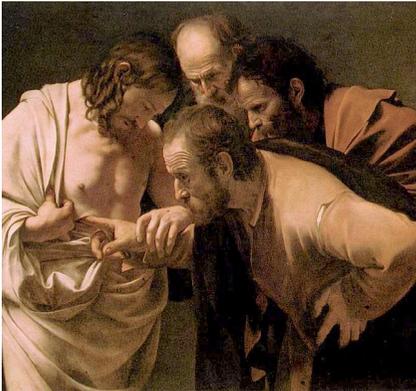


St Mary and St Michael's Catholic Church
GARSTANG AND CALDER VALE

A Parish of the Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity, no.234331
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11th / 12th APRIL 2015

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
(Day of Divine Mercy)



I wonder what would have happened if Jesus had appeared to Caiaphas or Pilate after his Resurrection and said, "There; told you so!?" Probably nothing; the authorities would have assumed that Jesus hadn't died and made a miraculous recovery. Remember the story of Lazarus the beggar, and the rich man who asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his brothers to warn them against coming to hell. Abraham said that if his brothers will not listen to the Law and the Prophets, they still will not listen if

someone should rise from the dead.

No, Jesus appeared not to the authorities, but to those who already believed in him; those who somehow had faith, then by Jesus' initiative and actions, their faith starts to grow. Even when Jesus, taking up Thomas's challenge, comes to the disciples again, Thomas believes not because he touches Jesus, but in obedience to Jesus' command. Far from being "Doubting Thomas", he is the only disciple who is said explicitly to believe, and his profession of faith is the most profound in the whole New Testament. Although he believes because he sees, the seeing is not merely physical, but with the eye of faith. The point that John makes in his final comment is that all those, who like Thomas, see with the eyes of faith the signs of which John has written, will have the same divine life as that of the disciples whose faith journey he has just described. There is no lesser breed of disciple, as all believe by God's gift. Likewise, all disciples, of whatever generation, participate in Jesus' mission from his Father.

D'arcy

(Picture: Caravaggio "The Incredulity of St Thomas" 1603)

New items and information

Whist and Domino Drive – It's that time again! Time to come along and have a bit of fun. Whether you are an experienced player, or a complete novice, come and join the Whist and Domino Drive which is being held this **Monday, 13th April 2015**, from 2 pm – 4 pm, in the Plessington Chapel. *Everyone is welcome!*

Charity Auction – The **North West Children's Support Group** are holding their Annual Bric-a-Brac Auction next **Saturday, 18th April 2015** in SS Mary & Michael's School Hall. Viewing starts at 10 am, with the sale starting at 12 noon. If you are able to donate items for the sale, the Hall will be open on Friday evening, or if you need items collecting, please call Helen & Barry on 01995 600254, or Debbie & Paul on 01995 601354, or Paul and Angela on 01524 751373. Also, once again we are asking for your help in providing refreshments. If you would be willing to make some sandwiches or cakes, please put your name and phone number on the list at the back of church. Plastic sandwich packs will be provided. They are always much appreciated and highly praised, and help to boost our profits. *Thank you for your ongoing support.*

Counters' Rota – If you are a counter, there is a copy of the new Rota to collect from the Sacristy.

Date for your Diaries – the next (and last) **Evangelium** session is being held on Thursday, 23rd April 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Plessington Chapel. The theme for this last presentation is "Mary and the Four Last Things". (It has been suggested that this was a well-known Motown group from the 60s, but this is in doubt.) *All are welcome.*

Did you know...that CAFOD is speaking out about climate change because it is the single biggest threat to reducing poverty that exists today? Whether it's floods destroying livelihoods or unpredictable rains leaving millions hungry. We invite you to join CAFOD's *One Climate, One World* campaign to make climate change a priority for the sake of our neighbours worldwide at www.cafod.org/uk/campaign. We can make a difference if we act together. *"Earth at its beginning was for all in common, it was meant for rich and poor alike; what right have you to monopolise the soil? Nature knows nothing of the rich; all are poor when she brings them forth."* **St Ambrose of Milan**

Previously Published Items

Collection Envelope Boxes – If you use envelopes for your donations to the parish, the new boxes are here; please pick them up from the back of church.

Divine Mercy Sunday will be held at 2 pm on 12th April (this Sunday) at St John the Evangelist, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, starting with Holy Hour and the Penitential Rite followed by the veneration of the picture of Jesus of Mercy. Chaplet at 3 pm followed by Benediction and the Holy Mass. Refreshments in the hall afterwards.

Faith and Justice – We still need someone to form a new Faith and Justice Group in the Parish. If you feel this could be for you, but do not know what it might entail, please contact Father David for more information.

Mission Boxes are now ready to be picked up from the church porch, together with a mission magazine. If you have a mission box which was not emptied this time, please also take a magazine. If you would like to have a mission box in your home, there are some spare ones in the church porch. A total of £214.10 was banked.

Old Hymn Books with Dedications – Parishioners are welcome to take old hymn books with dedications to their loved ones. Anyone wishing to do so should place their name on the narthex list, together with the name of the person whom they have dedicated. If the book can be traced, it will be handed over. The list will remain open for three weeks (from 23rd March to 13th April). *If you have accidentally taken a hymn book dedicated to someone other than your own family members, please could you return it.*

'Riders for Health' is a small charity doing big things delivering healthcare to outlying rural areas in Africa. It provides health workers with motorcycles and training to access remote areas. The workers provide daily regular healthcare to 14 million people. The charity needs support to fund fuel, protective clothing, training and maintenance for the local couriers to cover vast areas of harsh terrain. On 26th April, I am running the **London Marathon** to raise funds for this charity, and your support would be very welcome. There are sponsor forms at the back of church, or donate online at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/FrankMiller>. Thank you.
Frank Miller.

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 19th April, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Jack Metcalf, James Parker Richardson, Rose Skillen, Bob Miller, Kevin Kavanagh, William Barnes, Bernadette Paton, Anthony Atherton, Thomas James Horn and Nellie Swarbrick. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled

parishioners, families and friends, including: Lucienne Ferguson, Maurice Iddon, 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 the 10.00 am Mass :

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 11th – Sunday 19th April 2015

Sat	11 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Kenneth Last (Lately Dead)
Sun	12 th	10.00 am	Gerald Whittaker (Birthday)
Mon	13 th	No Mass	
Tues	14 th	12 noon	Walter and Marjorie Drake
Wed	15 th	7.00 pm	Irfam Karim
Thurs	16 th	9.30 am	Marjorie Addison (Lately Dead)
Fri	17 th	9.30 am	Ruth Heckman
Sat	18 th	9.30 am	LISCF
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Shelagh & Peter Cooney – 40 th Wedding Anniversary
Sun	19 th	10.00 am	James Walmsley (Anniversary)

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Weds	15 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	17 th	10 – 10.30 am	Exposition
Sat	18 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this Week:

Sun	12 th	Second Sunday of Easter (Day of Divine Mercy)
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Meetings this Week:

Tue	14 th	7.30 pm	Vee Prayer
Weds	15 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	16 th	7.15 pm	Journey in Faith

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	4 th	8.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 108	Children: 0
Sun	5 th	10.00 am	Adults: 267	Children: 80

Monies Received:

Funeral: £200; Easter Flowers: £10; Votive Lights: £51.80; Holy Places: £217.50.

Many thanks to you all.

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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