

New items and information

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

21st / 22nd June 2014

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)



Over the last two weeks, we have heard members of our community speak to us very simply about the gift of faith that God has given them. We have listed some of our many gifts on the Stewardship leaflets and they have been in the basket before the altar all this week.

We acknowledge that all these gifts are from God, gifts that make us unique one from the other. But, like all the best gifts, we enjoy them most when we share them with others. I get more from sharing than from keeping my gifts just for me. If you have a gift for gardening, you get more happiness by sharing the beauty or the produce of your garden with others, than keeping it just for you. It is the same with all our gifts.

Today we celebrate the extraordinary gift of God to us of his Son's Body and Blood. God knows great joy at sharing this gift with us. We know great joy at God's love and generosity in choosing to invite us to come and share his Body and Blood.

But the gift of the Lord's Body and Blood goes further....when we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus we are amazingly united, made one, with Jesus himself – and with one another – “The bread that we break is a *communion* with the Body of Christ – the blessing –cup that we bless – the chalice – is a *communion* with the Blood of Christ.” (Second reading.) This is what St Paul came to realise. This gift from God makes us one with the Father, it binds us into his life, it draws us into his reality, his love, his compassion, his goodness.

When we share the Body and Blood of Christ, we are drawn ever closer into eternal life with the Father, we are drawn into our destiny. Something of what God has planned for us shines out from us – a great sense of fulfilment. Yes! this is what I have been made for! This gift makes me whole, makes me really human, really complete.

This is why First Communion for our children is so great. God's very likeness shines from them as they receive the Body and Blood of Jesus!

This weekend we celebrate Corpus Christi (The Body and Blood of Christ) The children who made their First Holy Communion will gather around the altar during the 10.30 am Mass. The new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be commissioned during the Masses this weekend.

Roof Fund – A very special ‘Thank You’ to everyone who has given to the Roof Fund by putting donations in the yellow envelopes. £1,190 has been given already!

Stewardship – The Ministry Fair begins this weekend. The displays will remain through the week and over next weekend. The Fair will give each of us a chance to learn more about the various Parish groups. Try and spend time to visit the Fair and give thought as to how your own gifts and talents could contribute to the life of our Parish. **If you have not already done so, please place completed leaflets, ‘Thinking about my time and gifts’, in the Stewardship basket before the altar.**

Prayer for Guidance

Lord, show me clearly what you want me to do with the Gifts you have given me.
Grant me the strength that I need to answer your call with courage and love.
Make me a generous person so that others may experience your love through me.
Help me always to look to you as the One who will show me the way to live my life.

Amen

St Vincent de Paul Society – The collection taken 7th/8th June amounted to a wonderful £257.40. **Thank you all very much for your generosity. The next meeting** of the SVP is this **Tuesday, 24th June**, at 7.30 pm in the Plessington Chapel.

St Vincent de Paul Society Appeal for clothing – especially socks for ex-offenders. Caritas Care in Preston are constantly in need of clothing for both men and women, but particularly men, and their stocks are very low just now. In our recent appeal for clothing, the response was excellent – so again we are highlighting this ongoing need. Do you have socks you no longer wear? You no longer need? Maybe you have socks hiding at the back of your sock drawer? Then now is the time to bring them to church. A box will be provided for this purpose and we are grateful for your generosity. **Thank you. SVP Conference.**

Did you know....Antony Mbandi, Director of Caritas Kitui in Kenya, is speaking in Preston at Fulwood Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 28 June? Come along to hear, first-hand, about the work of CAFOD and some of the challenges people overseas face in the light of an ever changing climate. Engaging workshops led by CAFOD specialists will enhance your knowledge and understanding of how and why CAFOD campaigns. The day is from 10.30 am to 4 pm. You can book your place at <http://www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Take-action-today/campaign-events> or alternatively phone CAFOD Lancaster on 01772 733310.

Mission Boxes A total of £163.78 has been banked this month. Thank you to all concerned. Mission boxes and magazines can be collected from the church porch.

Anyone wishing to have a mission box in their home please contact Celia Horn telephone 602341.

Remembering your Parish – If you wish to nominate your parish as a beneficiary under your will (as a Charity, bequests made to the Church will not attract inheritance tax) you may wish to consider the following wording:

“I give to the *Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (LRCDT)* for the benefit of the Parish of St Mary & St Michael, Garstang, the sum of £xxxx (and in words) free of duty and I declare that the receipt of the Financial Administrator of *LRCDT* at the Finance Office, The Pastoral Centre, Balmoral Road, Lancaster, LA1 3BT shall be a good discharge (LRCDTR Charity No. 234331).”

By this means your bequest is guaranteed to be solely for the benefit of your parish.

Previously Published Items

St Vincent de Paul Society – Annual Mass for Sick Parishioners. This will take place on **Saturday, 5th July at 2 pm.** Anyone who is sick or infirm may receive the Sacrament of the Sick. Mass will be followed by tea and cake in the Community Centre. Please do try to join us with some of our parishioners who cannot attend our Sunday Masses. All those who care for the sick, or who pray for them, may wish to receive an Anointing with the Oil of Gladness as we pray that we will always look after our sick and infirm parishioners and relations. This Mass is a lovely service of praise which we hold each year. Offers of help on the day and cakes will be gratefully received.

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 28th/29th June, 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 Towers, Michael Parkinson, Mary Doran, Mary Doran, Mary McNicholas, Cathie Cadden, George Kenyon, Mary Wearden, Elizabeth Hogarth and Sr Agnes Wells. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Lucia Salcedo, Christopher (of Cenacolo), Dorothy Evans, Derek Hutchinson, Jack Parkinson, Kath Price, Sheila Carrol, Valerie White, Clive Hammond, Simon Crossley, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Victoria Wang, Susanne, Jessica Holmes, Michael O’Neil, 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 Davies, 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.)*

The Response to the Psalm at the 10.30 am Mass

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 21st – Sunday 29th June 2014

Sat	21 st	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Private Intention
Sun	22 nd	8.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		10.30 am	Cathie Cadden
Mon	23 rd	No Mass	
Tues	24 th	9.30 am	Service of the Word with Holy Communion
Wed	25 th	7.00 pm	Elizabeth Hogarth
Thurs	26 th	9.30 am	Lowe and Fitzpatrick Families
Fri	27 th	9.30 am	Peter Cole
Sat	28 th	9.30 am	All our Parishioners
		6.30 pm (Vigil)	Dennis Brown
Sun	29 th	8.30 am	Robert Catterall
		10.30 am	Wilfred and Agnes Garstang

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	25 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Sat	28 th	10 – 10.30 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions

Special Days this Week:

Sun	22 nd	The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
Tues	24 th	Nativity of St John the Baptist
Fri	27 th	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Sat	28 th	The Immaculate Heart of Mary
Sun	29 th	St Peter & St Paul

Meetings this Week:

Tues	24 th	7.30 pm	St Vincent de Paul Society (Plessington Chapel)
Wed	25 th	7.30 pm	Property & Finance Committee
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice

Last Week’s Attendance:

Sat	14 th	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 126	Children: 3
Sun	15 th	8.30 am	Adults: 55	Children: 9
		10.30 am	Adults: 118	Children: 34
			Total:	345

Monies Received: Offerings including Standing Orders: £1,268.32; Votive Lights: £52.60; Shop: £20; Refund of Party Expenses: £13; Cemetery: £30; Funeral: £200; Garden Party: £646.50; Roof Fund Envelopes: £1,190. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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