

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 JULY 2015

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)
(Day for Seafarers)



The disciples left all that was familiar to them and went out in pairs to begin to spread the word of God – “God loves you”, “God takes all your cares of worries upon himself.”

As I reflected on this during the week, I realised that I have become very settled in SS Mary & Michael's. I have been parish priest here for thirteen years. In the 47 years I have been a priest, I have never been anywhere this long. People here have welcomed me, accepted me; Garstang has become my home. I am beginning to plan for retirement in three years' time... How open am I, I asked myself, to God's will for me? If the Lord asked me to go somewhere else for the last three years of my priestly ministry, how willing would I be? Would I be like one of the twelve and just go, or would I resist and give many good reasons why I should stay in Garstang?

I found myself full of fear.

Yet a little voice was saying to me: “Trust me – I have never let you down, I will be with you wherever you go....”

As I sat in prayer, full of anxiety, thinking, if I say “Yes, Lord, I will go wherever you send me,” would he take me at my word?

Yet I know so clearly, that not to be open to the Lord and rather wanting what I wanted, was to contradict all I had ever preached or believed.

I do trust the Lord. I had to say: “Yes, Lord, if you want to send me anywhere, I will go.” This didn't take away the fear or anxiety. I just sit in this place of wanting only to be open to the Lord's will, of wanting only to trust him and to trust his love for me. This is not a very comfortable place to be.

But this is the reality of the apostles' openness to Jesus. Can we all be open to the Lord? We know he will never ask of us anything that we are unable to do with his grace. Last week, we heard St Paul write that the Lord told him: “My grace is sufficient for you.” We don't know when the Lord may test our faithfulness. We wait – in his great love for us....

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

Sat	11 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Rev John Horn (Anniversary of Ordination)
Sun	12 th	10.00 am	Stella McVey (80 th Birthday Remembrance)
Mon	13 th	No Mass	
Tues	14 th	12 noon	The Horrabin Family
Wed	15 th	9.30 am (note time)	Michael Hendry (Birthday)
Thurs	16 th	8.30 am (note time)	Bridget Devitt
Fri	17 th	9.30 am	Livesy & Dilworth Families
End-of-Year School Mass in Church			
Sat	18 th	9.30 am	LISCF
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	John Fleming (Anniversary)
Sun	19 th	10.00 am	Gerald Whittaker
Outdoor Mass (Weather permitting)			

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Weds	15 th	No Rosary	
Sat	18 th	10 – 10.30 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions

Special Days this Week:

Sun	12 th	Day for Seafarers – Special Collection for Apostleship of the Sea
Mon	13 th	St Henry
Tues	14 th	St Camillus of Lellis
Wed	15 th	St Bonaventure
Thurs	16 th	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Sat	18 th	The Blessed Virgin Mary

Meetings this Week:

Tues	14 th	7.00 pm	Property & Finance Committee
Weds	15 th	7.00 pm	Lancaster LIFE AGM at St Bernadette's, Bowerham Road, Lancaster, LA1 4HT – all are invited
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	16 th	7.00 pm	Prayer Group (Plessington Chapel)

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	4 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 142	Children: 8	
Sun	5 th	10.00 am	Adults: 145	Children: 20	Total: 315

Monies Received:

Offertory: £1,122.47 (including Standing Orders); Votive Lights: £56; Wedding: £350. **Many thanks to you all.**

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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

New items and information

Today is Sea Sunday when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. Today's second collection is for Apostleship of the Sea (AoS), the Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. This annual collection is absolutely vital to enable it to continue its work, so please give generously and remember seafarers in your prayers. **Thank you.** For more information on the work of AoS, please visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk.

St John Plessington's Feast Day is next week – 19th July. We are hoping to celebrate the Sunday, 10 am Mass on the Presbytery lawn (if the weather permits!) Come through the church and the house or by the small gate by the front door of the presbytery, or the double gates. Mass will be followed by bacon butties etc. Volunteers are needed to help put out chairs, help with food etc. If you think you could help, please put your name on the list at the back of church. Also please tell us if you have special dietary requirements (see list).

Ministers of Holy Communion – Many thanks to the following who completed their term as Ministers of Holy Communion – Mary Bateson, Fiona Brooks, Philippa Catterall, Barbara Hoyle, Helena Leaper, Debbie McCann, Tony McManmon, Marie Pearson, Janet Place and Barry Whittaker. We are pleased to welcome in their place Liz Billington, Joyce Bilsborrow, Agnes Evans, Celia Horn, Mary Mason, Roger Mason, Brenda Richardson, Doris Richardson, Liz Rowlandson and John Waite. The parish is very grateful for their commitment and service. If anyone would like to be considered for this ministry, please speak to Frank Miller or Father David.

Hummingbirds – Next Saturday and Sunday, 18th & 19th July, there will be a Car Washing Fundraising session during the 6 pm and 10 am Masses.

St Paul's Sunday Missal 2016 – If you would like a personal copy of next year's St Paul's Sunday Missal, please put your name on the list in the Church Shop.

St Vincent de Paul Society – The next meeting will be held at 2 Brooklands Drive on 21st July at 7.30 pm. Items for the Agenda to Pat. If you are interested in joining us, please phone 605792.

Did you know... Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* encyclical asks us to live more sustainably in order to care for our common home? He asks us "to aim for a new lifestyle" and reminds us that our "simple daily gestures" can make a bit difference. CAFOD's partners support a ~Community-based Green Energy project in Kenya, where solar power has brought a remarkable transformation to people's lives. So far, it has reached over 200,000 people through solar powered lighting, refrigerators, and water pumps in schools, health centres and greenhouses. The farmers in this community previously got by, using only firewood for fuel and light. ***Copies of Laudato si' are for sale at £4.95 in the shop.***

A "thank you" letter has been received from CAFOD for the £280 donation, which was raised by the organisers of the stall on the High Street on 20th June, and by everyone who donated items for sale, and those who bought them. The letter is on the notice board at the back of church.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Workshop – There are three of these, organised by the Diocesan Office for Evangelisation: first on Saturday, 1st August, at St Joseph's Presbytery, Preston; second on Saturday, 12th September at

the Education Centre, Lancaster; and the third on Saturday 24th October at Our Lady & St Joseph's, Carlisle. All start at 1.00 pm and finish at 4.00 pm. For further information, see poster at back of church.

Readers' Workshop – There are two of these; one at the Education Centre, Lancaster, on Saturday, 5th September, led by Fr Peter Groody; the second at St Joseph's Church, Preston, on Saturday 26th September, led by Canon Luiz Ruscillo. These both start at 1 pm and finish at 4 pm. For further information, see poster at back of church.

The Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies to help participants get a better understanding of the Catholic faith, and to increase their practical application of the faith in their ministry in the Church, provides the means to accurately and effectively communicate the principles of Catholic teaching. For more details about start dates, fees, and your nearest centre, please visit the CCRS website www.brs-ccrs.org.uk, or call 0207 901 1900.

Previously Published Items

Garstang's Great War Heroes – An interesting forthcoming book by local historian, Paul Smith, and former Courier journalist, Anthony Coppin, details what is known about our heroes from the Great War. Unfortunately, there remain gaps in our knowledge and not all Garstonians who fought have been identified. The posters at the back of church clarify the problem and could lead to important discovery. Please look at them and see if you can be of help.

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

Please pray for Brendan McGlone, the 14 year-old boy with leukaemia, who has been on our sick list for some time, and for his family. Sadly, Brendan died this week. ***May he rest in peace.***

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Pat Salles, Robert Spenser, Frederick Lyford, Agnes Bullen, Harry Nickson, Thomas Wells, George and Mary Pyke, Edwin Seed, Mary Thompson, Mary Wrenall, Patricia Maguire, Agnes Imelda Taylor, Annie Morris, Mary Walmsley, Susan Conway, William Dilworth and John Fleming. ***May they rest in peace.***

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Jasmine Grace Bilsborrow-Jones (1 year old), Pat Hickey, Rod (Chas) Cartner, Maurice Iddon, Richard (aged 14, has had a bone marrow transplant), Sheila Murphy, Rosemary Davies, Brian Hargreaves, Ellen, Anne Brockbank, Rachael Flood (née Mears), Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, 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, 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 am Mass :