, collectors, and ministers of holy communion. *Fr Geoffrey*

First Holy Communion The initial meeting for parents & children who wish to prepare for First Holy Communion this year is this week: **Thursday 9 January**, 7.00pm, in the Plessington chapel. All parents of children wishing to join the 2020 programme with their child(ren) are to attend this meeting and return the completed request form. Many thanks, *Fr Geoffrey*.

SVP Collection A total of £500.00 was received in last week's collection. *Thank you.*

Monthly Coffee Morning Happy New Year everyone! And what better way to celebrate than to make our way to the Coffee Morning! Cakes, brews and getting together with friends (and complaining about the cost of Christmas!!!). Next Wednesday 8th January, from 10 am in the Plessington Chapel. Everyone is welcome!

Choral Evensong St Peter's Church, Scorton, **Sunday 12th January** 6pm. Followed by music and wine. All welcome.

Christmas Stars The sum of £213.19 has been donated this year and will be passed on to the Chivuna Clinic. *Thank you*

Ss Mary & James Presbytery renovation: Plans for the renovation of the presbytery at Scorton have been agreed by the Parish Council. Fr Geoffrey has presented them to the Bishop and the Diocesan Property Manager. They will now be presented to the Diocesan Trustees for (hopefully) final approval at their meeting on 7th January 2020.

Please offer your prayers for a successful outcome.

The renovation will create an upstairs flat and, on the ground floor, rooms and a fully-accessible toilet for parish use.

M6 Weekend Closure Drivers using the M6 are being advised that the motorway will close for a weekend, in both directions, from **9pm Friday 10th January to 5am Monday 13th January between junctions 32 and 33**. Highways England is removing Nan's Nook bridge which carries a footpath between Greaves Hill Lane and Guys Farm Activity Centre over the motorway near Forton, south of Lancaster. The footbridge was installed in the 1960s and parts of the bridge are too low for some modern vehicles; it has only remained open with hard shoulder restrictions beneath it. A diversion will be in place using the A6 between junction 1 of the M55 and junction 33 of the M6 at Galgate.

Emailing the parish – For items for the newsletter/bulletin, please include in the subject line the word 'newsletter' or 'bulletin'. If item is for Fr Geoffrey's personal attention, especially if confidential, please include the word 'priest' in the subject line. *Thank you.*

Carmelites' Rosary Service 2.00pm on Tuesday 7 January 2020 at the Carmelite Monastery Church, St Vincent's Road, Fulwood. Please see poster at back of church.

Local Food Bank – If you know someone locally who needs help with food please refer to poster at the back of church. Contact 07731 846124. Any food we collect goes to Sr Eileen for the Ingol Food Bank.

From now until the end of January 2020, St Joseph's Church, Skerton, is hosting the nationally-acclaimed **Knitted Bible Exhibition**. Thirty Three biblical scenes knitted to tell the story of salvation, from Adam and Eve, to Noah's Ark, to Daniel in the Lion's Den, and Jonah and the whale, to all the beautiful stories of the Gospel. This is perfect for families, for young and old alike, and a great way to begin our year dedicated to the Word of God. The church is open every day after weekday or weekend Masses or on Saturday 11th and 18th January, from 11am - 3pm.

Update from Fr Satoru Kato and Family: You may like to read Satoru's letter to the parish, which is on the noticeboard at the back of church. He sends grateful thanks for our prayers, and mentions being able to concelebrate with Pope Francis on two occasions, during the canonisation Mass in Rome for Cardinal St John Henry Newman and also when Pope Francis visited Japan. Satoru asks for continued prayers for the family and assures our parish of their prayers for us.

Lancaster Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2020; This will take place from 24th – 31st July 2020. Return flights from Manchester Airport, 7 nights hotel accommodation. £779 per person. For further details see poster at back of church.

St Peter's Deanery Bereavement Support Group – Seven Sessions fortnightly 10am - 12noon. If you are interested, or for further information, see poster at back of church. Contact No. 01524 64256.

A New Year in the New Season 2020 - In the Power of the Spirit sadly, this event has now been cancelled.

Vacancy – Lead Diocesan Education Officer The Bishop and Trustees are seeking to appoint a Lead Diocesan Education Officer to work for the Education Service. 0.8 FTE Term time only – Leadership salary £40,987 to £45,220 – required for Easter 2020. **Closing Date: 12.00 noon Friday, 1st February 2020.** A Job Description, Person Specification and Application Form can be obtained by emailing educationservice@lancasterrcdioocese.org.uk or telephone 01524 841190. See copy of advertisement on noticeboard at back of church.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Deacon John Kennedy who died last week. May he rest in peace.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time in Garstang and Scorton – Thomas Cross, Tom Wallbank, Angela Margaret Beirley, Sheila Richardson, Alfred Wheatley, Ann Eastham, Margaret Davis, John Edwards, Fr Arthur Speight, Sarah Ann Garvey, Eira Weaver, John Edwards, Annie Bisby, Mary Alexander Kenyon, Gerard Swarbrick, Vincent Parker, Stephen John O'Regan, Winifred Doyle, Mary Dickinson, Rev Patrick Smyth, Christopher John Newman, & John Finlay. **May they rest in peace.** (There are blank forms at the back of both Sts Mary & Michael & Sts Mary & James' Churches on which can be added the name of anyone you would like to be remembered in this way.)

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends in Scorton and Garstang, including: Deacon Frank Bell, Margaret Pendleton, Janet Howarth, Austin Walmsley, Eileen Cartner, Andrew Whipp, Brenda Richardson, Charlie Robinson (3 years old), Ellen Worsley, Simon Crossley, Mary Winstanley, Kevin Horan, Paul Cain, Frances Dickinson, Jean Dunne, Louise Williams, Teresa Smith, John Cookson, Reverend Andrew Shaw, Wendy Seed, Graham Markham (Australia), Louise Gornall, Colin and Marie Swarbrick, Jacqui Elliot, Pat Nickson, a Sick Parishioner, Seamus Martin, Peter Holland, Kathryn, Vin Cahill, Bob Cross, Martina Copple, Matthew Pearson, Dorothy Evans, Christine Cobane, Ian Moran, David Winstanley, Pat Hickey, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Lucy and Family, Ann Wicks, Jessica Holmes and Phoebe. (If you would like to add someone, please ask the person involved if they wish to be put on the sick list, write down their name and hand it to Father or to D'arcy, or send in by email. Please also let us know when a name is to be removed. Thank you.)

Wednesday Word – copies for the Sunday Masses of 12th January 2020 can be found on green paper at the back of church. If you would like a copy, please take one.

Psalm Response: 10.30am Mass (Garstang)

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 4th January – Sunday 12th January 2020

Sat	4 th	6.00 pm (Garstang)	Sheila Richardson (RIP)
Sun	5 th	8.30 am (Scorton)	Rena McGhee
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Neil Walmsley (RIP)
Mon	6 th	9.30 am (Scorton)	Bob & Agnes Thompson (RIP)
Tue	7 th	No Mass	
Wed	8 th	7.00 pm (Garstang)	Special intention
Thurs	9 th	9.30 am (Scorton)	Felix & Sarah Gunn
Fri	10 th	10.00 am (Garstang)	Requiem Mass for Diane Pattinson
Sat	11 th	9.30 am (Garstang)	Marion Poulton (RIP)
		6.00 pm Vigil (Garstang)	Terry & Sheila Murphy (RIP)
Sun	12 th	8.30 am (Scorton)	All our Parishioners
		10.30 am (Garstang)	Thomas & Eleanor Bolton

Devotions and Celebrations this week

Sat	11 th	Jan	9.00 am (Scorton)	Saturday Liturgy of the Word
			10.00 – 10.30 am (Garstang)	Confessions

Special Days this week:

Sun	5 th	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Tue	7 th	St Raymond of Penyafort
Sun	12 th	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Meetings this Week:

Wed	8 th Jan	10.00 am	Coffee morning
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thur	9 th	7.00 pm	Initial meeting for parents and children for First Holy Communion
Fri	10 th	7.00 pm	Chivuna meeting (No Mass)

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	28 th	6.00 pm (Garstang)	Adults: 158	Children: 12	Total: 170
		8.00 am (Scorton)			Total: 46
Sun	29 th	10.30 am (Garstang)	Adults: 132	Children: 16	Total: 148

Monies Received last week:

Garstang: Offertory: (Inc. £390 Standing Orders): £1,065.75; Votive Lights: £25.00; Shop: £30.00.

Many thanks to you all.

Scorton: Offertory (Inc. £157.80 Standing Orders): £347.50; Votive Lights: £20.60. **Many thanks to you all.**

Churches Together in Garstang & District

Ecumenical Morning Prayer is held at 7.45 am each Tuesday in December at SS Mary & Michael's (Meeting as usual on New Year's Eve); and each Tuesday in January 2020 at St Thomas's.

Hymns at 6.00 pm (Garstang):

Ent:	The First Nowell	150
Off:	Take my Hands	608
G.A.		710
Sanctus:	Celtic	553
Acc.	Celtic	554a
Amen:	Celtic	555
Rec:	We Three Kings	170

Hymns at 10.30 am Mass (Garstang):

Ent:	The First Nowell	150
Gloria:	Duffy	527
G.A.:	Triple + missal	
Off:	Bethlehem of Noblest Cities	167
S.M.D.:	Celtic	553, 554c, 555
A.D	Lamb of God – Foster	595
Com:	(1) As with Gladness	166
	(2) Laudate Dominum	698
Rec:	We Three Kings	170