

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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23rd / 24th MAY 2015
PENTECOST SUNDAY



The focus of Pentecost for us is a celebration of and a thanksgiving for the presence of the Spirit in our lives. The Spirit is the one who brings unity – with one another and with Christ – so the Church is 'His' work. Today is a thanksgiving for this gift, membership of the Church, the one we refer to in our creed – 'I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church'.

If Luke wants us to use a festival fifty days after Passover to recall the fundamental belief that the presence of the Spirit dwells within and activates the Church, how does he imagine this presence?

The Spirit is the one who gathers us. All the different nations are brought into contact with one another, then the Spirit unites them into one Church gathered round Jesus, so that followers of Jesus everywhere are linked through the apostles. The Spirit then inspires them and sends them forth to be witnesses to Jesus to the ends of the earth. Luke writes in Greek and has in mind the many individual churches where his work will be read, and wants to ensure that they recognise themselves as part of a great web that includes not only the empire 'visitors from Rome' but also beyond, 'Parthians and Medes'.

Luke saw the Gospel as adapting itself to each nation – hence the crowd did not hear the message just in Greek (the *lingua franca* of the empire) but in their own tongues. When Luke wrote, the Church was present in at least four major linguistic areas – Greek (Asia and Eastern Europe), Latin (Italy), Syriac (eastwards from Judea) and the vernaculars of Egypt and the Nile Valley. He assumed that they would each be different, but would be bonded together not only by common rituals and books but by a vision of themselves that was larger than their own group. While they would live and act locally, they would think globally and so testify that the New Covenant meant Christ, through them, was offering His risen life to all humanity.

D'arcy

New items and information

Please pray especially for our young people who are being confirmed in the Holy Catholic Church this Pentecost weekend, on Sunday at the Cathedral in Lancaster, during the 6.30 pm Mass; remember always that they are the future of the life of our Church.

Beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero Archbishop Oscar Romero was beatified yesterday, Saturday 23rd May, by Pope Francis. Archbishop Romero's words and actions as the former Archbishop of San Salvador, have enlightened the Church. He was a brave man, who was inspired by his faith to challenge not just poverty, but injustice, to give a voice to the voiceless. He was assassinated while celebrating Mass on 24 March 1980. He was one of the great heroes of the 20th century – a peacemaker who sacrificed his life standing up to injustice.

The Loom of Life Songs and stories with John Bell. Friday 29th May at 7.30pm – English Martyrs Church, Preston. Admission: £6 on the door. In support of the L'Arche Community, Preston. ***Please see poster at back of church.***

High Street Stall – CAFOD Group On Saturday 20 June, the CAFOD group will be holding a good quality bric-a-brac stall outside the Market Hall on the High Street, to raise funds for CAFOD's emergency relief and overseas development work. Please keep an eye out for any saleable items you may be willing to donate, and of course consider coming along to make a purchase on the day! More details to follow. *Thank you*

Previously Published Items

Pentecost Novena for Vocations is taking place in our Deanery. It started on Friday 15th May and finishes this weekend on Pentecost Sunday at the Cathedral. We took part in the Novena with a Holy Hour last Friday between 10 am and 11 am. See Poster in the porch.

Parish Draw – A very big thank you to all the agents who have helped collect the subscriptions for 2015/16; and to all who have renewed their membership. For anyone wishing to join now, two draws have been missed and so only £17 is required. **Advance notice/request** for someone to take over from me next March (they could shadow me to 'learn the ropes' when subs are next due. Only half-an-hour, monthly, is needed. *Philippa Catterall (602797)*.

Brave of Heart : A Weekend Journey for Men – 19th – 21st June 2015 – Cor et Lumen Christi, St Cuthbert's The Old Convent, Wigton, CA7 9HU. Come and find all that God has prepared for your masculine heart: life-changing talks, extended times of praise and worship, fellowship and sharing with other Christian men, time in the Lake District, Holy Mass, opportunity for Confession, Prayer ministry. Donation only after £10 registration fee. Includes meals.

www.coretlumenchristi.org stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org.

Dates for your diary : (1) The Huddersfield Boys Choir are staying at Winmarleigh Hall for a week at the beginning of June, and they will be putting on concerts in the area. This is a Catholic Choir who are associated with the Diocese of Leeds. They will be giving a concert here on **Friday, 5th June**, beginning at 7.00 pm. Admission Free. Voluntary donations towards our Church Roof Fund. ***Do please come and support them – all are welcome. The choir will also be singing at our 10.00 am Mass on Sunday 7th June.***

Back by popular demand: Afternoon Tea in Father David's garden! After last year's successful event, it has been decided to repeat the experience on **Wednesday, 10th June, 2 pm – 4 pm.** Tickets will be on sale from this Sunday, 17th May; price: £5. *Everyone welcome!*

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 31st May, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Bluebell Time Again! at Calder Vale. Teas will be served every Sunday in May from 1 pm – 5 pm in the Village Hall. Proceeds from the teas go towards the Mission Room and village ventures. Come along and enjoy the Bluebell walk through the wood and make the day complete with our famous Bluebell Tea. Local produce – rhubarb, honey, plants etc for sale. Also on **10th May** a table-top sale in the Mission Room – tables for sale at £5. To book, ring Nicky on 602 384.

“The Crossing” from Hynning to Boarbank across the Bay – For young people between 18 and 35: what are you doing on the weekend of **29th – 31st May**? Why not walk with other young people, religious and priests as a way of celebrating the Year of Consecrated Life? The Cross Bay Walk starts Saturday, 30th May at 3.30 pm, is about six miles, and takes approximately three hours. Cost is by donation. Registration is essential! For more details and for a full programme, please contact the Booking Secretary at Hynning – hynningbookings@yahoo.co.uk, or phone 01524 732 684. *Also see poster at back of church.*

Please pray for baby Emily Bevan and her family: Emily is to be baptised at 11.30 am this Sunday.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Thomas Richardson, Alice Bilsborrow, Timothy John Richardson, Dennis Oxby, John Ryan, Jerome Grayston, Margaret (Madge) Wrennall, Renee Rafferty and Thomas Hezel. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Maurice Iddon, Josie Maddock, Dina Carter, Richard (aged 14, has had a bone marrow transplant), Sheila Murphy, Rosemary Davies, Brian Hargreaves, Ellen, Brendan McGlone (14 year old with leukaemia), Anne Brockbank, Rachael Flood (née Mears), Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Susanne, Jessica Holmes (3 ½ years old with leukaemia), Molly and family, Mark Noblet, Christopher Lawson, Anthonio Dilao, Bernadette O'Neill, Tom Horn, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Tony Moran, Sharon Hodgson, Christine, Peter Holland, Ian Moran, Tony Winstanley, Alyson, Michael Hendry, Christopher Simpson, Auntie Sophie, Christopher Brown, Simon Thompson, Michael Ryan, 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.)*

The response to the psalm at the 10 am Mass:

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 23rd – Sunday 31st May 2015

Sat	23 rd	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Timothy Richardson
Sun	24 th	10.00 am	Living Members of the Broughton Catholic Charitable Society
Mon	25 th	No Mass	
Tues	26 th	No Mass	
Wed	27 th	7.00 pm	Agnes & Joseph Rossall
Thurs	28 th	9.30 am	Sheila Carroll
Fri	29 th	9.30 am	Ruth Fairey
Sat	30 th	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Fr John Conway
Sun	31 st	10.00 am	Eva Carter

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Sun	24th	6.30 pm Mass with the Confirmation of our candidates at the Cathedral, Lancaster
Weds	27 th	6.45 pm Rosary
Sat	30 th	10.00 am to 10.30 am - Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sun	31 st	After 10.00 am Mass - Crowning of the statue of our Lady in the Grotto

Special Days this Week:

Mon	25 th	St Bede the Venerable
Tues	26 th	St. Philip Neri
Weds	27 th	St. Augustine of Canterbury
Sun	31 st	Trinity Sunday

Meetings this Week:

Weds	27 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
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Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	2 nd	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 140	Children: 8	
Sun	3 rd	10.00 am	Adults: 104	Children: 10	Total: 262

Monies Received:

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,254.71; World Communications Day Collection: £99; Votive Lights: £51.40; Shop: £21; Funerals: £800; Roof Fund: £100. *Many thanks to you all.*

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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