

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
Fr David Elder & Rev Deacon D'Arcy Ryan,
Bonds Lane, Garstang, Lancs PR3 1ZB. Tel. 01995 602164. Fax 602548
email: ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com
Parish Website: www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk
email for website submissions: parish@ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk

15th / 16th AUGUST 2015

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



The Book of the Apocalypse was written near the end of the reign of the Emperor Domitian (c. 95 / 6 AD) by an early Christian prophet named John. Although tradition associates this figure with the apostle John, the way it is written makes this questionable. The Book is in the form of a letter, but has much more in common with the prophetic graces typical of apocalyptic literature. It is the only example in the New Testament.

Today's story about the woman and the dragon comes at the beginning of the second cycle of visions in the book's revelations. It is the first of the symbolic visions meant to reveal the secrets of the past, present and future. Scholars identify the child who is born with the Messiah, but there is less clarity about the

identity of the woman clothed with the sun. Some suggest she represents the old Israel, the nation from whom the Messiah would come; others that she stands for the Church, the new Israel, which is the community of the Faithful; still others identify her as the heavenly Jerusalem or a personification of Wisdom.

The reason for its inclusion in the Solemnity of the Assumption is the connection many of the early Fathers and medieval commentators have made between the woman and the Blessed Virgin Mary. As Catholics, we take this for granted, but it might be difficult to verify by the close analyses that scripture is subject to these days. The interpretation does, however, fit in with the spiritual sense of the writing; the woman is taken to a place of safety which is a foretaste of the fullness of redemption which all who belong to Christ one day hope to receive.

D'arcy

New items and information

This weekend, there will be an appeal by Christopher Robson for Aid to the Church in Need. Amongst other things, Aid to the Church in Need does a lot of work to help Archbishop Ignatius Kaigama in north-eastern Nigeria, and to assist Asian Christians in the Holy Land and other parts of the Middle East. ***Please be as generous as you are able.***

Father Michael (Father David's cousin) would like to say "thank you" for all the help and kindness he received while here in our parish last weekend. He really enjoyed his visit to us and looks forward to coming back another time.

Whist and Domino Drive – this will take place this Monday, 17th August, from 2 – 4 pm, in the Plessington Chapel. Everyone is welcome. Can't play? Look on it as a challenge, and come and have some fun!!

Previously Published Items

"The smell of the sheep" – There is to be a survey of Catholic opinion in England and Wales in preparation for the Synod on the Family in October. ACTA (A Call to Action) aims to encourage dialogue at all levels in the Church. With this in mind, there will be a morning of prayer, reflection and discussion with Andrew Hornsby-Smith on Saturday 12th September from 10 am – 1 pm, at St Bernadette's Church, 120 Bowerham Road, Lancaster, LA1 4HT. To book, please email anne.foley@blueyonder.co.uk. Tea and coffee are provided on arrival at 10 am. ***See poster and leaflets (on green paper) giving details, and explaining who Andrew is, at the back of church.***

Cleator Pilgrimage – the Annual Pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator is on **Sunday, 6th September 2015**. The principal celebrant and preacher will be Bishop Brian Noble. The young people of our Diocese are invited to walk in pilgrimage from Langdale to Cleator; they will begin their journey at Castlerigg Manor on Friday, 4th September, arriving on Sunday, 6th September; they can register their interest in joining the walk by contacting Fr Philip at Castlerigg – 017687 72711. Refreshment will be served in The Civic Hall, Cleator Morr, CA25 5AR at £8.50 per head. Bookings for refreshments to be made before 24th August by contacting St Mary's Priory, Cleator, CA23 3AB, tel: 01946 810 324. ***See poster at back of church.***

The Houghton Weavers are coming to our school!! In support of Oaklands, Garstang's Leonard Cheshire Home, the Houghton Weavers will be appearing at St Mary & St Michael's School on Friday, 4th September, at 7.00 pm. Now, ***that*** will be a great night out! And in such a good cause! Tickets are £10; more0 information and the tickets can be obtained from Paul McCann tel. 01995 607 033.

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.

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 23rd August, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 15th – Sunday 23rd August 2015

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Jane Billington, Francis Purkis, Gladys Mary Stanley, Jack Carr, Mary Bate, Agnes Pyke, William Hall, Jeanette Mears, Les Lunn and Dorothy Richardson. *May they rest in peace.*

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

parishioners, families and friends, including: Judith, Phillip, John Fairey, Pat Hickey, Maurice Iddon, Sheila Murphy, Rosemary Davies, Brian Hargreaves, Anne Brockbank, Rachael Flood (née Mears), 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, 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 10.00 am Mass :



Sat	15 th	06.00 pm (Vigil)	Jean Caulfield
Sun	16 th	10.00 am	Francis Purkis and all his Family on his 40 th Anniversary
Mon	17 th		}
Tues	18 th		}
Wed	19 th		} No Mass
Thurs	20 th		}
Fri	21 st		}
Sat	22 nd	9.30 am }	
		06.00 pm(Vigil)	Dennis Vincent Wilkes
Sun	23 rd	10.00 am	Michael O’Neill

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed 19th **No Rosary**

Special Days this Week:

Sun	16 th	ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Wed	19 th	St John Eudes
Thurs	20 th	St Bernard
Fri	21 st	St Pius X
Sat	22 nd	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Meetings this Week:

Weds 19th 7.30 pm Choir Practice

Last Week’s Attendance:

Sat	8 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 138	Children: 7
Sun	9 th	10.00 am	Adults: 96	Children: 12 Total: 248

Monies Received:

Offertory: £950.84 (including Standing Orders); Votive Lights: £49.50; Shop: £15; Wedding Donation: £500. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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

