

St Mary and St Michael's Catholic Church GARSTANG AND CALDER VALE

A Parish of the Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity, no.234331
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28th FEBRUARY/1st MARCH SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



Jesus came among us on earth, and the first thing he had to do was to convince us that he was the Son of God. His whole mission of Redemption hangs on this reality.

It wasn't as easy as one might think to make himself known, even to believing people and to his closest friends. Yes, they could understand that he was a prophet, a great prophet. This was a concept that the Jewish people were very familiar with.

Jesus had done all kinds of spectacular miracles in the presence of his disciples – he had made severely disabled people healthy, he had walked on the water, he had fed thousands on a few loaves and fish, he had brought dead people back to life. Less spectacular, but amazingly, he had forgiven people who were public sinners. But none of this seemed to get the message across.

He decided to reveal his divine glory to Peter, James and John on the top of Mount Tabor. He chose a high mountain because he knew that his friends were very aware that it was on the top of mountains that God had revealed himself to the prophets – like to Moses on top of Mount Sinai.

He revealed himself in glory talking to Moses and Elijah each side of him. Jesus' figure was glorified, transfigured – Moses and Elijah's figures were not. Jesus was clearly different from them. He was the Son of God! He was divine!

But Peter and his friends didn't understand this – they saw it and noticed but didn't comprehend what it meant – Peter offered to build three equal shrines, one for each of them – there was no distinction for Jesus.

Jesus knew this. He knew that they would only come to realise that he was the Son of God after he had risen from the dead. Jesus told them this – but they had no understanding. It was to be as Jesus predicted.

We too struggle to really know Jesus as the Son of God. We may come to know him as a brother or as a friend – but as the Son of God...??!! Every day we must ask the Lord: "Reveal yourself to me Lord! Make me know you as the Son of God!" This is our prayer especially when we kneel before the Blessed Sacrament exposed on our altar; especially in Lent.

New items and information

Re Sunday Mass Times

- The feedback I have had regarding the change of Mass times from 15th March has indicated that there is a desire by some people to have the one Mass at 10 am rather than 9.30 am. To find out what the majority opinion is, we will be circulating a short questionnaire at all the Masses this Sunday.
- *Next Sunday will be the last Sunday when there will be an 8.30 am Mass. Tea and coffee will be served after that Mass to allow the 8.30 am people to gather.*

Lent Fast Day – Your Lent Fast Day CAFOD envelopes will be collected today.

Did you know....your gift to CAFOD this Lent will be **doubled** in value? The government has promised that every donation made up until 17th May to CAFOD's Lent Appeal will be matched £1 for £1, up to the value of £5 million.

Holy Hour & Benediction will take place next Sunday, 8th March, at 3 pm.

Our Monthly Coffee Morning will take place next Wednesday, 4th March, from 10am – 12 noon. This is a great social occasion, when friends, old and new, can get together over a brew, *delicious* cake, and a chat. Who could want more? All welcome.

Cake and Craft Sale – 14th & 15th March after the 6 pm and 9.30 (or 10) am Mass, in the Plessington Chapel. All proceeds will go to the poor overseas – this will be shared between Chivuna and CAFOD. **A call to all bakers and crafts people for donations of cakes, candles, cards, pots etc.** Please leave your "creations" in the Plessington Chapel before Mass. *For further information, please contact Vince Cahill on 01995 238184.*

Spiritual Reading – There are a number of books in the church shop which can be borrowed for reading and then returned. There is no charge, just sign the paper provided registering that you have taken the book. If you have any books that you would be happy to leave, they will be most welcome.

Mission Boxes: Would you please bring mission boxes for emptying to church next Sunday. *Thank you.*

Fairtrade Fortnight is still with us – 23rd February to 8th March. Please try and choose Fairtrade versions of the items you buy regularly, and use the power you have as a consumer to make the world a fairer place.

The Call, the Journey & the Mission – Next Thurs 5th March at the Cathedral, there will be a reflection on the Prayer of Tobias & Sarah (Tobit 8:408) led by Fr David, from 7 pm – 8 pm. All are welcome.

Women's World Day of Prayer – this coming **Friday, 6th March** at All Saints, Barnacre, 2pm. All (women *and* men) are very welcome.

Parish Draw – Subscriptions of £20 will soon be collected for the year 2015/16. Those paying by standing order need do nothing. Those who wish to join please leave a message for me at the presbytery or ring 602797. Thank you in anticipation. *Philippa Catterall.*

Cardinal Newman College invites you to their Lenten Vigil and Service of Reconciliation, Monday, 16th March, at 6.30 pm, in the College Chapel, Lark Hill.

A Call to Action – ACTA "aims to encourage dialogue at all levels in the Church we love, and to grow in our relationship with Jesus through an exploration of the

Sacred Scriptures and the riches of Vatican II.” There is a meeting on **Saturday, 21st March**, from 10 am – 4 pm at St Bernadette’s, Bowerham Road, Lancaster, entitled “Did not our hearts burn within us?” Prayer, reflection, discussion with Dymphna Magee and Fr Joe Smith. To book, please email anne.foley@blueyonder.co.uk. Bring a Bible and a packed lunch. **The next Property & Finance Committee Meeting** will be on Weds, 25th March, at 7.45 pm.

Previously Published Items

Cenacolo Community – In May, the Community will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the opening of the House in the UK. Because Bishop Campbell will offer Mass at the House on **Sunday, 22nd March, at 3pm**. He has asked that those parishes who support the Community be made aware of the Mass and be invited to attend. If anyone would like to be present, **please let Father David know before 15th March**.

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 8th March, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Please pray for Hannah Thompson, who is being baptised during the 10.30 am Mass this Sunday.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Marjorie Kirkman who died last Monday. Her Funeral Mass will be held here on Thursday, 12th March, 11 am. **May she rest in peace.**

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: James Foy, Pauline Lord, Robert Waddington, Richard Dodd, Donald Slater, Ellen Greenall, Martin Mears, Elizabeth Griffin, Jane Brown, Annie Grayston, Maureen Hollis, Mary Ann Smith, John Conway, Alice Ann Lydiate, Ellen Moxham, The Cookson & Hine Families, Edward Hodgson, Joan McCall and Richard Hogarth. **May they rest in peace.**

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Josie Maddock, Dina Carter, Richard (aged 14, has had a bone marrow transplant), Sheila Murphy, Rosemary Davies, Brian Hargreaves, Ellen, Brendan McGlone (14 year old with leukaemia), Anne Brockbank, Teresa Bonnar (Bowerswood), Rachael Flood (née Mears), Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Sheila Carrol, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Susanne, Jessica Holmes (3 ½ years old with leukaemia), Molly and family, Mark Noblet, Christopher Lawson, Anthonio Dilao, Bernadette O’Neill, Tom Horn, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Tony Moran, Sharon Hodgson, Christine, Peter Holland, Ian Moran, Tony Winstanley, Alyson, Michael Hendry, Christopher Simpson, Auntie Sophie, Christopher Brown, Simon Thompson, Michael Ryan, Sheila Cookson, Francisca Rainford and Alison Green. **(When people whose names are placed on this sick list have recovered their health, please let us know.)**

Response to the psalm at 10.30 am Mass:

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 28th February – Sunday 8th March 2015

Sat	28 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	William and Ellen Greenall
Sun	1 st Mar	8.30 am	Holy Souls
		10.30 am	Minnie and Terry Fitzpatrick
Mon	2 nd	No Mass	
Tues	3 rd	12 noon	Benny Heckman
Wed	4 th	9.30 am (note time)	Peter Corrigan
Thurs	5 th	9.30 am	The Gleeson Family
Fri	6 th	7.00 pm	Chivuna Mass – Mary Ann Smith
Sat	7 th	9.30 am	Ellen Moxham
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Gerald Vandome
Sun	8 th	8.30 am	Smith & Rawlinson Families of Calder Vale
		10.30 am	Sue Tomlinson

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	4 th	No Rosary	
Fri	6 th	6.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	7 th	5.30 pm	Confessions in Plessington Chapel
Sun	8 th	3.00 pm	Holy Hour & Benediction

Special Days this Week:

Sun 8th 3rd Sunday in Lent

Meetings this Week:

Tues	3 rd	6.30 pm	1 st Eucharist (Session 1) with parents
Wed	4 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
		8.00 pm	Hummingbirds Committee
Thurs	5 th	7.15 pm	Journey in Faith
Fri	6 th	7.30 pm	Friends of Chivuna (preceded by Mass at 7 pm)

Last Week’s Attendance:

Sat	21 st	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 119	Children: 3	
Sun	22 nd	8.30 am	Adults: 54	Children: 9	
		10.30 am	Adults: 123	Children: 22	Total: 330

Monies Received: Offertory: £1,857.97; A B Grace Trust: £2,100; Votive Lights: £62.60; Shop: £25. **Many thanks to you all.**

Churches Together in Garstang & District

Ecumenical Morning Prayer will be held at 07.45 am each Tuesday in March at Garstang United Reformed Church. Shopper’s Service (Pause for Thought) is at 12.15 pm every Thursday, at Garstang Methodist Church.