

## 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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**10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

### **THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT (YEAR A)**



*“John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing  
and he sent his disciples to him.” Mt 11:2*

#### **New items and information**

**Cenacolo** – A second collection will be held after Masses this weekend, and at least one of the young men will be testifying during those Masses. Please be as generous as you are able for such an important cause. *Thank you very much.*

**Service of Reconciliation** – This will take place next Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, beginning at 10.15 am.

**Greenery for Christmas Flowers** – Once again, we will need as much greenery as can be spared for our Christmas flower arrangements. Please can you leave contributions by the back door to the Presbytery on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December, afternoon/evening, ready for the **Flower Arranging** on Friday morning, 23<sup>rd</sup> December, starting at 9.30 am. We would be grateful for any help we can get on that morning – if you can spare an hour or two, even if you have never flower arranged before, and just want to help with the clearing up, you will be very welcome.

**A Collection for Flowers for Christmas** will take place next weekend.

**Whist and Domino Drive** – The next session is this Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, in the Plessington Chapel, from 2 pm – 4 pm. *Everyone is welcome.*

**Parish Prayer Group** – The next meeting of the Parish Prayer Group will take place on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December, in the Plessington Chapel, beginning at 7.00 pm. *All welcome.*

**Castlerigg Manor** are looking for young volunteers to join the gap-year team from January to Summer 2017. This is a life-changing opportunity to live in community and work with young people, transforming their lives through encounter with Christ. We are looking for young people aged 18+ with a commitment to their faith and a desire to share this with other young people. See [www.castleriggmanor.co.uk](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk) or email [team@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:team@castleriggmanor.co.uk) for more details.

**Did you know....**the Syrian civil war has become the worst humanitarian crisis of our time? According to the UN, the conflict has killed over 300,000 people and caused large-scale displacement, estimating that 6.1 million Syrians have been made homeless inside the country, and that more than half the country's pre-war population, 13.5 million people, are in urgent need of humanitarian aid – food, water, shelter and protection. Almost five million Syrians are registered as refugees in neighbouring countries. Thanks to your compassion and generosity, our partners are providing vital emergency aid – food, shelter and medical care – to vulnerable families both inside Syria and in neighbouring countries.

**Catenian Rosary Appeal for the Missions** – The Catenian Rosary Group is appealing for unused rosaries for the missions. If you have any unused rosaries you could donate, please bring them to the presbytery; we will see that they get passed on to the right people.

**Boarbank Hall** – Take a look at <http://www.boarbankhall.org.uk/index.php/whats-on> to find out what is happening at Boarbank in terms of courses for next year. There is plenty on offer.

**Crib Offerings** – The offerings will be sent to *Friends of the Holy Land*. The *Friends of the Holy Land* are focusing on the needs of the poorest Christian families in and around Bethlehem, elsewhere in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and helping Iraqi Christian refugees in Jordan. Their work covers support with education, employment, health and housing.

**Lancashire Sings Christmas** – You are invited to join in with *Lancashire Sings Christmas* at 7 pm next Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, at Booth's Restaurant. This will be linked live to the broadcast on BBC Radio Lancashire. See poster at the back of church.

#### **Previously Published Items**

**Stars at Christmas 2016** – Our thoughts at Christmas inevitably involve the people we have loved but sadly have lost. For some years it has been the custom in our parish to hang stars in church, marked individually with the name or names of those dear to us, so

that they can be the focus of our prayers at this special time. There is no charge for the stars, but should you care to make a charitable donation – say 50p – it would, as always, help to support the poor people of Chivuna in Zambia. Stars will be available on the weekends commencing 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

**CAFOD – Recycling of Print Cartridges & Old (Costume) Jewellery** – There is a clear plastic box at the back of church for your contributions. *Thank you.*

**St Vincent de Paul Society** – The SVP has launched its Christmas Time Appeal. We are asking parishioners to help others by joining the parish SVP group. As you plan your Christmas celebrations, please give a thought for those who dread the festive season. For many it's a time of profound loneliness and solitude, while for others it means not being able to afford the family presents or the delicious food that many of us take for granted. But giving a little time or money (or both) to help those in need could transform someone's bleak Christmas. *To find out how to join, or to make a donation, please contact Marie Pearson or Helen Forshaw (01995 603 944). Thank you.*

**Wednesday Word** for the weekend Mass of 18<sup>th</sup> December can be found on yellow paper at the back of church.

*Please pray for the repose of the soul of* Mark Pye who died last Monday. His Funeral Service will be held here next Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> December, at 1.30 pm. *May he rest in peace.*

*Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:* Aiden Fleming, John Gavin Nixon, George Cowburn, Annie Gregson, Grace Ross Darling, Ehtel Carol, Dennis Regan, Arthur J Nickson, Charles Taylor, Joe Browne and Lucy Cahill. *May they rest in peace.*

**We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including:** Christine Cobain; John Holland, Ros Drake; Fr Joe Duggan SJ, Allan Whipp, Theresa Harrison, Margaret Hibberdine, Billy (5 years old), Pat Nickson, Gerard Gough, Bob Cross, Craig Smith, Leo Rabbett, Anne Walmsley, Brian Moss, Jim Winstanley, Fiona Catterall, Rod Pearson, Marie Corrigan, Jean Parkinson, Ann Wicks, Ewan (he has responded well to brain tumour treatment, even able to move up to secondary school this year. The family appreciates your prayers and asks that they continue as he is not out of the woods yet), Phillip, John Fairey, Pat Hickey, Sheila Murphy, Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Susanne, Jessica Holmes, Antonio Dilao, Bernadette O'Neill, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Christine, Peter Holland, Ian Moran, Tony Winstanley, Alyson, Michael Hendry, Christopher Simpson, Auntie Sophie, Christopher Brown, Simon Thompson, Sheila Cookson, Francisca Rainford and Alison Green. *(When people whose names are on this sick list have recovered their health, please let us know.)*

**Response to the psalm at the 10 am Mass:**

### **Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

Sat	10 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Ignatius and Agnes Bullen
Sun	11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Ann Elizabeth Nugent
Mon	12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tue	13 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Thanks for Support of Fiona
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.30 am (note time)</b>	Deceased Friends and Relatives of Alice Graham
Thurs	15 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 pm	Mel Collinson
Fri	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Peter Rowe (RIP) (End-of-Year Mass in School Hall)
		1.30 pm	Funeral Service for Mark Pye
Sat	17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		10.15 am	Service of Reconciliation
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Eve Graham (Anniversary)
Sun	18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Beatrice Turner

### **Devotions and Celebrations this week:**

Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Rosary</b>	
Fri	16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Exposition</b>	
Sat	17 <sup>th</sup>	10.15 am	Service of Reconciliation

### **Special Days this week:**

Sun	11 <sup>th</sup>	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Tue	13 <sup>th</sup>	St Lucy
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	St John of the Cross
Sun	18 <sup>th</sup>	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### **Meetings this Week:**

Tues	13 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Parish Prayer Group (Plessington Chapel)
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Choir Practice

### **Last Week's Attendance:**

Sun	4 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 147	Children: 7	
		10.00 am	Adults: 113	Children: 26	Total: 293

### **Monies Received:**

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,168.36; Votive Lights: £37.80; Shop: £30; Funeral: £600. *Many thanks to you all.*

### **Churches Together in Garstang & District**

Ecumenical Morning Prayer will be held at 07.45 am each Tuesday in December here at SS Mary & Michael's

### **Hymns at 6.00 pm Vigil:**

Entrance:	92	Hark a herald voice
Offertory:	113	The Angel Gabriel
Recess:	112	O come, o come Emanuel

### **Hymns at 10.00 am Mass:**

Entrance:	116	Long ago, prophets
Offertory:	602	Almighty Father (3 vv)
Agnus Dei	611a	
Communion	111	My soul in stillness
Recess:	880	Tell out my soul