

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

Second Sunday after Christmas

2 January 2022

Sat	1	G	6.00pm	Mass	Lucas A Backhouse <i>lately dead</i>
Sun	2	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Margaret & Joseph Walmsley <i>anniv.</i> [AC]
Mon	3	S	10.00am	Mass	Fr Austin Smith <i>RIP</i>
Tue	4	---			

The Epiphany of the Lord

Wed	5	G	6.30pm	Mass	Eleanor <i>anniversary</i> & Thomas Bolton <i>RIP</i>
			7.00pm	Rosary	<i>in our homes</i>
Thu	6	S	10.00am	Mass	John & Ina Flynn <i>RIP</i>
Fri	7	G	11.00am	Funeral Mass	: David Carr
Sat	8	G	12.15pm	Baptism	: Poppy Armstrong

The Baptism of the Lord

Sat	8	G	6.00pm	Mass	Sheila Richardson <i>anniversary</i>
Sun	9	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Freda Gidlow <i>RIP</i> [L]

Christmas & New Year blessings and every good wish ...

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

Covid-safe. Thank you to everyone who has worked and helped in so many different ways to ensure that our churches are a Covid-safe environment for everyone. Because of you, we are able to celebrate public Mass.

Our churches and grounds. Thank you to everyone who has helped look after and maintain the buildings and the grounds over the past year, and to those who've helped us celebrate Christmas by preparing the cribs, the trees, and the floral displays.

Christmas collection

In our diocese, the Christmas collection forms a significant portion of the priests' income for the year.

Thank you for your support, and thank you for your many cards, good wishes, and personal gifts. I am very grateful. Fr Geoffrey

Letter from Bishop Paul

Bishop Paul's letter to us all for the Feast of the Holy Family is on our website: Homepage / Pastoral Letters. Copies are also available at the back of church.

Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator

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

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.

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, with a life-changing daily meal for a whole school year. For more information, please visit www.marysmeals.org.uk.

Greetings from Chivuna

“Season’s greetings to all of you. I hope and trust that you are doing well. We are trying to keep well and are experiencing the 4th wave of COVID 19. I am currently on home isolation. I was diagnosed with Covid 2 days ago. I am recovering well and will celebrate Christmas and New Year in quarantine. Pray for me and many of our people who are afflicted by the pandemic at the moment. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. With love and prayers, *Sr Mutinta*”

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@morecambebapovetrytruthcommission.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.

Garstang Parish Draw

Congratulations go to Helen and Tim Forshaw and Anne Marie Whitehead, our Christmas winners. Happy New Year and thank you all for your support with our Parish draw during 2021. If you would like to know more about our Parish Draw contact Trish & Kev O’Hanlon via the parish office.

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.

Please pray for ...

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

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. Richard Swarbrick, Winifred McArdle, William Boden, Mary Teresa (Tess) Rogerson, Eleanor Bolton, Iain Watson, Florence Carter, Edwin Eydmann, Peter Ellwood, Sheila Richardson, Thomas Cross, Tom Wallbank, Angela Margaret Beirley, Alfred Wheatley, Ann Eastham (10th anniversary), John Edwards, Margaret Davis, Fr Arthur Speight, Sarah Ann Garvey, Eira Weaver, John Edwards (10th anniversary), Annie Bisby, Mary Alexander Kenyon, Gerard Swarbrick, Vincent Parker, Stephen John O’Regan and Winifred Doyle.