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

First Sunday of Advent

27 November 2022

Sat	26	G	6.00pm	Mass	Joan Walbank 2nd anniversary		
Sun	27	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes		
		G	10.30am	Mass	Bill & Nellie Bateson anniversary		
Mon	28	S	10.00am	Mass	John Bolton lately dead [PC]		
Tue	29						
Wed 30		ST ANDREW apostle, patron of Scotland					
		G	6.30pm	Mass	Maureen Pyke anniversary		
Thu	1	S	10.00am	Mass	In thanksgiving [J]		
Thu Fri	1 2	s G	10.00am 11.00am		In thanksgiving [ɹ]		

Second Sunday of Advent

Sat	3	G	6.00pm	Mass	Betty Carter RIP [G.MCA]
Sun	4	S	8.30am	Mass	People of our Parishes
		G	10.30am	Mass	Richard Gaughan anniversary

Special collection: Diocesan Poor Missions Fund

This weekend there is the annual collection for the *poor parishes of our diocese*. There is be a second basket at the back of both churches.

The Big Quiz

To help raise much needed funds for the work required in our cemetery, we are holding a quiz night, **Saturday 26 November**, 7.15pm, in our community centre on Castle Lane. See the poster at the back of church.

Raffle prizes and refreshments will be gratefully received, as will any offers of help. Come along, bring friends, for a fun and perhaps enlightening evening out!

The four candles of Advent

A series of Advent reflection webinars, **Thursdays**, 6.00-7.00pm.

- **1 December**. God's People: the candle of hope. Dame Laurentia Johns OSB, Stanbrook Abbey.
- **8 December**. The Old Testament Prophets: the candle of peace. Sr Imelda Poole IBVM.
- **15 December**. John the Baptist: the candle of love. Dominic White OP.
- **22 December**. Mary, Mother of Jesus: the candle of joy. Fr Nicholas King SJ.

To sign up: www.thetablet.co.uk/events.

Hummingbirds Christmas Markets

Lots of lovely stalls to buy gifts or treat yourself. Hot food available. **Friday 2 December**, 6.00-9.00pm, in our school hall.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's liturgy, a celebration of the Liturgy of the Word for children of primary school age, has now resumed at Garstang, usually on the first Sunday of each month, at 10.30am Mass: **4 December**, and **6 January**.

Dates for your diary

- Mass with the school, **Friday 9 December**, 10.00am. All welcome.
- Concert by Lancaster Singers and children from our school, Friday 9
 December, 7.30pm, SSMM.

Carols in the Square

In the season of Advent Christians Together in Garstang (CTiG) invite you to join other residents for carols in Cherestanc Square, **Saturday 10 December**, 3.00-3.45pm. In case of rain, the event will be held in the URC, Croston Road.

Warm Spaces initiative

Churches in Garstang are opening warm spaces on weekdays during the winter. Our contribution is to offer a warm space in the Plessington Chapel, 10.30am-12.30pm, **Saturdays 10**, **17**, and **24 December**. We will launch the scheme on **Saturday 3 December**, 11.30am-12.30pm, after our Advent Liturgy of Reconciliation.

Warmth and company, as well as free tea, coffee, biscuits and mince pies will be available to anyone who would like to come along.

To make this venture a success we need people to help on the day and/or to offer biscuits, mince pies, etc. If you can assist in any way, please contact Helen Forshaw 01995 603944 or email: hm.forshaw@btinternet.com.

6.00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Once again, we will be operating an allocated seating plan for this Mass. If you wish to attend, please complete the Seat Request form or email directly to ssmm.christmas.mass@gmail.com. Please supply the following information: Your name; number of seats required; number of those U12; any special requests / considerations (e.g. mobility issues, etc); contact phone number (mobile preferred).

Please note that we will only be using the main body of the church: current fire regulations mean we cannot use the balcony or have parishioners standing at the back of church.

Seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis, and every effort will be made to accommodate everyone who wants to attend. This year there will be no restrictions on the number in a bench and all rows will be filled to their safe capacity. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Advent and prayer and resources for all ages

Available at cafod.org.uk/advent:

- online daily reflection calendars for all ages; Advent reflection pack.
- a new Nativity play script (coming soon); and children's liturgy resources.

John Bolton RIP: many thanks

Vee, Helen, David and family sincerely thank our wonderful friends and parishioners for their love, prayers, cards and mass offerings, during our recent sad loss of John. We have all felt held and supported by the parish family and John's funeral was a real testament to this. We will be forever grateful for your kindness. God bless you all.

Ella Richmond RIP: many thanks

Garstang parish gratefully acknowledges donations of £199 in memory of our late parishioner, Ella Richmond.

Lancaster Infirmary: can you help?

Fr Chapple the Chaplain at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary is seeking volunteers to help with the provision to Catholic patients in the hospital. This will involve the general visiting of Catholic patients and to take Holy Communion to those who wish to receive. Days for volunteering can be flexible in consultation with Fr Chapple. Please speak to Fr Chapple if you are interested in this ministry: schapple@lancastercathedral.org.uk or by telephone at the cathedral: 01524 384820.

Please pray for ...

Those who have died recently. Eileen Bolton (mother of Janet Place), Oonagh Murphy, Celia (Cecilia Anne) Hume, Mary Murphy, Don Porteous, Doreen Lewis.

Those who are ill or infirm. Annie Billington, Federico Lema, Mary McCann, Fr Bob Horn, Pat Errington, Anthony Monks, Rita Whittaker, Margaret Brocklehurst, Rory Montgomery, Tony Clark, Mary Jo Counsell, Theresa Thompson, Caroline Nurse, Tony Blunt, Philippa Haynes, Yvonne Shaw, Anne Hunt, Jean Andrews, Andrew Whipp, Simon Crossley, John Cookson, 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: Cath Bagot, Eleanor Elizabeth Ratcliffe, Mgr Paddy O'Dea, Eugenia McCarthy, Sarah Ingleby, Maureen Pyke, V Rev Canon Joseph Tootell, Jack Noblett, Margaret Stopforth, Nellie Bateson, John Robert Boulter, William Kelsall, Joseph Smith, Patrick (Pat) Henry, Grace Lillian Salles, May Ball and Bridie O'Connor.