

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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The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin into Heaven

(Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

14 August 2022

Sat	13	G	6.00pm	Mass	Terry Murphy <i>11th anniversary</i>	
Sun	14	S	8.30am	Mass	People of the Parishes	
		G	10.30am	Mass	Fr David Elder <i>RIP-birthday</i>	
Mon	15	S	10.00am	Mass	Tom & Betty Kennedy <i>RIP [ES]</i>	
Tue	16	G	5.30pm	Funeral Vigil : Betty Carter		--
Wed	17	G	11.00am	Funeral Mass : Betty Carter		
Thu	18	S	10.00am	Mass	Pauline Crossfield <i>RIP [ES]</i>	
		G	12 noon	Burial of Ashes : Frank Purkis		
Fri	19	G	10.00am	Mass	In thanksgiving <i>[M+P]</i>	
		G	10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation		

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat	20	G	6.00pm	Mass	Fr David Elder <i>anniversary</i>	
Sun	21	S	8.30am	Mass	People of the Parishes	
		G	10.30am	Mass	Betty Carter <i>lately dead [L]</i>	

Works in our parish cemetery

You will see that work is now underway to prepare the next section of our parish cemetery for use: installing drainage, paths, and the concrete plinths for the headstones.

The cost of this work is **£20,000**; and having spent £110,000 repairing and renovating the church tower, we are short of funds indeed.

May I appeal to parishioners for funds to pay for the work in the cemetery? I'm all too aware that, with the increase in the cost of living, fuel, and all the rest, this is hardly a good time to be asking folk for significant money.

Perhaps forty parishioners – individuals, couples, families – might be able to donate £500. That would cover the £20,000, and I am willing to be one of these donors myself. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, so much the better. Please read the piece below.

Many thanks for the donations received already.

Smaller donations are, of course, very welcome; perhaps in memory of a family member already buried in our cemetery. Please make cheques payable to Ss Mary & Michael Parish Main Account. Any other ideas for fund-raising?

Work is also due to start on some of the trees in our grounds, ensuring their health and our safety. Many thanks, Fr G.

Gift Aid : many thanks ...

... to everyone who is able to support the parishes with Gift Aid. Scorton has recently been credited with £3197.60, and Garstang with £10612.10.

To all parishioners: If you are a UK tax payer, *please* complete a Gift Aid declaration for the parish. It costs you absolutely nothing. You are giving to your parish anyway; this simply asks the Government to redirect to the Church some of the tax you have paid to the Government. For every £1 you give, the Church can reclaim 25p of tax. Thank you.

Diocesan pilgrimage to Cleator

The annual pilgrimage to the Diocesan shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator is on **Sunday 11 September**. The principal celebrant and preacher will be Bishop Paul. The theme this year is *Our Lady, Help of Christians*, a broad interpretation of this title, acknowledging the needs of our world internationally and locally.

SSMM open for prayer

I'm going to start leaving church open again for personal prayer during the daytime. On those days when I'm going to be around to close in the evening, that will be at 6.00pm or dusk. Some days I might need to close earlier and, usually, church will not be open on Tuesday or Wednesday. Let's see how that works out. Pre-Covid, many folk visited and it's good to be able to restore this opportunity. Fr G.

Tea & coffee after Sunday Mass?

Although we don't have sufficient volunteers to resume serving tea & coffee after Mass in Garstang, you are still welcome to stay behind in church to chat after Mass, in the Plessington Chapel or at the back of church, especially when the weather isn't conducive to gathering outside.

I'll ask again about tea & coffee at the end of September. Fr G.

Chivuna upate

Baby clothes and knitted items for Sr Mutinta, Chivuna Clinic, Zambia.

Pat Costain writes: Grateful thanks go to Janet, Shiron and Cathy, plus knitted garments left anonymously at my door. Beautiful work. They have been sent off to Zambia and they have been gratefully acknowledged by Sister Mutinta. This provides vital support to the babies and very young children who do not have adequate clothing to keep them warm especially when the temperature drops at night.

Bank transfer: I'm pleased to report that the parish was able to transfer £2000 to the clinic in Chivuna, thanks to your regular donations. Sr Mutinta has confirmed that the transfer has been made. She's particularly grateful just now because their two vehicles have been off the road because they couldn't afford the repairs. Fr G.

The Search for Happiness short course

A course in Thomistic philosophy and theology, in partnership with CEPHAS, focusses on the Cardinal virtues this year. **The Search for Happiness** will offer a close study of the four pillars of the good life, reflecting on the necessary interior structures for responding justly to the challenges of the contemporary world. **26–29 August 2022.** More information & booking: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-search-for-happiness/>

Diocesan Directory 2023

To order a copy of next year's diocesan directory: for *Scorton*, please contact Catherine Pickering; for *Garstang*, please e-mail the parish office, phone and leave a message, or leave a note in the collection plate. Please specify which edition: ring-bound, £6.00; standard, £5.00.

Deadline for orders: Friday 26 August, noon.

Ethel Hodgson RIP : Many thanks

Garstang parish gratefully acknowledges receipt of £209 donations made in memory of the late Ethel Hodgson. The money will go towards the cost of the works now underway in our cemetery.

SVP collection

Our SVP Conference would like to thank parishioners for their generosity last weekend. A total of £387 was donated (£133 from Scorton and £254 from Garstang). The money will be used to support people in need. Thank you, again, and God bless.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Betty Carter, Fr Dermott Donnelly, Fr David Duane.

Those who are ill or infirm. Mary McCann, Fr Robert "Bob" Horn, Pat Errington, Anthony Monks, Rita Whittaker, John Bolton, Margaret Brocklehurst, O Murphy, Rory Montgomery, Tony Clark, Mary Jo Counsell, Theresa Thompson, Caroline Nurse, Caroline Rigby, Tony Blunt, Philippa Haynes, Yvonne Shaw, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, Tony Smith, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, Peter Holland, Martina Cople, Dorothy Evans, Ian Moran, Nigel Lord, Ewan, Francisca Rainford, Michael Hendry, Kathryn, Lucy & Family, Jessica Holmes.

Those whose anniversary we keep: Helen Beale, Bert Maddock, Mary Spencer, Gerald James Derbyshire, James Greenall, Elizabeth Keefe, John Cross, Geoffrey Smith, Terry Murphy, Gerard Rawlinson, Jack Pinnington, Frances & Gerard Wearden and Ethel Davis (1st anniversary).