

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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21st / 22nd November 2015

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Youth Sunday



We believe in God, Father and Creator of the Universe. We read in Genesis (Gn 1:1,4): "In the beginning, God created the universe...God said, 'Let us make mankind in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be the masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts, and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth.'"

In the last few centuries, this has been interpreted that man had to subject creation to man's selfish use, that creation could be despoiled if men so chose. Instead of man having responsibility for the care of the Universe, man could abuse Creation.

At last a new voice is being heard, a voice joined by the voice of Pope Francis. Creation is not so much for our use as for our care – we are the stewards of God's creation. "The natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone." (LS 95) so says Pope Francis in his latest encyclical "Laudato Si – on the care of our common home".

And into this world came the Son God! The Creator walked amongst his Creation! Pope Francis continues: "The very flowers of the field and the birds which his human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence." (LS 100) This is what we celebrate today!

Jesus, the King of the Universe, walks among his creatures and fills creation with his radiant presence! On this Feast of Christ the King of the Universe we rejoice in the beauty and wealth of God's creation which we serve and honour. We recognise the presence of Christ the King all around us – in the diversity and complexity of men, women and children who reflect to us the glory of the King, in the richness of the natural world where we recognise the hand of the King.;

Jesus continues to live in our world – and we find him especially in the poor and weak whom the King raises up for us all to see in wonder and awe.

As one liturgical year finishes and a new one is about to begin, the Lord renews his invitation to us to serve our poorest brothers and sisters and to serve and respect his despoiled Creation – to see the Dominion of the King as our responsibility to help to restore it to its radiant beauty, recognising Christ's presence therein!

New items and information

This weekend is Youth Sunday – There will be a special collection for the Diocesan Youth Services after both Masses.

Next weekend is the First Sunday of Advent – There will be a collection for the Poor Missions Fund.

First Confessions and First Holy Communions – If you have a child in Year 3 who does *not* attend St Mary & St Michael's School, but whom you would like to be enrolled for our 1st Reconciliation & 1st Holy Communion programme, please let Father David know.

Mission Boxes – Please would you bring mission boxes, ready for emptying, to church next weekend. *There are still a few boxes emptied in September still waiting for collection from the church porch.*

Advance Notice of SVP Christmas Party – 2.00 pm on Saturday 12th December at the Castle Lane Community Centre. Consider if you wish to attend; or how you might be able to help (eg transport; baking; sandwich making; washing up; tea brewing.*) Do you know anyone who rarely gets out and who would benefit from attending? Or would you just like a chance to mix with other parishioners? Details/Invitations available at the back of church. (* Ring Philippa Catterall 602797.)

Cake and Craft Stall – Last weekend, the **Cake** and **Craft** fair raised a *massive* £600.76. All proceeds will be split between CAFOD and the Chivuna Clinic. *Thank you very much to all who supported us.*

The Cornmill Nursing Home – If any current or past Ministers of Holy Communion would be willing to join the rota for taking communion to the Catholic residents of the Cornmill please get in touch with Frank Miller on 01995 604030.

Women Together in the Diocese of Lancaster – Advance Notice – Advent Day of Prayer and Reflection next Saturday 28th November 2015, at Little Sisters of the Poor, Garstang Road, Fulwood, Preston, from 10 am – 3.30 pm. The theme is "Listen anyone who have ears to hear" (Lk 8:08) Booking forms available in Presbytery office. For more information contact Sue Gornall, 01772 715 495; email suegoegornall@aol.com.

"My Day by Day" booklets for Advent have been sent to school for distribution to the children, both Juniors and Infants. If your child does not attend SS Mary & Michael's School, there are spare copies which will be available at the back of church from next weekend, which is the First Sunday of Advent.

SS Mary & Michael 2016 Diaries – Please help yourself to a diary from the back of church – there is no charge. Unfortunately, the Mass times are incorrect, as the publishers say they did not receive our alterations which were posted off to them last March.

Did you know....If you're looking for Christmas presents with a difference, **CAFOD World Gifts** could be the answer? These special gifts are a great way of rediscovering what it really means to share the love, peace and joy of Christmas. Each gift you buy will make a real difference to communities living in developing countries. If you choose one of our two newest gifts, **Food for a Family** or **Winter Survival Kit**, you could make this Christmas a happier one for refugees from the war in Syria, who are facing a terrible winter in Europe and the Middle East.

Previously Published Items

St Vincent de Paul Society Conference Appeal – Winter is once more upon us, and we again are appealing for bedding and warm clothing for those in need. If you have bedding, winter clothing for men, women and children, then please deposit these items in the box you will find at the back of church from next week. Thank you for your generosity. If you have any queries, please ring Pat on Garstang 605793.

Petition organised by the St Vincent de Paul Society to the House of Commons.

The following is the wording of the Petition. Because time is short (it has to be delivered to Parliament by 7th December), we invite you to sign the Petition over the next two weeks: *“We are gravely concerned about the manner in which all asylum seekers are currently treated in the UK. The 2015/6 Immigration Bill threatens to make those seeking sanctuary even more vulnerable, leaving more families homeless, and further isolating an already marginal group.*

We believe we have a moral responsibility as Christians to be a voice for those who have no voice, for as Pope Francis reminds us, refugees and asylum seekers are our brothers and sisters.

We deeply regret the exclusion of the recommendations of the All Party Parliamentary Inquiry into the Use of Immigration Detention, and we urge the government to reconsider and to adopt these recommendations.”

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 29th November, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Please pray for all the victims and those who have been affected by the atrocities committed in Paris last Friday.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: William Haydock Barton, Frank Blessing, Cuthbert Billington, Edward Storey, Marjorie Addison, George Bamber, Nellie Winder, Thomas Cooney, Cath Bagot, Eugenia McCarthy, Maureen Pyke, Margaret Stopforth, Nellie Bateson, William Kelsall and Joseph Smith. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Veronica ‘Ronnie’ Regan, Thomas Lowe (Bert’s brother), Ewan (an 11 year old boy undergoing treatment for a brain tumour), 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), Mark Noblet, 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 21st– Sunday 29th November 2015

Sat	21 st	6.00 pm (Vigil)	James and Jane Rossall
Sun	22 nd	10.00 am	Maurice Iddon (Sick)
Mon	23 rd	No Mass	
Tues	24 th	7.00 pm	A Speedy Recovery from Operation (E.L.)
Wed	25 th	7.00 pm	(For Vocations to the Priesthood) Rapid Recovery
Thurs	26 th	8.30 am	A Special Anniversary
Fri	27 th	9.30 am	Ann, Helen & Joseph Grayston
Sat	28 th	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		06.00 pm (Vigil)	Bill & Nellie Bateson
Sun	29 th	10.00 am	Deceased Members of the Broughton Catholic Charitable Society

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	25 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	27 th	10 - 11 am	Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations
Sat	28 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this Week:

Sun	22 nd	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE (Youth Sunday: our young people will be leading the liturgy at the 10 am Mass)
Mon	23 rd	St Columban
Tues	24 th	St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions
Sun	29 th	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Meetings this Week:

Weds	25 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
		7.30 pm	Parish Prayer Group (in Presbytery dining room)
Thurs	26 th	7.15 pm	Journey in Faith – with enquirers

Last Week’s Attendance:

Sat	14 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 122	Children: 8	
Sun	15 th	10.00 am	Adults: 131	Children: 34	Total: 295

Monies Received:

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,034.06; A. B. Grace Fund: £2,300; CAFOD Cake & Craft Stall: £600.75; Parish Draw: £1,330; Shop: £60; Votive Lights: £65.50; Sick & Retired Priests Levy: £100. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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