

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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22nd / 23rd March 2014
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)



Jesus said to the woman at the well:
"If only you knew what God is offering you,
and if you only knew the one who is speaking to you –
Then you would receive living water that will turn into a spring inside you welling up to eternal life."

During our Lenten journey, the Lord is reminding us, too, to go to him again in prayer, and to ask him:

"Lord, what are you offering me?"

It is easy to give glib answers to this question, but we may have to be more trusting, more expectant of God's gifts to us. What might the Lord be offering us at this time? He might have a few surprises for us. Whatever it is, it will be just what we need. But we need to sit still in prayer to ask the questions.

Jesus also tells us that we need to know the person who is asking the questions. We need to really know Jesus as a friend. And this, too, means that we need to find the time and the space to sit quietly with Jesus, to get to know him better. Ask him about himself, ask him what he likes to eat, his favourite TV programme, ask him what makes him smile, what makes him sad; ask him what he would like to change in the world, ask him what he would like to know about you... And when you ask, give him chance to reply; be still.

What you will notice is that something stirs inside you – that is the living water welling up within you, welling up to eternal life. Relish this living water, enjoy it, notice it. Allow this living water to wash over you and refresh you. You will begin to see life in a different light; you will come to know our Saviour as someone with whom you love to be. You will come to want to spend more and more time at the well.

New items and information

This Weekend is our Annual Mission Appeal. Please give a warm welcome to Fr. Sylvester Ogbogu of the Society of African Missions who is preaching the Appeal and celebrating the weekend Masses while Fr David is away.

First Eucharist Preparation – Session 3 is at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 25th March in the Plessington Chapel.

Next Parish Development Group Meeting will be on Friday, 9th May at 7 pm.

Presentation of the Creed – Next Saturday during the 6.30 pm Mass, Tammy McAleese, one of the Elect (ie those in the Diocese who will be baptised at the Easter Vigil) will be presented with a copy of the Creed as part of the First Scrutiny in the RCIA.

Next Sunday our school will lead the liturgy at the 10.30 am Mass.

A Legacy from the estate of Mary Veronica Winstanley for £25,000 has been left to the parish for repairs to the church. This will be added to the Roof Fund. Please remember Mary in your prayers.

Stations of the Cross during Lent, are at 6.30 pm Each Friday.

Stewardship Update – The previously notified meeting was held on Friday, 14th March, when information about Stewardship was provided by Jim Loughran, and a number of parishioners offered to join a steering group. The next meeting will be a **7.00 pm on Thursday 27th March** in the Plessington Chapel. If any other parishioners would like to join this steering group, please contact Father David or Manus Adamson (07970 819 492).

St Vincent de Paul Society are still collecting food during the season of Lent, until the 6th April. Please put any contributions you may have into the box which is at the back of church.

CAFOD Collection – Including Gift Aided donations, the total Lent Fast Day collection collected last weekend came to £484.08. *Thank you very much to everybody.*

Friends of Chivuna – the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March are now available at the back of church.

Whist and Domino Drive – The next Drive is this **Monday, 24th March, from 2 – 4 pm.** Come along and have some fun, even if you are a total beginner – we cater for all levels of skill (or none)! Entry is £2.00, and this *includes* refreshments.

Hummingbirds Car Wash Morning - Hummingbirds Nursery are holding a car wash morning **next Sunday 30th March** in the School yard during the 10.30 am Mass. Washing will start a from 10 am, if you fancy a bright sparkling car for Mothers Day then pop your car along. At £5.00 per car, it's a bargain you should not miss!

Parish Draw - £20 subscriptions are due for renewal. Agents will be collecting them from those who do not pay by standing order. A list of 2013/2014 winners is displayed at the back of church. Do you wish to become a member and help raise funds for the parish - £1,350 this year. Ring Philippa Catterall on 602 797. *Thank you.*

SS Marv & Michael's School Association needs your support for their "School Race Night" on **Friday 9th May 2014**. They are asking for sponsorship for the races which can be given either by taking out an advertisement for your business in the programme (£30 for full page or £20 for half-page) or by sponsoring a race (£50). There are eight races in total – full screen horse races. If you are interested, please contact the school office on 01995 603 023. Also, if you are able to provide a bottle of alcohol as an additional prize, all donations are gratefully received! Please come along for a great night out. Tickets available from school.

In addition, the School Association are asking for donations of help and materials for the Whit Festival Float. These would include large quantities of chicken wire, old newspapers, wallpaper paste, red rope, red carpet, adults willing to sew, and gold car paint (if anyone has a care body repair workshop, we will be looking for a 9ft papier maché Oscar to be sprayed

gold!) If you are able to help in any way, please contact the school office (603 023). *Thank you.*

St Mary's Fernvhalgh & Ladvevell - There will be a Penitential Celebration and Eucharistic Adoration of "24 hours for the Lord" starting at 5 pm on Friday 28th March, and concluding at 5 pm on Saturday 29th March with Benediction. Could anyone in the Parish adopt an hour or two in the 24 hours? There will be full support at the Shrine over the 24 hours for those who wish to do longer than an hour, and refreshments are provided. See leaflets and poster at the back of church.

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on the 30th March, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Previously Published Items

Garstang Musical Productions are producing "The Awards Show" from **30th April – 3rd May at 7.30 pm at Garstang Community Academy.** Tickets £8. Contact 01995 606603, or Mary Bateson (604 203). See poster at back of church.

Castlerigg Manor – There are always events for our young people at Castlerigg Manor. There are some leaflets at the back of church to look at, and to find out more, call 01768 772711, email team@castleriggmanor.co.uk, or visit www.castleriggmanor.co.uk.

Please remember in your prayers Jessica Holmes (2 ½ years old) who has leukaemia and is fighting for her life.

Please remember in your prayers George Clarey who died on Thursday. His Funeral Mass will be announced as soon as we know. *May he rest in peace.*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Ann Rigg, Austin Walmsley, Harry Swarbrick, John Gillett, Brian Richardson, Frank Walmsley, Gladys Richardson, Nellie Hodges, James Pedder and Mary Carr. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Valerie White, Edward Horn (Elizabeth's brother), Clive Hammond, Joan Brown, Simon Crossley, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Victoria Wang, Susanne, Robert Catterall, Jessica Holmes (2½ years old with leukaemia), Michael O'Neil, Molly (3 years old) and family, Ruth Fairey, Ted Mitchell, Jackson Wicks, Mark Noblet, Christopher Lawson, Ciara, Anthonio Dilao, Jamie & Marialyce Bilsborrow, Bernadette O'Neill, Tom Horn, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Tony Moran, Marjorie Addison, Sharon Hodgson, Christine, Peter Holland, Ian Moran, Tony Winstanley (Brian's brother), Wilf Rainford, Alyson, Michael Hendry, Christopher Simpson, Auntie Sophie, Christopher Brown, Simon Thompson, Michael Ryan, Sheila Davies, Sheila Cookson, Francisca Rainford, Paula Nicholson, Alison Green and Tim Park. *(When people whose names are placed on this sick list have recovered their health, please let us know.)*

Response to the Psalm at the 10.30 am Mass

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 22nd – Sunday 30th March 2014

Sat	22 nd	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Dorothy Kelsall (3 rd Anniversary)
Sun	23 rd	8.30 am	Canon O'Dwyer
		10.30 am	Thomas and Eleanor Bolton (Anniversary)
Mon	24 th	No Mass	
Tues	25 th	12 noon	Agnes Coote (Anniversary)
Wed	26 th	7.00 pm	Dennis Vincent Wilkes
Thurs	27 th	9.30 am	Dixie Johnstone
Fri	28 th	9.30 am	Ellen (USA)
Sat	29 th	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		6.30 pm (Vigil)	Tony Hall
Sun	30 th	8.30 am	Eve Graham (Birthday Memories)
		10.30 am	David Pyke (Lately Dead)

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	26 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	27 th	10 – 10.30 am	Exposition
		3 – 4 pm	Vocations Hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		06.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	29 th	10.00 am	Confessions

Special Days this Week:

Sun	23 rd	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT – Mission Appeal
Tues	25 th	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
Sun	30 th	FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Meetings this Week:

Tues	25 th	6.30 pm	1 st Eucharist Preparation (Session 3)
Wed	26 th	4.30 pm	Full Governing Body (at school)
		7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	27 th	4.00 pm	Liturgy & Spirituality
		7.00 pm	Stewardship Steering Group
		7.30 pm	Journey in Faith

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	15 th	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 97	Children: 3	
Sun	16 th	8.30 am	Adults: 62	Children: 15	
		10.30 am	Adults: 115	Children: 28	Total: 322

Monies Received: Offertory (incl. Standing Orders): £1,077.67; Votive Lights: £50.10; Shop: £20; Donations: £134; Roof Fund from Coffee Mornings: £100; Photocopying: £5.00. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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