

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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1st / 2nd October 2016

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



*"Were your faith the size of a mustard seed,
you could say to this mulberry tree,
'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."*

It is important to link together but distinguish between *Faith* and *Faithfulness* (which may be described as persevering in the faith). Jesus' teaching at this point is to encourage the disciples to remain faithful. Taken in isolation, his remark about the faith that moves mountains (or mulberry trees) could lead to a preoccupation with sheer power to believe, a concentration on developing muscles of faith. However, the test of our Christian life is one of stamina, faithfulness proved by the ability to act consistently with belief, the ability to withstand the pressure to yield on Christian standards of belief and the conduct following from them.

An act of faith is important towards faithfulness because it is never just an exercise of the mind, but is part of the response to God, extending to the whole range of human feelings. This is because Christian faith does not terminate in a set of ideas but in a 'person'. "I know who it is I have put my trust in" says Paul in a passage unhappily omitted in today's extract from his letter to Timothy; but when God appears to have lost interest in my affairs and his demands seem hopelessly impersonal and unrelated to my circumstances; when I feel the whole of religion as the imposition of a system rather than the creation of a relationship, then is my act of faith essential. For many Christians it is through overcoming such obstacles that *Faith* leads to *Faithfulness*.

D'arcy

New items and information

Walsingham – Last week, there was a National Collection to support the Shrine, but this was put off in our parish because of the collection for the Bishop's Administration Fund. If you would like to contribute towards the upkeep of Walsingham, there will be a second collection this weekend. See also the poster at the back of church.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day – Friday, 7th October. This Harvest Fast Day we are invited to join 32-year-old Nicanora from Bolivia on her journey from poverty to abundance. We can stand alongside Nicanora as she learns new skills and receives materials and seeds that will enable her to grow enough food to feed her family. Please pick up a Fast Day envelope this weekend and give what you can. *Many thanks.*

Copies of the October edition of The Catholic Voice are available at the back of church – please take one as you leave.

Monthly Coffee Morning – This will take place this Wednesday, 5th October, from 10 am – 12 noon, and this month is in aid of MacMillan Nurses. There will be a cake and produce stall, and all contributions will be gratefully received. Everyone is welcome – nay, *exceedingly* welcome! And secure in the knowledge that, as well as the normal fun, chat, brews etc, you will be raising money for a very good cause. Tickets for entry £2; these will be on sale after both Masses this weekend.

Parish Prayer Meeting – This will take place on Thursday, 6th October, at 7 pm in the Plessington Chapel. *All welcome.*

Parish Draw – Congratulations go to Fiona Brooks and Christine Parkinson for being our September winners. If you would like to know more about our Parish Draw, or buy a number to have the chance of being one of our winners, please contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon on 01995 604292.

Wrestling with the Parables – The first session in the series exploring the parables in the Gospels took place last Tuesday. Future sessions are on 11th and 18th October, and 15th and 22nd November, all at the Education Centre, Balmoral Road, from 7 pm – 8 pm. These sessions are open to everyone. Please bring your bibles.

The Persecuted Church – Please join the Catholic charity, *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN), and the Catholic Chaplaincy of Lancaster University for talks on the Suffering Church in Pakistan and Syria on Monday, 10th October, from 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm at Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre, LA1 4YW. Speakers will be Archbishop Sebastian Shaw of Lahore, Pakistan, and Sister Annie Demerjian of Aleppo, Syria. All are welcome, donations welcome, parking is free around the chaplaincy centre.

St Joseph's, Lancaster, are organising a pilgrimage to Krakow in the week of Divine Mercy next year, 17-21 April 2017. We were inspired to organise a pilgrimage there by the testimonies of some of the young people who were privileged to go to World Youth Day. The cost is £409 (£100 supplement for single rooms) and during our time we will visit the Divine Mercy shrine and JP II centre, Wawel Cathedral, Czestochowa, the salt mines and underground cathedral, and Auschwitz. I am attaching a poster of the event. If anyone is interested, please can they email st.josephslancaster@yahoo.co.uk or write to St Joseph's, Slyne Rd, Lancaster LA1 2HU and we will send a link to the pilgrimage booking site. Closing date 14 October.

The June Baker Singers are holding a concert here at SSMM on Friday, 14th October, at 7.30 pm – "Songs for Jackson" in memory of Jackson Wicks, a member of the United

Reformed Church in Garstang, who died earlier this year. Tickets are £5, including a glass of wine and refreshments. Proceeds will be in aid of St John's Hospice.

Previously Published Items

Red Mission Boxes can be collected from the church porch. Mission magazines are also available, even if you haven't got a box. The sum of £219.55 has been paid into the bank. Thank you.

Traidcraft Autumn/Christmas Catalogues are still available from the back of church. If you are able, please support some of the world's poorest producers with your purchases, whilst raising money for Chivuna clinic. *Helen Spencer.*

Noddfa – There will be a Parish retreat to Noddfa from Monday 10th to Friday 14th October. If anyone is interested in going, please contact Jean Andrews on 603802 or Elizabeth Horn on 604024.

Wednesday Word for the weekend Mass of 9th October can be found on yellow paper at the back of church.

Please pray for Thea Emelye Roskell who is being baptised here next Saturday at 2 pm.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of George Fallon who died this week. His Funeral Service will be held here next Thursday, 6th October, at 12.30 pm. *May he rest in peace.*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Hannah Wheatley, Mary Gertrude Green, Francis Eastham, William Greenall, Arthur Conlong, Gerald Whittaker, John Towers, Jenny Jackson, Edward Ross, Hugh Ferguson and Richard Wrenall. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Allan Whipp, Theresa Harrison, Margaret Hibberdine, Billy (5 yrs old, suddenly gone blind and paralysed), Pat Nickson, Gerard Gough, Bob Cross, Chris O'Connor, Craig Smith, Leo Rabbett, Anne Walmsley, Brian Moss, Jim Winstanley, Fiona Catterall, John Sweeney, Rod Pearson, Peter Ibisson, Marie Corrigan, Jean Parkinson, Ann Wicks, Ewan (he has responded well to brain tumour treatment, even able to move up to secondary school this year. The family appreciates your prayers and asks that they continue as he is not out of the woods yet), Phillip, John Fairey, Pat Hickey, Sheila Murphy, Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Susanne, Jessica Holmes, Antonio Dilao, Bernadette O'Neill, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Christine, Peter Holland, Ian Moran, Tony Winstanley, Alyson, Michael Hendry, Christopher Simpson, Auntie Sophie, Christopher Brown, Simon Thompson, Sheila Cookson, Francisca Rainford and Alison Green. *(When people whose names are on this sick list have recovered their health, please let us know.)*

Response to the Psalm at 10.00 am Mass :

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 1st – Sunday 9th October 2016

Sat	1 st	6.00 pm (Vigil)	William and Ellen Greenall
Sun	2 nd	10.00 am	Maureen Ingleby
Mon	3 rd	No Mass	
Tue	4 th	12 noon	Rev J Henessy
Wed	5 th	7.00 pm	RoS Mary Rhodes
Thurs	6 th	9.30 am	Lily Butler (Anniversary)
		12.30 pm	Funeral Service for George Fallon
Fri	7 th	9.30 am	The Duckworth Family
Sat	8 th	9.30 am	LISCF
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	In Thanksgiving to Our Blessed Lady
Sun	9 th	10.00 am	Gerald Whittaker

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	5 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	7 th	10 – 10.30 am	Exposition
Sat	8 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this week:

Sun	2 nd	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Tues	4 th	St Francis of Assisi
Wed	5 th	DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL
Thurs	6 th	St Bruno
Fri	7 th	Our Lady of the Rosary – Today is Harvest Fast Day
Sun	9 th	TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Meetings this Week:

Wed	5 th	10 am – 12 noon	Monthly Coffee Morning
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	6 th	7.00 pm	Parish Prayer Meeting

Last Week's Attendance:

Sun	25 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 144	Children: 10		
		10.00 am	Adults: 106	Children: 29	Total: 289	

Monies Received:

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,046.45; Special Collection – Bishop's Administration Fund: £138.98. *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.

The Holy Father's Mission Intention for October

Pope Francis asks us to join him in praying:

That World Mission Sunday may renew within all Christian communities the joy of the Gospel and the responsibility to announce it.