

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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28th / 29th June 2014

FEAST OF ST PETER & ST PAUL



As we celebrate the two great Apostles of the early Church, we celebrate so much of what is good about the community of people that Jesus began.

The Son of God, doing the will of his Father, chose to entrust the most important enterprise that the world will ever know, to a bunch of untrained, untried amateurs. It was an enterprise doomed to failure and disaster from the outset – and here we are, 2000+ years later, celebrating the lives of two of the founders of this “failing” institution!

The written account of the earliest years of the Church is in the Acts of the Apostles. The person whom Jesus entrusts with the leadership – Peter – got himself arrested and imprisoned at least twice. He was bailed out, in fact miraculously released from chains and locked and barred doors, by an angel. His courage and enthusiasm – some would say craziness – to step out of prison and go straight to the Temple, the most public and sacred place, and continue proclaiming that Jesus is the Son of God is remarkable! This was the very reason why he was imprisoned in the first case!

Two-thirds of the Acts of the Apostles tells us about Paul, the other amateur missionary, who became the most successful missionary of all time! Paul was very clear that what he did and achieved was not his doing, but that of the Holy Spirit. All he had to do was to trust in the Holy Spirit of Jesus to keep the faith, and to let the Holy Spirit guide and direct him. The Holy Spirit led Paul not once, but three times, on arduous and dangerous journeys across the countries of the Eastern Mediterranean, always proclaiming to whoever would listen, the same message: “Jesus is the Son of God and he loves you!”

The work of Peter and Paul, the amateurs, changed the world! Their simplicity, their courage and faith, their love for Jesus, were the means that the Holy Spirit used to bring the joy of faith to thousands.

Today we ask the Lord Jesus that we might have a share in the simplicity, the courage and the faith which so inspired the nations all those years ago!

New items and information

This weekend there will be a special collection for Peter's Pence after all Masses. In 1871 Pope Pius IX formalised the practice of the lay members of the Church – and “other persons of goodwill” – to provide financial support to the Roman See. He gave it his approval in the encyclical *Saepe Venerabilis* (5th August 1871). ***The money collected is today used by our Holy Father for charitable purposes.***

Stewardship – The Ministry Fair ends this weekend. If you have not already done so, do try and take time after Mass to visit the Fair and give thought as to how your own gifts and talents could contribute to the life of our Parish. **Please place completed ‘Offering my time and gifts’ leaflets in the Stewardship basket at the back of Church.** These leaflets will be taken up to the altar at the Offertory.

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

Friends of Chivuna – Next meeting is on Friday, 4th July at 7.30 pm, preceded by Mass, 7pm.

St Vincent de Paul Society – Annual Mass for Sick Parishioners. This will take place next **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. If you are able to help, either with baking, with transport, or in any other way, please contact Pat (605793) or Helen (603944).

Monthly Coffee Morning – The next Coffee Morning is next Wednesday, 2nd July. Do come along for coffee, tea, cake, and a good old-fashioned chin-wag!

Robert Catterall – Philippa, Louise, Fiona and Thomas thank you for your support and prayers during Rob's illness, and since his death. Your cards, messages of sympathy, prayers, Masses and attendance at his Requiem have also been a great comfort. We are to have a Mass said (In Thanksgiving, RBC) for you all.

Parish Safeguarding – New information and advice leaflets on safeguarding children in our parish are now available from the back of Church. Please help yourself.

Assisted Dying Bill – Please write to a member of the House of Lords – The Bill to legalise “assisted dying” – meaning assisted suicide – will be debated in the House of Lords on 18th July 2014. There will be a free vote because it is not

government legislation. If passed, this Bill would place vulnerable people at serious risk. Especially if you have direct experience of caring for a dying person, either as a family member or as a health or social care professional, please write before 18th July to a Peer to tell them your views. For more information, including details of how to write to a Peer, please visit www.catholicchurch.org.uk/assisted-dying-bill. It is very important to write as soon as possible, and certainly before 18th July.

Previously Published Items

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.**

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 5th / 6th July, 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: Agnes Garstang, Sr Agnes Wells, Annie Blacklock, Veronica Slater, Isobel Swarbrick, John Smith, Irene Collinson, Augustine Kavanagh, Michael Bamber, Freda Nickson, Joseph Norcross, Mary Donovan, Charles Langley, Bill Jennings and Evelyn Langley. **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 28th June – Sunday 6th July 2014

Sat	28 th	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Wilfred and Agnes Garstang
Sun	29 th	8.30 am	Robert Catterall
		10.30 am	Dennis Brown
Mon	30 th	No Mass	
Tues	1 st July	12 noon	Peter Hankinson
Wed	2 nd	9.30 am (note time)	Marie-Jeanne Bolante
Thurs	3 rd	9.30 am	Reverend J Woodcock
Fri	4 th	9.30 am	Porferio Beleno (Anniversary)
Sat	5 th	2.00 pm (note time)	Mass for the Sick & Housebound (Intention: All our Parishioners)
		6.30 pm (Vigil)	Terry Murphy (59 th Wedding Anniversary)
Sun	6 th	8.30 am	Lucia Salcedo (Sick)
		10.30 am	Charles and Evelyn Langley (Anniversary)

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	2 nd	6.45 pm	Rosary
Sat	5 th	No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Confessions	
Sun	6 th	3.00 pm	Benediction

Special Days this Week:

Sun	29 th	St Peter & St Paul
Tues	1 st	St Oliver Plunkett
Thurs	3 rd	St Thomas

Meetings this Week:

Wed	2 nd	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
		7.30 pm	Deanery Pastoral Council (at the Cathedral)

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	21 st	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 110	Children: 10
Sun	22 nd	8.30 am	Adults: 64	Children: 12
		10.30 am	Adults: 115	Children: 36
			Total:	347

Monies Received: Offerings including Standing Orders: £1,268.32; Votive Lights: £58; Shop: £8.50; Funeral: £600. **Many thanks to you all.**

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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