

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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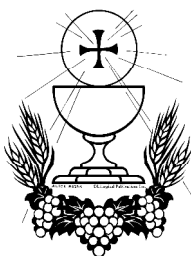
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**28<sup>th</sup> / 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**CORPUS CHRISTI**

**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY**



This weekend we celebrate Corpus Christi, the Feast Day of the Body and Blood of Christ. We have a habit of thinking that the Eucharist is 'based' in scripture, whereas the reality is the exact opposite: the Gospels are based in the liturgy. Before the Gospels were written, Christians were gathering weekly for the Breaking of Bread, and it was the need of these gatherings to have conveniently available to them the memories of Jesus that caused them to be brought about.

By the time the Gospels were written, the sharing of the Bread and Wine was being interpreted as a Paschal event with Jesus presented in terms of the Paschal Lamb whose blood makes intercession for us people. Thus a specifically Christian weekly celebration meal was being interpreted in terms of an annual Jewish celebration meal which was then seen as its anticipation. This was further interpreted in two ways: first, the Last Supper being entered into in memory at each Eucharistic meal; and second, that this was the meal by which Christians entered into the New Blood Covenant.

In Jesus' choice of a meal as his central event with his disciples, it is unlikely there was just one Great Last Supper, but may have been a weekly event, a bonding exercise. There is something inherently welcoming in being placed round a table and called a friend. They would all have shared the same food, not had personal menus. We would do this ourselves, for example, getting a take away for all to eat. However, while we might buy a common bottle of wine, we would each have our own wine glass. Therefore when we take from the Chalice, a common cup, this is a radical innovation which must go back to Jesus' own practice with his group. It is indeed so unusual that it led at one time to the withdrawal of the Chalice from the people, as we well know. The intimacy of one cup speaks of the intimacy that must exist among the members of the Body of Christ, and it is a most challenging symbol. The basic Christian demand is that we join in the Eucharistic meal, taking a share in the Bread and Wine. This ritual underlies all the different theologies of the Eucharist whether they are in the New Testament or later. Given that, we must try to appreciate just how highly the Churches valued this meal and to note the central theological significance they gave it.

*D'arcy*

**New items and information**

**This weekend, 28<sup>th</sup> / 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Cyprian Blamires (Regional Representative of The St Barnabas Society) will be speaking about their work at both Masses, and there will be a second collection for the St Barnabas Society.

**Bluebell Teas at Calder Vale.** This Sunday is your last chance until next year to take advantage of the lunches and teas served in the Village Hall from 12 noon – 5.00 pm. Bedding plants, rhubarb, free-range eggs, jams/preserves, candles etc are on sale, along with our delicious home-made soup/sandwiches and cakes. We look forward to seeing everyone again *next year!* Thank you to all of you who have supported us. *Brenda Price.*

**Monthly Coffee Morning** – You may be planning a trip to the Bahamas, or to Bermuda, or somewhere else warm and fun.....but if you're not, and if you want to go somewhere where there's a warm welcome, and fun conversation, why not come along to our Monthly Coffee Morning next **Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> June, from 10 am – 12 noon.** We even throw in the odd cake or biscuit for free! *Everyone is welcome!*

**The Catholic Voice** – Please pick up a copy of the new edition of the Catholic Voice as you leave church this weekend.

**The Wednesday Word** – Sadly, there are no copies of the Wednesday Word this weekend, as the internet and phone lines at the Presbytery are not working.

**Previously Published Items**

**Women Together in the Diocese of Lancaster** – A day has been organised for all ladies from our Diocese to come together on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at St Joseph's Church, Ansdell, Lytham St Annes. The theme for the day is "Mercy in the Year of Mercy". This will be led by Father John McGowan from Tabor. See poster on notice board and the back of church. Should you require any further information, please contact Sue Gornall on 01772 715 495, or email [suegornall@aol.com](mailto:suegornall@aol.com).

**Deanery Mass for Vocations** – This will be held on Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> June at 7 pm in the Cathedral.

**Hidden in plain sight: The forgotten Christians of Pakistan** – When Pakistan was formed in 1947, 14% of the 40 million population were Christians or Hindus. Now it is about 3% of the population of 200 million. Why? Dr Peter Lingwood will describe what it is like to live in poverty and be a persecuted Christian in Pakistan, and what the UK charity Aqueduct is doing to encourage them. The talk is at St Joseph's presbytery, Lancaster, at 7 pm on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June. For further details see [www.st-josephslancaster.co.uk](http://www.st-josephslancaster.co.uk).

**Vocations to the Priesthood** – There are prayer cards and leaflets at the back of church for anyone who is interested. We are still in the Year for Priestly Vocations, and each Friday after morning Mass, we have a Holy Half-Hour for Priestly Vocations. **If you think you may have a vocation**, there will be a Discovery Weekend, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016 for men aged 20+ at Hawkshead in the Lakes. To book a place, or for more information, contact Fr Darren on 01772 719 604 or 07552 795 060; email [priest@lancastervocations.org](mailto:priest@lancastervocations.org). See poster at the back of church.

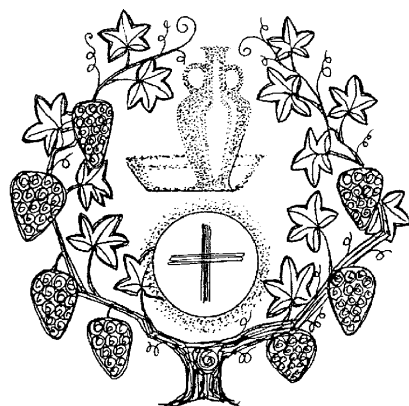
**Noddfa** – There will be a retreat at Noddfa from Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October. If anyone is interested in going, please contact Jean Andrews on 01995 603 802.

**Please pray for** Lucy Ashton and Nicholas Reid who were married in our church on Saturday, and for John Flesher and Becky Johnes who are to be married next Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> June.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:** John Ryan, Jerome Grayston, Margaret Madge Wrennall, Renee Rafferty, Thomas Hezel, Brian Griffin, Wynn Dunn, William Rawlinson, Bernard Holland, Jean Leach, Theresa Bamber, John Dixon, Josephine Barton, George Holt, Alfred Yates, Robert Catterall, Julia Cowburn and Judith Swarbrick. *May they rest in peace.*

**We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including:** Chris O'Connor, Craig Smith, Leo Rabbett, Anne Walmsley, Brian Moss, Jim Winstanley, Fiona Catterall, John Towers, John Sweeney, Rita Whittaker, Rod Pearson, Peter Ibison, Marie Corrigan, Jean Parkinson, Ann Wicks, Ewan (an 11 year old boy undergoing treatment for a brain tumour), Phillip, John Fairey, Pat Hickey, Sheila Murphy, Rosemary Davies, Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Susanne, Jessica Holmes, Antonio Dilao, Bernadette O'Neill, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, 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 on this sick list have recovered their health, please let us know.)*

**Response to the psalm at the 10 am Mass:**



**Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Sat	28 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Father John Conway
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Living Members of the Broughton Catholic Charitable Society
Mon	30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tue	31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Wed	1 <sup>st</sup> June	7.00 pm	Tom Horn
Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 am	Fiona Catterall (Get Well Soon)
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 am	Florence Ackroyd
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	LISCF
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Arnold & Monica Hargreaves
Sun	5 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Judith Swarbrick (Ninth Anniversary)

**Devotions and Celebrations this week:**

Wed	1 <sup>st</sup>	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup>	10 – 10.30 am	Holy Half-hour for Vocations to the Priesthood
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup>	No Confessions	

**Special Days this week:**

Sun	28 <sup>th</sup>	THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)
Tues	31 <sup>st</sup>	VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Wed	1 <sup>st</sup>	St Justin
Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sts Marcellinus & Peter (Martyrs)
Fri	3 <sup>rd</sup>	THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup>	The Immaculate Heart of Mary
Sun	5 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Meetings this Week:**

Wed	1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
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**Last Week's Attendance:**

Sun	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 127	Children: 9	
		10.00 am	Adults: 143	Children: 39	Total: 318

**Monies Received:**

Last Weekend: £1,111.17; Votive Lights: £53; Funeral: £600; Shop: £20.

*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 and in June at Garstang Methodist Church.