

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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4th / 5th October 2014

27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)



Working in the vineyard of the Lord is the work of evangelisation – bringing the Good News to our friends, our families, our neighbours. Jesus brought the Good News of

God's love for everyone mainly by what he did, backed up by what he said. He made it very clear that his Father loves everyone, especially the ones who might seem unlovable, the ones who are pushed out to the edges of society, pushed out to the edges of a Catholic parish. ***How do we fare as a parish?***

How does SS Mary & Michael's welcome people in a single-gender relationship?

divorced people?

people who are divorced and re-married?

homosexual people?

people feeling rejected and marginalised by the Church?

poor people?

lonely people?

hurting people?

young people?

unruly children?

people with learning difficulties?.....

How do I, as parish priest, make everyone feel welcome?

Do we tell ourselves that Garstang and Catterall – our district – doesn't have any people who are on the edges of society? If we do, I think that we are trying to fool ourselves – but we can't fool God.

The Lord asks us to go out and invite hurting people, people who feel rejected by the Church and bring them to Church where we all welcome them, make them feel at home, recognising everyone as people loved by the Lord.

How can we make our parish a more welcoming place? Maybe by each of us welcoming just one person?

We can lose sight of the reality of our parish. Like the vineyard, it belongs to the Lord, we are only the tenants. The Lord hopes that we will work in our parish so that it bears much fruit for the Lord, by seeking out those who feel unwelcomed.

“Lord, lead us to your children on the edges and fill our hearts full of love for them.”

New items and information

This weekend we will be collecting the Harvest Fast Envelopes.

Women from Michegan – Sr Prudence (one of the Sisters who lived a short time in our parish earlier in the year) is leading a Pilgrimage to our area of women from Michigan, USA, this coming week. They will be staying at the Garstang Country Hotel. They may be at weekday Mass. They will certainly be at Mass here on Friday 10th October, possibly with confessions afterwards. They will be having refreshments in the Presbytery after Mass. Please welcome them!

Vocations Discernment Day – Is God calling you to serve as one of his priests? Come and see at the Vocations Discernment Day on Sunday 19th October 2014 at Our Lady & St Joseph's, Carlisle. See the poster for more details, or contact Fr Darren on 01772 719604 (priest@lancastervocation.org) or Fr John on 01228 521509 (jwmillar1@gmail.com).

“The Company of Voyces” are holding a concert here at SS Mary & Michael's this coming Friday, **10th October** at 7.30 pm in aid of the Church Roof Fund. Tickets cost £10, and are available from Richard Harrison on 01995 606 213 or on the door. Do please try to make time to support this event. Our Roof Fund is growing nicely, and hopefully with a little more effort, we will have a watertight church!

Harvest Festival – A big ***thank you*** to all parishioners, friends and families who helped to make our Harvest such a success. All the boxes were delivered to the sick and housebound, and all the produce in the church went to Homeless Action at Lancaster. Thank you also to the children at school who covered the boxes, and the Youth Group who made the posters, moulded fruit, and decorated the windowsills. They all did a wonderful job. ***We hope to do this again next year!***

Friends of Chivuna – Congratulations to Mr Vince Cahill having won the Barbra Cropper etching through winning space 73. Friends of Chivuna are extremely grateful to Pat Costain for her industrious efforts in organising a very successful project, which raised **£268.55**. We are supremely grateful to the artist, Barbra Cropper for having graciously donated an excellent example of her work in order to help the poor people in Chivuna. Nothing of course could have been obtained were it not for the generosity of our Parishioners and their friends; for this, our deepest gratitude. *Frank Carter, Chairman, G.F.O.C.*

Organ Recital – Thank you to all who came to the Organ Recital which Brian Dickinson organised to raise funds for the Church Roof Appeal. Everyone who attended enjoyed themselves, and the music, and **£141** was raised on the night.

Another ‘Thank You’ to everyone who came to, or who contributed in any way to the Macmillan Coffee Morning last Wednesday. **£214.65** was raised for the Macmillan charity.

Youth Group – We are still looking to recruit some new adult helpers for the group. Please, could you help? No experience is necessary. If you would like more information, please chat to Rachel Cortes, our Parish Youth Worker, on 07508 365 249 or to Paul McCann on 601354. *Thank you.*

SS Mary & Michael's School – Car Park – As you know, the parent/pupil drop-off point was introduced to provide a safe area for children to arrive at school and to allow for a smooth flow of traffic through our often congested driveway. Please will you use this facility safely and drive with care, caution and consideration – especially when children are arriving at school and when they are leaving. Do not overtake cars stopped at the drop-off point, or park on the roundabout, and please help to maintain a safe and respectful school environment.

APF – Mill Hill – We have had a letter of thanks from Missio for having Fr Kevin Hughes to host the appeal in our parish – he had a great success, and gained a lot of new Red Box holders.

Previously Published Items

Stewardship – Many thanks to all who took part in the Stewardship Initiative. The team was very pleased with the response and interest shown. We trust parishioners who volunteered their time and gifts have been contacted by now. If not, please contact Frank Miller (01995 604 030). We hope to renew the Stewardship Initiative in three years' time.

Chivuna Photos – Displayed at the back of church, these interesting items have been provided by Cathy Place and show well the Zambian countryside. We can also see the people of Chivuna, how they live and how they appreciate our having provided for them an AIDS/HIV centre. Please see for yourselves, and perhaps feel inspired to continue in your generous support for Chivuna.

Brass Cleaning Team – Have you an hour or two to spare once a fortnight to help with cleaning the brasses in church? The Brass Cleaning Team meets every other Wednesday morning to clean the candlesticks etc (quite a lot of etc!), but one of the team has moved away, and they could do with some help. Are you the one to do this? If so, please contact Fr David.

Garstang Musical Productions are putting on a production of Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Iolanthe' from 22nd – 25th October. All performances start at 7.30 pm and tickets will cost £9 (£6 for 16 yrs and under) and will be available soon from Car Care in Garstang, or by contacting Alan Armstrong on 01995 606603. **Do come along for a really enjoyable evening!**

Ruth Walbank, 16, is looking for a lift to Salford (Quays), Manchester, Monday – Friday. Her working hours are between 9.00 am – 6.00 pm at MediaCity. Tel: 07837 274 160.

Church Shop – We are looking for some new helpers at the 6.30 pm and the 8.30 am Masses. If you are able to help, please contact Jen Horn 01995 602341.

Wednesday Word – To help us prepare for Mass on 12th October, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

Please pray for Joseph James Oliver, who is being baptised this weekend during the 10.30 am Mass.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Thomas Taylor, who died last Tuesday. His Funeral Service is at 11 am on Thursday, 9th October. **May he rest in peace.**

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Jenny Jackson, Edward Ross, Hugh Ferguson, Richard Wrennall, Barry Speak, Rose Ellen Shorrock, Margaret Horn and Kathleen Barnacle. **May they rest in peace.**

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Brendan McGlone (14 year old with leukaemia), Anne Brockbank, Teresa Bonnar (Bowerswood), Rachael Flood (née Mears), Michael McCarthy (living in France), Dorothy Evans, Jack Parkinson, Kath Price, Sheila Carrol, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Victoria Wang, Susanne, Jessica Holmes, 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 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.)**

Response to the Psalm at 10.30 am Mass :

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 4th – Sunday 12th October 2014

Sat	4 th	6.30 pm (Vigil)	William & Ellen Greenall (Anniversary)
Sun	5 th	8.30 am	Ellie Higham & Stephanie Croston (going away to University)
		10.30 am	Michael O'Neill
Mon	6 th	No Mass	
Tues	7 th	7.00 pm	Dom Henry's Intentions
Wed	8 th	7.00 pm	Hugh and André Ferguson
Thurs	9 th	9.30 am	Bernadine McAshea
		11.00 am	Funeral Service for Thomas Taylor
Fri	10 th	9.30 am	Private Intention (with Women from Michigan)
Sat	11 th	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		6.30 pm (Vigil)	Paul Roggeven
Sun	12 th	8.30 am	Jim and Ann Berry (Golden Wedding)
		10.30 am	Father John Conway

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Sun	5 th	3.00 pm	Holy Hour & Benediction
Wed	8 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Sat	11 th	10.00 am	Confessions and Exposition

Special Days this Week:

Mon	6 th	St Bruno
Tues	7 th	Our Lady of the Rosary
Thurs	9 th	Blessed John Henry Newman

Meetings this Week:

Wed	8 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
		8.00 pm	Hummingbirds AGM

Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	27 th	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 117	Children : 7	
Sun	28 th	8.30 am	Adults: 56	Children: 8	
		10.30 am	Adults: 105	Children: 24	Total: 317

Monies Received: Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,087.11; Cemetery (for Memorial Headstones): £100; Donation: £20; Votive Lights: £47; Shop: £20; Bishop's Administration Fund: £86.36; Organ Recital (for Roof Fund): £141. **Many thanks to you all.**

Churches Together in Garstang & District

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