

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@ssmarvandmichaels-garstang.org.uk

19th / 20th SEPTEMBER 2015

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

HOME MISSION SUNDAY



Jesus knew how hard it would be for him to take up his cross and struggle up the hill to Calvary. He knew the pain and agony.... and he knew the triumph his death would bring. He knew the joy and new life, too, that would come with resurrection. He wouldn't run away from the cross. But he knew that most of his disciples would run.

As he now began to speak more and more about the cross he knew that his disciples would try to blank out what he was saying. To argue who was the greatest among

them was the latest distraction.

Jesus wouldn't let them get away with this. He challenged them to reflect on their actions. They were embarrassed to realise that Jesus had noticed. As he sat down with them and gently held a child, perhaps one of their own children, and reminded them of the honesty and simplicity of being child-like, he was saying 'A child doesn't pretend they haven't heard about the cross. A child says "OK, if this is what Daddy or Mummy does, it must be good."'

Jesus is begging his disciples to trust him – what they are hearing may not sound attractive, but trust me! Jesus says: 'I promise you life, new life that cannot be taken from you. Trust me!'

After Mass we are offering stickers to put in your car – they are stickers of the Tree of Life. Only in the cross can we find life. You may wish to take a sticker to publicly display it in your car and to say: 'I trust in Jesus and in his Cross – the Tree of Life.'

In our diocese, on this Home Mission Sunday, the Bishop asks that we begin a year of prayer for vocations to the priesthood. We all need to be encouraged by each other to embrace the cross of Christ. We also need good and holy priests to encourage us by their words and example. We need to be encouraged by the way our priests celebrate the Mass and the Sacraments. We need the life blood, the grace of the Mass to embrace the Cross, to celebrate the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus in the Sacrifice of the Mass. Please take a leaflet about this year of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and commit yourself to praying regularly – especially in our weekly holy hour – for more and more holy priests in our Diocese of Lancaster.

New items and information

Home Mission Sunday is celebrated this weekend and is themed: PROCLAIM God's Mercy. This is the time in the Church's calendar when the bishops invite every member of the Catholic community to pray for, celebrate, and support the work of evangelisation in England and Wales. There will be a second collection for the Bishops' national work of evangelisation and the development of this year's *Proclaim 15 : Building Missionary Parishes* initiative; thank you in advance for your generosity. The Bishops of England and Wales have written a **Pastoral Letter** to be read at Mass this weekend. Copies are available on orange paper.

Mission Boxes have now been emptied and the money counted. The empty boxes will be available for collection from the church porch. The sum of £189.45 has been banked. Thank you all

Year for Priestly Vocations – This weekend the Lancaster Diocese will begin a Year of Prayer for Priestly Vocations. It will run until Mission Sunday 2016. The year will begin with Quarante Ore at St Clare's, Preston, and at St Joseph's, Carlisle. Every parish is asked to have a Holy Hour dedicated to Priestly Vocations each week. Generally, our Holy Hour will be each Friday after the 9.30 am Mass from 10 – 11 am, or on occasion from 10.30-11.30. For more information and contacts please see poster at back of church. Please take a prayer card.

The Minutes of the Chivuna Meeting on 11th September are now available.

Macmillan Coffee Morning on Wednesday 23rd September from 11.00am at the Kenlis Arms, Barnacre. Ticket £2 to include coffee/tea and homemade biscuit.

Invitation to Dedicate a Hymn Book to a loved one, so that anyone using the book can remember that person in prayer. The invitation is not to pay the cost of the books, as that has already been met. Please write dedications on sheets in the porch.

Hummingbirds Nursery is an important part of our parish – and our parish is vital to its continuing success. We need one or two willing parishioners to sit on the management committee. Would you consider helping Hummingbirds? There are four meetings a year, with the AGM being the first in early October. For more information please contact Frank Miller on 01995 604030 or email frankmiller_bhs@hotmail.com.

Education Mass This will be a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, at St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster on Friday 16th October 2015 at 7.00 pm. All parishioners are invited to join Bishop Michael Campbell OSA at the annual Diocese of Lancaster Education Mass. This invitation extends in a special way to all those involved in education and faith formation: priests, deacons, teachers in both Catholic schools and Catholic teachers in state schools, catechists, youth ministry, children's liturgy, those in seminary. The Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for the Church's mission in education and asks for a blessing on her work throughout the coming year.

CAFOD – One Climate, One World Did you know...CAFOD with Catholics across the UK and the world are rallying behind Pope Francis' call to care for our common home? Over 10,000 Catholics in the UK have been inspired by *Laudato Si'* to sign a petition to Prime Minister David Cameron calling for him to show global leadership and push for an international agreement on climate change in the lead up to UN climate change talks in Paris later this year. Join with CAFOD and download

a petition for your parish to sign in response to *Laudato Si'* at
www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/One-Climate-One-World/Climate-petition

Previously Published Items

Harvest Festival, 26th/27th September – If you have any ideas for window decorations, and/or if you are able to spare a little time on the morning of Saturday, 26th September to decorate the church and fill boxes, or just for more information, please contact Margaret Wilcock on 603525.

The McCann Family took part in the JWK Colour Dash on 13th September to raise money for St John's Hospice in memory of Jeanette Mears, our beloved Mum and Grandma. Please bring your sponsor money to church, or you can sponsor us online at <https://jwkcolourdash.everydayhero.com/uk/mccann-family>. *Thank you.*

Traidcraft Autumn Catalogues are available from the back of church for orders or Fairtrade food, gifts, clothing, cards, Christmas items etc. All profits from sales will go, as usual, to Chivuna Clinic. Please consider supporting Fairtrade and Chivuna in this way. *Thank you. Helen Spencer.*

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) – this course is online and starts this month. Details are with Father David for anyone who is interested.

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 27th September, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Please pray for Joan Smith of Croston Road who died on Monday last. Her Funeral Service is at Lancaster Crematorium at 12.30pm on Thursday 24th September. May she rest in peace.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Anne Birchall, Brian Campbell, James Coyne, Bill Acton, Arnold Hargreaves, Mary Watson, Thomas Swarbrick, Barbara Barton, Eric Fishwick and Mary Agnes Edwards. *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, 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, 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.)*

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 19th– Sunday 27th September 2015

Sat	19 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Rev John Horn
Sun	20 th	10.00 am	Arnold and Monica Hargreaves
Mon	21 st	No Mass	
Tues	22 nd	7pm – please note time	In thanksgiving to Padre Pio
Wed	23 rd	7.00 pm	Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood in our Diocese - Pat Hawkins
Thurs	24 th	9.30 am	Bridget Devitt RIP
Fri	25 th	9.30 am	For calm on troubled waters
Sat	26 th	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		06.00 pm(Vigil)	Tony Hall
Sun	27 th	10.00 am	Gianna O'Connor RIP

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	23 rd	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	25 th	10.00 – 11.00 am	Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations
Sat	26 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this Week:

Mon	21 st	ST MATTHEW
Wed	23 rd	St Pius of Pietrelcina
Sat/Sun	26 th /27 th	Harvest Festival

Meetings this Week:

Weds	16 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
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Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	12 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 135	Children: 10
Sun	6 th	10.00 am	Adults: 102	Children: 36 Total: 283

Monies Received:

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,007; Cemetery: £110; Donation: £3.50; Donation from Whist & Domino: £150; Roof Fund Donation: £500; Votive Lights: £54.50; Shop: £22; Photocopying: £5. *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, at Garstang Methodist Church.