

does fantastic family portraits (pets too), photos guaranteed before Christmas. If you wish to book a slot please contact Katie Latham on 07799 826 893.

Did you know......estimates suggest that without rapid action, 1.4 million people could be infected with Ebola by Christmas? CAFOD has released £200,000 to our partners in Sierra Leone and Liberia, but we need to raise more money to scale up supplies of hygiene materials and protective equipment, to support safe burial practices. With much fear and denial on the ground, raising public awareness is a good line of defence. Robust action now means that we can save lives. with CAFOD, the Church is on the front line of efforts to halt the spread of the virus.

Previously Published Items

Garstang Musical Productions are putting on a production of Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Iolanthe' from 22nd – 25th October. All performances start at 7.30 pm and tickets will cost £9 (£6 for 16 yrs and under) and are available from Car Care in Garstang, or by contacting Alan Armstrong on 01995 606603. If anyone is able to help with the transportation of parishioners who might otherwise be unable to attend, please ring Pat on 605793.

Society for the Protection of the Unborn Children have issued an invitation to SPUC Lune Valley's 3rd annual fundraiser; afternoon tea at the Cloister Café, Cathedral House, Lancaster, on Saturday 25th October from 1 pm – 3.30 pm.

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

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 26th October, 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: John Dickinson, Edward Swarbrick, Bob Thompson, Anne Miller, John Joseph Reid, Canon Arthur Fleming, Margaret Hargreaves, Harold Rawlinson, Agnes Thompson, Frank Newsham and Conrad Christian Maule. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Ellen, Brendan McGlone (14 year old with leukaemia), Anne Brockbank, Teresa Bonnar (Bowerswood), Rachael Flood (née Mears), Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Jack Parkinson, Kath Price, Sheila Carrol, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, 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.)*

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 18th – Sunday 26th October 2014

Sat	18 th	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Thomas & Winnie Fleming and Mary Rigby
Sun	19 th	8.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		10.30 am	Ethel Kenyon
Mon	20 th	No Mass	
Tues	21 st	9.30 am	Morning Prayer and Gospel
Wed	22 nd	7.00 pm	Rosary and Gospel
Thurs	23 rd	9.30 am	Morning Prayer and Gospel
Fri	24 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer and Gospel
Sat	25 th	9.30 am	Morning Prayer and Gospel
		6.30 pm (Vigil)	Thomas Boyle (Anniversary)
Sun	26 th	8.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		10.30 am	Mary Violet Walmsley

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	22 nd	7.00 pm	Rosary
Sat	25 th	No Confessions	

Special Days this Week:

Thurs	23 rd	St John of Capistrano
Fri	24 th	St Anthony Mary Claret

Meetings this Week:

Tues	21 st	7.30 pm	SVP (Plessington Chapel)
Wed	22 nd	7.30 pm	Choir Practice

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	11 th	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 105	Children :
Sun	12 th	8.30 am	Adults: 60	Children: 15
		10.30 am	Adults: 91	Children: 22 Total: 293

Monies Received: Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,082.88; CAFOD Fast Day Envelopes (2): £87.50; Funeral Donation: £600; Votive Lights: £51.60; Shop: £65; Tea Money: £73; Company of Voyces Concert (for Roof Fund): £345. *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.

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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18th / 19th October 2014

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)



Jesus outwitted the Pharisees and the Herodians by using the local currency with Caesar's image on it. "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar *and to God what belongs to God!*" Jesus told them.

It is this last phrase that is the most significant, but it is possibly the bit that we are prone to overlook most quickly.

What does Jesus mean when he says "give back to God what belongs to God"? What is he talking about?

Remember he is talking to the leading religious figures, the Pharisees, and the leading partisan politicians, the Herodians. These were people who thought of themselves as being very faithful to God. In fact they were very faithful to the Law of Moses which they had interpreted in a person-centred way rather than in a God-centred way. There were hundreds of dos and don'ts – and the religious leaders set themselves up as judge and jury. The ordinary people frequently found themselves condemned for breaking the Law – Jesus himself was no exception. He was often condemned for breaking the Sabbath. People were labelled as "sinners" – "breakers of the Law". There was no compassion and mercy, and forgiveness was rare.

All that Jesus had come on earth to reveal about his Father - love, mercy, compassion, forgiveness, acceptance, self-respect, personal worth – that we are God's children and he loves us as a father or mother loves their children....all of this was denied by the Pharisees.

So when Jesus tells them to "give back to God what belongs to God", he is telling them to give God their love, to show mercy and compassion to all God's children, to thank God humbly for all that God gives us, to give praise to God for all that we have been given.

If each evening before we go to sleep we could look back over the day and ask ourselves how well we have given back to God what belongs to God. If we have done well, give praise to God for the way he has helped us. If we have fallen short, tell God how sorry we are and ask for his help for tomorrow.

New items and information

This Sunday is World Mission Sunday – Today, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his official charity for overseas mission. Your prayers and donations today will support the work of missionaries and young churches as they share faith, build churches and provide healthcare and education, often in difficult and dangerous circumstances overseas. The World Mission Sunday collection will go in its entirety to support mission projects worldwide that bring God's love and message of dignity for all. Please give what you can, and if possible, please use the Gift Aid envelopes if you are a taxpayer. Every gift makes a real difference to people living in poverty who are yearning to hear the Good News of God's love for them.

Next Weekend there will be a second collection for the Sick & Retired Priests Fund.

Weekday Morning Prayer will be celebrated in the Plessington Chapel this week.

This coming week, 19th – 26th October, is One World Week – about Breaking Chains and Making Change. For further information, visit www.oneworldweek.org.

St Vincent de Paul Society – The next meeting is this Tuesday, 21st October, 7.30 pm in the Plessington Chapel. Also, thank you very much to all our kind parishioners. You donated a total of £254 last weekend! *Thank you.*

A big "Thank You" to the Company of Voyces who put on the concert on Friday, 3rd October, and to Richard Harrison who organised the event. It was a really good evening. The music and the singing were most excellent, the nibbles were wonderful, and £345 was raised towards the church roof fund.

Bereavement Support – Following our Stewardship Initiative in June, we are holding a meeting for anyone interested in offering bereavement support. To find out more, please come along to an informal evening on **Tuesday, 4th November at 7.30 pm in the Plessington Chapel**. All are welcome.

School News – Mrs Wilkinson and her staff welcomed 26 new children into the Reception Class at the start of term. The majority transferred from Hummingbirds so were quite familiar with the school and they quickly helped the others to integrate. We are happy to report too that the children who went on to Secondary School this September are also happy and progressing. Finally, reports have come back from older past students that they are enjoying further education and their chosen career paths. As one of them said: "I am where I am today because of SS Mary and Michael's." A testimony to the good teaching foundation our Parish School gives our pupils.

The North West Children's Support Group and *The Travelling Tea Ladies* invite you to join them for a vintage afternoon tea party on Sunday, 26th October, from 1.30 – 4 pm at Garstang Arts Centre. The Centre will be transformed into a vintage tea room, with beautiful crockery, embroidered tablecloths, bunting and vintage music. They are serving tea and delicious homemade cakes to raise money for holidays and outings for local disabled children. You can buy tickets for full afternoon tea and book your table in advance by contacting Debbie McCann on 01995 601 354, or email mccann@hp1351a.freeserve.co.uk. Or just come down to Garstang Arts Centre on Sunday 26th for an old-fashioned cuppa and a lovely slice of cake!

Ladies' Ecumenical Meeting, Garstang Methodist Church – An invitation has been issued by Mrs Kelsall of Garstang Methodist Church to the ladies at SSMM, for Wednesday, 12th November at 2.00 pm, to join in the Ladies Ecumenical Meeting. The Speaker will be Mrs Elaine Ringland, and the service will be followed by tea and cakes in Wesleys.

Family Portrait Day – Mel Jones will be holding a family portrait day on Saturday, 1st November from 9.30 am in Hummingbirds Nursery, Castle Lane Community Centre. Mel