

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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8<sup>th</sup> May 2016

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



What has been said about the Ascension of our Lord comes to this: that we are in a world of mystery, with one bright light before us, sufficient for us to proceed forward through all difficulties. Take away this light, and we are utterly wretched; not knowing where we are, how we are sustained or what will become of us; and all of that is dear to us: what we are to believe, and why we are in being. But with the light, we have all.

Pope Benedict XVI wrote: "The meaning of Christ's Ascension expresses our belief that in Christ the humanity that we all share has entered into the inner life of God in a new and hitherto unheard of way. It means that man has found an everlasting place in God." It would be a mistake to interpret the Ascension as "the temporary absence of Christ from the world". Rather, "we go to heaven to the extent that we go to Jesus Christ and enter into him". Heaven is a person: "Jesus himself is what we call 'heaven'."

New items and information

**There will be no teas and coffees** served at the back of church this Sunday. Instead, refreshments will be served in the School Hall following the First Holy Communion at the 10 am Mass. Please come and celebrate with our children.

**This Sunday is World Communications Day of Prayer** and there will be a special Collection for Catholic Media after both Masses. There are prayer cards at the back of church – please help yourself to one.

**Chivuna** – The etching to raise money for this worthy cause will be available this weekend and next. (Sorry about the misinformation in last week's bulletin re. dates.) Please do place your bets (£1 per try) and guess the winning number. The value of the etching is approximately £250, and is on display at the back of church.

**Parish Draw** – Congratulations go to Frank Worthington and Elizabeth Horn for being our April winners. Would you like the chance of being next month's winner? We have plenty of numbers available for new members to join the draw. If you would like to support our church, contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon on 01995 604 292.

**May Procession** – Our children will be processing in honour of Our Lady on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, at the 10 am Mass. More details will be published nearer the time.

**Did you know...**as Ethiopia experiences one of the worst droughts in decades brought about by one of the strongest El Niño weather events, CAFOD is scaling up its emergency response work to reach more people in desperate need? The two rainy seasons that supply over 80 per cent of Ethiopia's agricultural crops have failed, leaving more than ten million people facing the prospect of severe hunger. Our local partners are providing food to vulnerable women and babies, ensuring that families have access to clean water, and supporting communities to keep what cattle they have alive. Join us in praying for all those affected by this drought.

**A Spiritual Spa Day for Women – with Cathy Fava** – Come and be refreshed in the Living Water – a day for women to experience the renewing love of God. Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at Cor et Lumen Christi, Wigton, CA7 9HU – donations only. To book, or for more information: visit [www.coretlumenchristi.org](http://www.coretlumenchristi.org), email [stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org](mailto:stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org), or phone 01697 345 623.

Previously Published Items

**It's Bluebell Time again at Calder Vale.** Lunches/Teas will be served in the Village Hall every Sunday in May (five Sundays) 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. Thank you for your continued support. *Brenda Price.*

**A Gift-Aid Tax Reclaim** will be submitted shortly to HMRC. Please notify me if you are no longer a tax payer, or you paid insufficient tax during 2015/16 to cover the tax that will be reclaimed on all your donations given under gift aid to all charities during the tax year. At the present rate of 20%, 25p is reclaimed for every £1 donated. *Helena Rigby (605311)*

**Youth Service – Castlerigg** – From Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May at Castlerigg Manor, there is a retreat available for all families. The weekend provides a great opportunity for families to be together, share with each other and with other families, and draw closer to

God. Family discounts are available. There is a booking form and more information on the website [www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/yatm-events/keswick/family](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/yatm-events/keswick/family). There is a poster at the back of church.

**The Wednesday Word** to help prepare for the weekend Mass of 15<sup>th</sup> May, can be found on yellow paper at the back of church. *Please help yourself.*

**Please pray for** the children who are celebrating their First Holy Communion this Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of** Maurice Iddon, who died last week. His Funeral Mass will take place here on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 12.30 pm. *May he rest in peace.*

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:** Stephen Richardson, Henry Banks, Violet Eydmann, Mary Speight, Peter Nickson, Sarah Turner, Elizabeth Wrennall, Joseph Grayston, Cyril Lamoury, Ellen O'Brien, Wilfrid Swinbourne, Ray Wilcock, William Gillett and Mary Agnes Mackenzie. *May they rest in peace.*

**We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including:** 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, Thomas Lowe (Bert's brother), 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.)*

### The Holy Father's Mission Intention for May 2016

That families, communities and groups may pray the Holy Rosary for evangelisation and peace.



### **Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Sat	7 <sup>th</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Ethel Kenyon
Sun	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Sheila Carroll 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary)
Mon	9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tue	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Sheila's Birthday Intention
Wed	11 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Bridget Devitt
Thurs	12 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Mary Beswick (Lately Dead)
Fri	13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Special Intention
Sat	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Tom Horn
Sun	15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Diamond Wedding

### **Devotions and Celebrations this week:**

Weds	11 <sup>th</sup>	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	13 <sup>th</sup>	10-10.30 am	Holy Half-hour for Priestly Vocations
Sat	14 <sup>th</sup>	10-10.30 am	Confessions

### **Special Days this week:**

Sun	8 <sup>th</sup>	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – First Holy Communions
Thurs	12 <sup>th</sup>	Sts Nereus & Achilleus; St Pancras
Fri	13 <sup>th</sup>	Our Lady of Fatima
Sun	15 <sup>th</sup>	PENTECOST

### **Meetings this Week:**

Wed	11 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	12 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Journey in Faith

### **Last Week's Attendance:**

Sun	1 <sup>st</sup>	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 135	Children: 6	
		10.00 am	Adults: 125	Children: 35	Total: 301

### **Monies Received:**

Last Weekend: £1,081.70; Shop: £10; Votive Lights: £62.60; Tea Money (surplus): £50; Collection Golf Hotel: £432.60. *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.