

## 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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**13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

### **THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**

**(Day of Prayer for Racial Justice)**



It isn't often that this ancient feast day falls on a Sunday. The Feast day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross has been celebrated in the Church – especially the Eastern Church – for some sixteen hundred years. It is believed that the feast began when the cross on which Jesus died was discovered and venerated by St Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine.

She went to Jerusalem to find and visit the places associated with Jesus. It wasn't too difficult to identify the sites because the Romans had built temples and shrines to pagan gods over the holy places to stop the Christian community honouring events in the life of Jesus.

Thus over the site of Calvary and the burial place of Jesus was the temple to Aphrodite. Helena had it demolished and her son, Constantine, who had become a Christian, had the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre built. During excavation work to build the foundations of the Basilica, three crosses were said to have been found. Legend has it that the cross on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman.

The cross immediately became an object of veneration. At a Good Friday celebration, towards the end of the fourth century, according to an eyewitness, the Cross was laid on a table. Then "all the people pass through one by one; all of them bow down, touching the cross with their foreheads, then with their eyes; and, after kissing the cross, they move one." This became part of the Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday which we still have today.

During the Roman persecution of the Christian community, the cross remained an object of derision and torture. But after Constantine's discovery, the cross became the symbol of Christians, it became a sign of the triumph of Jesus over death.

Today the cross is depicted in jewellery, architecture and art. We have our own Crucifixion by the Lancashire-born artist, James Lonsdale (1777 – 1839), hanging over the sacristy door and the great Mission Cross, dated 1859, which hangs over the organ console.

### **New items and information**

**This weekend, please welcome** Fr Kevin Hughes from the Mill Hill Missionaries, who is here to make an appeal on behalf of the Missions at all the Masses. This will *not* include a special collection, as this is a membership appeal only.

**Racial Justice Sunday** – The Catholic Church in England and Wales is celebrating Racial Justice Sunday this weekend. The Catholic Church in England and Wales is contributing to the efforts to overcome racial injustice in our nation through the pioneering work of the Bishops' Conference Office for Migration. This work has seen a unique partnership forged between the Church and the statutory authorities in combating human trafficking and modern-day forms of slavery, and supporting some of the most vulnerable and marginalised people. *To support this work and that of the Catholic Association for Racial Justice, a second collection will be taken this weekend.* Your donation will help to make a difference.

**Did you know....** this Racial Justice Sunday, we celebrate human diversity in all its richness? CAFOD works with partners across the world, wherever the need is greatest, to bring hope, compassion and solidarity to poor communities, standing side by side with them to end poverty and injustice. We work with people of all faiths and none. Many of our partners are Catholic, but through the Caritas network, we work closely with many others – e.g. Islamic Relief, Buddhists, and indigenous people from Brazil to work together for a safe, sustainable & peaceful world.

**Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction** is this Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> September, at 3.00 pm.

**Next weekend is Home Mission Sunday** when we are asked to reach out to non-churchgoing (lapsed) Catholics. There are prayer cards at the back of church if you would like one.

**Services of Holy Communion** – At the start of the summer, Bishop Michael wrote to all the priests of the Diocese to explain that it wasn't the Church's intention to replace the Mass, when there was not available priest, by a Service of Holy Communion, led by a deacon or an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist. The Bishop's full statement is on the salmon-pink insert in this newsletter. This means that from now on, when there is no Mass, we will have Morning Prayer with the Liturgy of the Word for that day, but no distribution of Holy Communion.

**Whist & Domino Drive** will take place this Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, from 2 pm – 4 pm in the Plessington Chapel. Come along and have some fun!

**St Vincent de Paul Society** – the next meeting of the SVP will take place on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30 pm, in the Plessington Chapel.

**Prayer Space** – Following the success of the prayer space within the sanctuary of the Lady Altar during our Mission last year, it has been suggested that we use this space for prayer and reflection on a more permanent basis. Ideas would be welcome as to how best to achieve an inviting and prayerful space, whether to have the Blessed Sacrament there, or any other suggestions. Anyone who would like to put forward ideas and perhaps help with putting them into practise, please initially

contact Elizabeth Horn (phone 602024 / in person at church / putting your name on the list at the back of church) so that we can progress this further. *Thank you.*

**Youth Group** – We are looking to recruit some new adult helpers for the group. No experience is necessary. If you would like more information, please chat to Rachel Cortes, our Parish Youth Worker, on 07508 365 249 or Paul McCann on 601354.

**Day of Renewal** – The next Day of Renewal will be held at St Clare’s Church Parish Hall, Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2014 from 10 am – 4 pm, led by Gary Stephens. For further information contact Rev Bernard Loveland 015395 63391.

**Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies** – This is designed for people who are engaged in the communication of their Catholic Faith, whether directly or indirectly. It is open to catechists, people involved in liturgical work and other interested adults. For more details please visit [www.brs-ccrs.org.uk](http://www.brs-ccrs.org.uk) or call 0207 901 1900.

### **Previously Published Items**

**Ruth Walbank**, 16, is looking for a lift to Salford (Quays), Manchester, Monday – Friday. Her working hours are between 9.00 am – 6.00 pm at MediaCity. Tel: 07837 274 160.

**Church Shop** – We are looking for some new helpers at the 6.30 pm and the 8.30 am Masses. If you are able to help, please contact Jen Horn 01995 602341.

**Date for your Diary – Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> September**, 7.30 pm, Brian Dickinson will be giving an organ recital to raise funds for the church roof. £5.00 at the door. Please come along to support Brian, enjoy the music, and raise money for the church roof restoration.

**Wednesday Word** – To help us prepare for Mass on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 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:** Teresa Swarbrick, Winnie Taylor, Mary McKeivitt, Norman Turton, William Eastham. *May they rest in peace.*

**We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including:** Teresa Bonnar (Bowerswood), Rachael Flood (née Mears), Michael McCarthy (living in France), Lucia Salcedo, Dorothy Evans, Jack Parkinson, Kath Price, Sheila Carrol, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Victoria Wang, Susanne, Jessica Holmes, Molly and family, Ruth Fairey, Mark Noblet, Christopher Lawson, Anthonio Dilao, Bernadette O’Neill, Tom Horn, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Tony Moran, Marjorie Addison, Sharon Hodgson, Christine, Peter Holland, Ian Moran, Tony Winstanley, Wilf Rainford, Alyson, Michael Hendry, Christopher Simpson, Auntie Sophie, Christopher Brown, Simon Thompson, Michael Ryan, Sheila Cookson, Francisca Rainford, Alison Green and Tim Park. *(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 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2014**

Sat	13 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Alan Bradley
Sun	14 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am	Ricardo Romero (First Anniversary)
		10.30 am	Arnold & Monica Hargreaves
Mon	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tues	16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Mary Ibison’s Intentions
Thurs	18 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Private Intention
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Start of Year Mass – in school
			Fr Andrew Hurley – Brentwood Diocese
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8.30 am</b> (Please note)	LISCF
		6.30 pm (Vigil)	Alfred & Agnes Evans
Sun	21 <sup>st</sup>	8.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		10.30 am	Tony Stephenson

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

Sun	14 <sup>th</sup>	3.00 pm	Evening Prayer of the Church & Benediction
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	6.45 pm	Rosary
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup>		No Exposition or Confessions today.

### **Special Days this Week:**

Mon	15 <sup>th</sup>	Our Lady of Sorrows
Tues	16 <sup>th</sup>	Sts Cornelius & Cyprian
Sat	20 <sup>th</sup>	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang

### **Meetings this Week:**

Tues	16 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	St Vincent de Paul Society (Plessington Chapel)
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thur	18 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Evangelium (Plessington Chapel)
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Youth Group (in Community Centre)

### **Last Week’s Attendance:**

Sat	6 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 108	Children : 4
Sun	7 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am	Adults: 71	Children: 13
		10.30 am	Adults: 126	Children: 19
			Total:	341

**Monies Received:** Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,214.07; Votive Lights: £58.90; Shop: £20; Funeral: £600; CAFOD: £11.50. *Many thanks to you all.*

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

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