

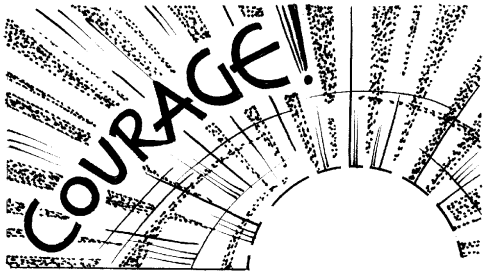
## New items and information

# 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  
Fr David Elder & Rev Deacon D'Arcy Ryan,  
Bonds Lane, Garstang, Lancs PR3 1ZB. Tel. 01995 602164. Fax 602548  
email: [ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com](mailto:ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com)  
Parish Website: [www.ssmarvandmichaels-garstang.org.uk](http://www.ssmarvandmichaels-garstang.org.uk)  
email for website submissions: [parish@ssmarvandmichaels-garstang.org.uk](mailto:parish@ssmarvandmichaels-garstang.org.uk)

**5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015**

## **TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)**



The man who was deaf and dumb was able to hear and to speak. Jesus had changed his life!

Life always changes when Jesus intervenes. But he waits for us to ask; he wants us to be ready to change. The people asked Jesus to heal the man, but Jesus wanted to

know if he was ready for such a big change. He took the man to one side, in private, to ask him if he really wanted this change in his life.

The man must have said "Yes," because Jesus then 'opened' his ears and 'loosened' his tongue. Immediately the man and his family began to proclaim Jesus, "he has done all things well!" they said – even though Jesus would have preferred them to wait until after his death, resurrection and ascension, when his ministry would be finished.

Jesus wants to change us. He wants to intervene in our lives. He wants us to spread the Good News. He wants us to become evangelisers. But to do this we have to be able to hear the Word of God; we have to have our ears opened before we can speak out about the great works of God. Our tongues won't be loosened until we are open enough to really hear the Word of God.

And Jesus wants to know: "Are you ready to change?" He speaks privately to our hearts. He asks us: "Are we ready?" Most of us mutter something about "not yet Lord," or "I have a lot of other things to do first," or we argue that we are not the right ones to be evangelisers.

The man who was deaf and dumb had woken up on that morning that he encountered Jesus having no idea how his life would be changed by the end of the day. Jesus wants to encounter us today. He wants to change us. But we have to be ready. Will you say: "Yes, Lord," if Jesus asks you today to become an evangeliser and spread the Good News?

**Next Weekend** we have the Day of Prayer for Racial Justice.

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

**Property & Finance Committee** – next meeting Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm

**Liturgy & Spirituality** – next meeting Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> September, at 4pm.

**Friends of Chivuna** – next meeting Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm, preceded by Mass at 7pm.

**Thank you** to everyone who has been praying for Rachael Flood (née Mears). She has recovered well, and although she still needs further surgery, she has decided to delay this until next year and has recently returned to work. Your prayers and messages of support have been much appreciated.

**The McCann Family** are taking part in the JWK Colour Dash on 13<sup>th</sup> September to raise money for St John's Hospice in memory of Jeanette Mears, our beloved Mum and Grandma, who died in St John's five years ago after a short and aggressive illness. If anybody is able to sponsor us, we would be very grateful for your support. There is a sponsor form at the back of church, or you can sponsor us online at <https://jwkcolourdash.everydayhero.com/uk/mccann-family>. *Thank you.*

**One of our parishioners** has been saving his loose change in a gallon-sized whiskey bottle for many weeks...months...years... a long time!! The bottle contained £97 for the church. If anyone else would like to take the bottle and repeat the generosity of this parishioner by filling it with loose change, we would be very grateful!!

**Did you know...** Niger is the poorest country in the world? Hamani is 74 years old, and lives in a village in southwest Niger. Each year his family endures poor harvests due to long and extreme dry seasons. CAFOD is supporting Hamani, his family and his village with basic foods so that they can survive. But Hamani and his community don't just want to survive, they want to flourish, and become self-reliant. This **Harvest Fast Day, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**, you can enable Hamani and his community to flourish and share in the abundance that God provides for us all.

**CAFOD** – On Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> September, there is a meeting in St Bernadette's Parish Hall, 120 Bowerham Road, Lancaster, LA1 4HT, to give an update of CAFOD's work overseas and at home. All welcome – just turn up. *Refreshments available.* At the back of church, there is a copy of the CAFOD magazine, *Side by Side*, the Summer 2015 edition. If you are interested take it to have a look. There is also a leaflet with Christmas cards and gift ideas.

### **Dates for your diary:**

**Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, 7.00 pm** – Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate the Year of Consecrated Life, at Lancaster Cathedral. Celebrant: Bishop Michael Campbell OSA.

**Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, at SS Mary & Michael's Church, - An Evening of Music** with Marion Gaughan, Louise Coupe, Ivan Gaughan and David Kennedy. 7.30 pm. Ticket £5 including refreshments available from the back of church after Mass and on the door; proceeds towards the Roof Fund.

**21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October** – at Garstang Community Academy, Garstang Musical Productions are presenting "21<sup>st</sup> Century Musicals" with hits from lots of musicals. Tickets available from Care Care and Market Place News, High Street. See poster at back of church.

**Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS)** – this course is online and starts this month. Details are with Father David for anyone who is interested.

### 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.*

**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 13<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** Phoebe Whitney Melville, who is being baptised this Sunday at 11.30 am.

**Please pray for** Jane and Rob Skipworth, who were married here on Friday.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of** Michael Ryan, who died recently in Nazareth House. His Funeral Mass will be held at Nazareth House, Ashton Road, Lancaster next Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1.30 pm, and there will be a graveside service here at SS Mary & Michael’s the same Tuesday at 12 noon.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:** Matthew Maguire, Malcolm Mayo, Richard Pawlowski, Dorothy Towers, Moira Adamson, Benedict Joseph Johnson, Bob Horn, Harvey Snaith and Eve Porteous. *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, 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 5<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2015

|       |                  |                     |                                   |
|-------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sat   | 5 <sup>th</sup>  | 6.00 pm (Vigil)     | Cregeen                           |
| Sun   | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | 10.00 am            | Alex Stott                        |
| Mon   | 7 <sup>th</sup>  | <b>No Mass</b>      |                                   |
| Tues  | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | <b>No Mass</b>      |                                   |
| Wed   | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 12 noon (note time) | With thanks - VC                  |
| Thurs | 10 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30 am             | Kathleen and Family               |
| Fri   | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 7.00 pm (note time) | Chivuna – The Layburn Family      |
| Sat   | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 9.30 am             | All Our Parishioners              |
|       |                  | 06.00 pm (Vigil)    | Thanksgiving for a Golden Wedding |
| Sun   | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00 am            | Gerald Whittaker                  |

### Devotions and Celebrations this week:

|     |                  |               |   |
|-----|------------------|---------------|---|
| Wed | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | No Rosary     |   |
| Sat | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 10 – 10.30 am | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions |

### Special Days this Week:

|     |                  |                                     |  |
|-----|------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Tue | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY |  |
| Sat | 12 <sup>th</sup> | The Most Holy Name of Mary          |  |

### Meetings this Week:

|       |                  |         |                              |
|-------|------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Weds  | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 7.30 pm | Choir Practice               |
| Thurs | 10 <sup>th</sup> | 7.00 pm | Property & Finance Committee |
| Fri   | 11 <sup>th</sup> | 4.00 pm | Liturgy & Spirituality       |
|       |                  | 7.30 pm | Friends of Chivuna           |

### Last Week’s Attendance:

|     |                  |                 |             |              |            |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| Sat | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 6.00 pm (Vigil) | Adults: 130 | Children: 12 |            |
| Sun | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 10.00 am        | Adults: 110 | Children: 18 | Total: 270 |

### Monies Received:

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,082.33; Catholic Trust for England and Wales: £132; Votive Lights: £45.80; Shop: £30; Donation: £97; Tea Money: £65.

*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.

