

New items and information

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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10th / 11th OCTOBER 2015

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

Day of Prayer for Prisoners and Dependants



There was a small gate in the fortified walls of the city of Jerusalem that had been nicknamed "The Eye of a Needle". Most of the gates into the city were guarded by great double doors through which people passed with their laden carts and animals. But "The Eye of a Needle" was only big enough for one person at a time to pass through on foot. It was quite low so that you had to be careful not to bang your head on the

lintel. A camel might get through it on its knees!

Jesus was using a graphic image familiar to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem to emphasise a challenging reality. The kingdom of God was not like a fortified city like Jerusalem.

For the Hebrews, Jerusalem was the City of God, the place where the Temple was, and the Lord resided in the Temple. To come to the City of God was the hope of every faithful Israelite. To enter the city you had to pass through its fortified walls.

To enter the New Jerusalem, the Kingdom of God, was a very different challenge. It wasn't a fortified wall you had to enter by narrow gates or through well defended arches.

The Kingdom of God is within each person; to enter that kingdom a person has to prioritise on everything in life. If I wish to possess the Kingdom of God, which is in my heart, I have to accept the values of that kingdom. I have to choose God and the poor before my own enrichment; I have to value and treasure the little ones rather than putting my own needs first; I have to look out for those who cry out to God for mercy. We have to let go of our worldly attachments and treasure the things of God, the Kingdom Values.

Each of us has our own worldly attachments, things that we value, like the rich young man who valued the security and comfortable life that his wealth gave him. Even though he was a good man, he couldn't let go of his wealth.

The Lord never asks us to let go of anything that we would not willingly let go of. The Lord does challenge us from time to time in our lives. But if he asks us to let go of something, he always gives us the grace that we need. Do we accept that grace, or do we cling on to the things that keep us from the Lord?!

This Sunday, 11th October, is a Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependants. We have been asked to hold a retiring collection in aid of the work of PACT – the Prison Advice & Care Trust.

Are you interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith? If so, we will soon be starting our weekly gatherings, when any interested person would be very welcome to come along. We call this group our Journey in Faith group. Anyone enquiring about the faith would be welcomed on Thursday evenings. We meet in the Presbytery, behind the church, at 7.15 pm. *If you are interested, please contact Father David.*

Very big "thank you" to everyone concerned with the two wonderful coffee mornings in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. The first was held at the Kenlis Arms on 23rd September, and lasted well into the afternoon, and raised a massive £2,222! The second was held in the Plessington Chapel last Wednesday, and raised a wonderful £311.20! Thank you very, very much to the organisers, to the contributors of cakes and preserves and raffle prizes, and of course to those of you who came and spent your money!

Thank you to everyone who sponsored the McCann Family to take part in the Colour Dash for St John's Hospice. We have raised £525 for the hospice and we are very grateful for your generous support.

Hummingbirds invite you to their Vintage Afternoon from 2 pm on Saturday 17th October, in the Community Centre. Tea and cake, tombola, children's clothing, raffle, home produce, as well as pre-loved handbags and jewellery. Tickets £1, available after both Masses this weekend. Do please come along and support them. Hummingbirds rely on financial support from the parish to fund the replacement of equipment and toys for our little ones. Thank you.

Garstang Musical Productions present "21st Century Musicals" with hits from shows such as Sister Act, Billy Elliot, Legally Blonde, and many more, from 21st – 24th October at Garstang Community Academy. Tickets are available from Car Care and Market Place News, High Street. Visit www.garstangmusicalproductions.co.uk; email garstangmusicalproductions@hotmail.co.uk. Also see poster at back of church.

Did you know... CAFOD's vision is "a world transformed to reflect the Kingdom of God"? During 2014/15, in Bolivia and Guatemala, we have brought families clean water and sanitation. Now women and children do not have to walk hours to fetch water. In Peru and Bolivia we have trained communities to monitor the quality and quantity of their water, so they can manage their water supplies locally, and women are more involved in decisions. Globally, during 2014/2015 CAFOD helped 164,994 people to get clean water. Thank you, for making a world of difference.

Two Day Pilgrimage to Lourdes 7th – 8th December 2015, departing Manchester. £399 per person. If you are interested, see poster at back of church, visit www.mancunia.com, or telephone 0161 883 1515. Booking form in presbytery.

Cor et Lumen Christi Community – "Autumn Conference for the North: The Harvest is Rich" is a weekend conference aimed at bringing the joy of the gospel to everyone. It will take place on 17th – 18th October at St Cuthbert's The Old Convent, Wigton, CA7 9HU. For more details, see poster and leaflets at back of church.

Previously Published Items

From now until next spring, Weekday Mass will be celebrated in the Plessington Chapel for the winter months.

The Synod on the Family – Pope Francis is meeting with Bishops from all over the world and with other representatives to discuss the Church and the family. There are leaflets on pale-blue paper for you to take and to pray each day for the Synod.

Education Mass This will be a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, at St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster on Friday 16th October 2015 at 7.00 pm. The Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for the Church's mission in education and asks for a blessing on her work throughout the coming year.

New Rotas for Counters and Cleaners – there are still some copies to collect from the Sacristy. If you are a counter or a cleaner and have not yet picked up your copy, please do so.

Invitation to Dedicate a Hymn Book to a loved one, so that anyone using the book can remember that person in prayer. The invitation is not to pay the cost of the books, as that has already been met. Please write dedications on sheets in the porch.

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 18th October, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Please pray for baby Sophie Lamoury who is to be baptised at 12 noon this Sunday.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Margaret Horn, Kathleen Barnacle, Cecily Gornall, Edward Pyke, Charles Mackenzie, Robert Richmond, Bill Backhouse, Elizabeth Pedder, Connie Acton, Joseph Speight and Isabel Berry. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Ewan (an 11 year old boy undergoing treatment for a brain tumour), Judith, Phillip, John Fairey, Pat Hickey, Maurice Iddon, Sheila Murphy, Rosemary Davies, Brian Hargreaves, Anne Brockbank, Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Susanne, Jessica Holmes (4 years old with leukaemia), Molly and family, Mark Noblet, Christopher Lawson, Anthonio Dilao, Bernadette O'Neill, Tom Horn, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Sharon Hodgson, 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 placed on this sick list have recovered their health, please let us know.)*

Response to the psalm :

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 10th– Sunday 18th October 2015

Sat	10 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Michael Gilfillan
Sun	11 th	10.00 am	Agnes Evans
Mon	12 th	No Mass	
Tues	13 th	12 noon	The Crumbleholme Family
Wed	14 th	7.00 pm	Mary Ellen McGeever
Thurs	15 th	9.30 am	Deceased members of Gornall & Cahill Families
Fri	16 th	8.00 am(note time)	The Dalton Family
Sat	17 th	9.30 am	LISCF
		06.00 pm(Vigil)	Bridget Devitt
Sun	18 th	10.00 am	Joan Preston (Anniversary of Marriage)

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Sun	11 th	12 noon	Baptism of Sophie Lamoury
Wed	14 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	16 th	8.30 – 9.30 am	Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations
Sat	17 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this Week:

Mon	12 th	St Wilfrid
Tue	13 th	St Edward the Confessor
Wed	14 th	St Callistus
Thurs	15 th	St Teresa of Jesus (Avila)
Fri	16 th	St Hedwig / St Margaret Mary Alacoque
Sat	17 th	St Ignatius of Antioch
Sun	18 th	World Mission Day

Meetings this Week:

Weds	14 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
		8.00 pm	Hummingbirds AGM

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	3 rd	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 144	Children: 5	
Sun	4 th	10.00 am	Adults: 132	Children: 26	Total: 307

Monies Received:

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,037.19, Shop: £10; Votive Lights: £52; Cemetery: £30; CAFOD: £326.80. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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