

## New items and information

# 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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**29<sup>th</sup> / 30<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2015**

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)**



If I were to say that a man's salvation might depend on the direction in which the hairs on his forearm lay, you'd think I was making it up; but I'm not. We would like to think that washing your hands before eating, especially in the unhygienic conditions of the Middle East in Jesus' time was a good idea, but as the people didn't know the cause of infections, the ritual must have come from tradition, and

even today Arab men wash their arms as far as the elbow before meals. Now Sunnis wash from wrist to elbow; Shia from elbow to wrist, and some people claim to be able to tell if a man is Shia or Sunni by the direction the hairs on his forearms lie. Since each sect holds the other apostate and hence damned, you will realise that the forearm hairs may be more significant than you think.

"What a load of rubbish," I hear you saying. But that is just the point that Jesus is making: the performance of the action was taken over from its significance – "Look, I'm respecting the tradition of our ancestors by washing, therefore I'm a good Jew, and obviously pious no matter what else I do (or don't)."

Jesus is presented here by Mark as the clever Jewish Rabbi, turning the Pharisees' challenge about the manner in which his disciples prepare to eat into a wide-sweeping exposure of their 'lip-service' interpretation of God's Law. External things like the food one eats do not make a person evil. It is one's actions, inspired from within, that show when a person is not living according to God's commands. Mark hopes that his readers will look to the various ways they are living in relationship with others to see if they are responding to God 'from within' (from their whole being), or merely with lip service (with superficial nods to tradition). Which category do we come in?

*D'arcy*

**This weekend we welcome home** Father David, fresh from his holiday and bursting with energy!

**This Weekend** there is a second collection for the Catholic Trust for England and Wales.

**Churches Together in Garstang** – This Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> August, at 3.00 pm, there will be a 'Songs of Praise' in Cherestanc Square, as part of Garstang Arts & Music Festival week. Do please try to support this.

**Monthly Coffee Morning** – The September Coffee Morning will be held next Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, from 10 am – 12 noon. Come along for the usual nosh and natter! Cakes, coffee, tea – we have them all! **Our Coffee Morning for MacMillan Charity** will now be held in October, when we will also have a cake and produce stall.

**Vee's Prayer Group** – The next prayer meeting will be held in the Plessington Chapel on **Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September** beginning at 7 pm.

**Aid to the Church in Need** – In addition to the £523 raised on the weekend of the appeal, a further £87 has been donated. We have received a thank you letter from Chris Robson, thanking parishioners for their generosity.

**The Houghton Weavers** are coming to our school!! In support of Oaklands, Garstang's Leonard Cheshire Home, the Houghton Weavers will be appearing at St Mary & St Michael's School next **Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> September**, at 7.00 pm. Now, *that* will be a great night out! And in such a good cause! Tickets are £10; for more information and to buy tickets, contact Paul McCann tel. 01995 607 033.

**Did you know...** CAFOD is supporting the Jesuit Development Service (JDS), who work with some of the poorest communities in El Salvador, to the west of the country? The communities here grow food to survive, but the steep, rocky landscape makes farming difficult. The Jesuit Development Service helps train farmers, so people can share skills, develop new ways to earn money and create a better life for their families. Working in partnership is an essential part of our identity.

**Mission Boxes** – Please would you bring your mission boxes, ready for emptying, to church next weekend. *Thank you.*

**CAFOD** – The next CAFOD Lancaster & Morecambe Meeting is on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> September from 7.00 – 8.30 pm at St Bernadette's Parish Hall, 120 Bowerham Road, Lancaster, LA1 4HT. Anyone is welcome. See poster at back of church.

**'The Catholic Universe'** – We have been given, free, a few copies of this newspaper, to see if there would be any interest from parishioners to buy one on a regular basis. If you think you might be interested, please take one – there is also an order form and pre-paid envelope with each copy.

## Previously Published Items

**Traidcraft Autumn Catalogues** are available from the back of church for orders or Fairtrade food, gifts, clothing, cards, Christmas items etc. All profits from sales will go, as usual, to Chivuna Clinic. Please consider supporting Fairtrade and Chivuna in this way. *Thank you. Helen Spencer.*

**“The smell of the sheep”** – There is to be a survey of Catholic opinion in England and Wales in preparation for the Synod on the Family in October. ACTA (A Call to Action) aims to encourage dialogue at all levels in the Church. With this in mind, there will be a morning of prayer, reflection and discussion with Andrew Hornsby-Smith on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September from 10 am – 1 pm, at St Bernadette’s Church, 120 Bowerham Road, Lancaster, LA1 4HT. To book, please email [anne.foley@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:anne.foley@blueyonder.co.uk). Tea and coffee are provided on arrival at 10 am. *See poster and leaflets (on green paper) giving details, and explaining who Andrew is, at the back of church.*

**Cleator Pilgrimage** – the Annual Pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at Cleator is next **Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2015**. The principal celebrant and preacher will be Bishop Brian Noble. The young people of our Diocese are invited to walk in pilgrimage from Langdale to Cleator; they will begin their journey at Castlerigg Manor on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, arriving on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> September; they can register their interest in joining the walk by contacting Fr Philip at Castlerigg – 017687 72711. Refreshment will be served in The Civic Hall, Cleator Moor, CA25 5AR at £8.50 per head. Bookings for refreshments to be made before 24<sup>th</sup> August by contacting St Mary’s Priory, Cleator, CA23 3AB, tel: 01946 810 324. *See poster at back of church.*

**St Paul’s Sunday Missal 2016** – If you would like a personal copy of next year’s St Paul’s Sunday Missal, please put your name on the list in the Church Shop.

**Wednesday Word** – To help us prepare for Mass on 6<sup>th</sup> September, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

**Please pray for** Keira Ellie Kirkham who is being baptised this Sunday at 11.30 am.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:** Alfred Evans, Harry Kelly, Ronald Park, Denis Chapman, James Parker, Hilda Yates, Peter Thomas Davis and Matthew Maguire. *May they rest in peace.*

**We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including:** Judith, Phillip, John Fairey, Pat Hickey, Maurice Iddon, Sheila Murphy, Rosemary Davies, Brian Hargreaves, Anne Brockbank, Rachael Flood (née Mears), Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Susanne, Jessica Holmes (4 years old with leukaemia), Molly and family, Mark Noblet, Christopher Lawson, 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, 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.)*

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

**Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

Sat	29 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Alan Bradley (Anniversary)
Sun	30 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Jeanette Mears (5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
Mon	31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tues	1 <sup>st</sup> Sep	12 noon	Bridget Devitt
Wed	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00 pm	Rev J Henessy
Thurs	3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 am	Patricia Hawkins (Lately Dead)
Fri	4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	LISCF
Sat	5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		06.00 pm(Vigil)	Cregeen
Sun	6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Alex Stott

**Devotions and Celebrations this week:**

Wed	2 <sup>nd</sup>	6.45 pm	Rosary
Sat	5 <sup>th</sup>	10 – 10.30 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions

**Special Days this Week:**

Mon	31 <sup>st</sup>	St Aidan & the Saints of Lindisfarne
Thurs	3 <sup>rd</sup>	ST GREGORY THE GREAT
Fri	4 <sup>th</sup>	St Cuthbert

**Meetings this Week:**

Weds	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
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**Last Week’s Attendance:**

Sat	22 <sup>nd</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 117	Children: 4
Sun	23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am	Adults: 112	Children: 14 Total: 227

**Monies Received:**

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,078.15; Aid to the Church in Need: £523 + £87; Votive Lights: £52.80; Shop: £15. *Many thanks to you all.*

**Churches Together in Garstang & District**

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

