

## 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> / 9<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)**



The man and woman whom God had created to reflect the glory of the creator, lived in a luxurious garden that God had prepared for them. The garden provided for their every need. God only wanted them to be happy.

But the devil disrupted all of that – the devil's desire is to destroy the loving relationship between God and the human beings he loves. The devil is the enemy of our happiness.

When God sent his Son into the world to restore the happiness that the devil had succeeded in undermining, the devil couldn't believe the extremes of love that God would go to for us. He couldn't believe that Jesus could be the Son of God, now a man in the midst of the unhappy world where the devil was wreaking havoc among God's beautiful sons and daughters. The devil had got used to getting his own way amongst the people of this world.

And here was this man Jesus. He made the devil feed unnerved and the devil wasn't used to that. So he determined to sort out this Jesus. But first he had to know: was he really the Son of God? If he was, the devil knew that he was up against it.

So, during the very time when Jesus had decided to dedicate 40 days to prayer and fasting in preparation for him embarking on his saving ministry amongst his people, the devil decided to intervene decisively and to sort this Jesus out once and for all. The 40-day retreat that Jesus was making had weakened him physically by the severe penitential regime that he had imposed upon himself. The devil knew that this was a very good time for him to show his hand.

Three times he challenged Jesus: "If you are the Son of God...." The devil had to force Jesus to declare who he was. But Jesus had other plans. Yes, he wanted to show to his beloved people that he was the Son of God come to be with them. But he certainly wasn't going to reveal his power to gratify the devil.

He sent the devil packing.

Lent is our 40 days of prayer and fasting – and the devil will be back. He doesn't give up! But we have Jesus our Lord and Saviour at our side, to encourage us and to love us to bits as we work to follow in the Master's footsteps this Lent!

### **New items and information**

**"My Day by Day"** – These booklets are available from the back of church for children who do not attend SS Mary & Michael's School but would like a copy.

**Mass Intentions** – We have had new Mass Intention Envelopes printed., If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention, please use one of the envelopes (wage-packet-size) that you will find at the back of church. Hand in the completed envelope in the collection basket, or hand it in at the presbytery. We will do our best to offer the Mass at the time and date you prefer, on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Monthly Prayer Group** – This is being held this **Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> March**, at 7.45 pm at 2 Dimples Lane. All very welcome. For further information, 'phone Joan Fishwick, 604107.

**First Eucharist Preparation** – Session 1 is at 6.30 pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March in the Plessington Chapel.

**Monthly Coffee Morning** – Our Monthly Coffee Morning which was postponed from last week, is now being held this **Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March**, in the Plessington Chapel from 10 am – 12 noon. Come and enjoy a brew, cake and a chat!

**Stewardship** – Following the information given out at Masses last weekend, there are a number of the yellow leaflets (which were given out last week) available at the back of church. If you didn't get one, please take one. It tells you more about Stewardship and what this might mean – both for us as individuals, and as a parish community. There will be a **meeting on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> March, at 7.00 pm in the Plessington Chapel** for those who may be interested in being part of a group to take this idea forward, or who would simply like to find out more.

**NWCSG Auction** – The North West Children's Support Group will be holding their Annual Bric a Brac Auction of **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** in SS Mary & Michael's School Hall. We need donations of items to sell, including household goods, ornaments, jewellery, small items of furniture, garden equipment, toys and sports equipment etc. If anyone is able to donate items, these can be brought to the school hall from 4 pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, or to arrange collection, please call Paul & Debbie McCann (601354) or Helen Whittaker (600254) or Paul & Angela Andrews (01524 751722). We are unable to accept any items on Saturday morning. All proceeds will be used to provide holidays for local disabled or disadvantaged children. For further information, visit [www.nwscg.co.uk](http://www.nwscg.co.uk).

**Mission Boxes** – If you have a box you wish to be emptied, please bring it to church next weekend. Each year the Mill Hill Community prepares for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary work of the Church as well as for the intentions of all who support their work. The Novena will be celebrated from 10<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead, and will include the intentions of all our mission box holders. If you would like to have a mission box in your home, please contact Celia Horn on 602341.

**CAFOD** – Did you know....the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) are a set of 8 international goals which, if achieved, would transform the lives of millions of people in developing countries? They were agreed at the United Nations in 2000 by global leaders. They set targets for progress on key issues, including freedom from hunger, equality for women and girls, health and shelter. CAFOD projects around the world address a range of MDGs. In Zimbabwe, for instance, high levels of malnutrition mean that CAFOD is funding a food project including daily school meals for 75,000 school children. "*We are committed to making the right to development a reality for everyone and to freeing the entire human race from want.*" UN Millennium Declaration 2000)

**Cafod Family Fast Day** Friday is our Lenten Family Fast Day, when we try to cut back on a meal and to give in a Cafod envelope what we have saved to those who have little. Please bring back your envelopes next weekend.

**Garstang Musical Productions** are producing "The Awards Show" from **30<sup>th</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> May at 7.30 pm at Garstang Community Academy**. Tickets £8. Contact 01995 606603, or Mary Bateson (604 203). See poster at back of church.

**Emergency Call-outs at RLI** – Requests for clergy attendance need to be initiated by the families, and will be passed on by the ward staff. The ward staff will then contact the hospital switchboard who have an 'emergency bleep' to call out the Cathedral clergy. This procedure should ensure that a priest will attend. There are cards at the back of church which you can give when you go into hospital to specify that you want to give the Catholic Chaplain your name and the fact that you are a Catholic.

**Lancashire Age UK** – Daytime Support in Wyre. Age UK Lancashire provides daytime support so that people can live well in their own homes and stay connected within their local community. Services operate on Monday and Friday at Preesall, and Wednesday at Garstang. For details of these services, contact helpline 0300 303 1234, or email [daaytimesupport@ageuklancs.org.uk](mailto:daaytimesupport@ageuklancs.org.uk), and there are leaflets available at the back of church.

**Wednesday Word** – To help us prepare for Mass on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, the new copy of the Wednesday Word can be found at the back of church, on yellow paper.

### Previously Published Items

**St Vincent de Paul Society** – As was mentioned in last week's newsletter, during Lent this year the SVP will be collecting non-perishable foods for the various food banks in Preston. Please would you consider donating food during this time? A box will be provided at the back of church from next weekend, 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> March. *Thank you.*

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time:** Marie Kelly, Annie Lillian Henderson, Thomas Bolton, Alice Rustidge, Jane Fleming, Sue Tomlinson, Ellen Ryan, John Smith, John Grayston, James Thomas Slater, Agnes Horn, Eddie Walmsley, John Hindle Law, Ellen Wells, John James Dewhurst, Celia Lamoury and Agnes Rossall. *May they rest in peace.*

**We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including:** Edward Horn (Elizabeth's brother), Clive Hammond, Joan Brown, Simon Crossley, Lucy and Family, Kathryn, Victoria Wang, Susanne, Robert Catterall, Jessica Holmes (2½ years old with leukaemia), Michael O'Neil, Molly (3 years old) and family, Ruth Fairey, Ted Mitchell, Jackson Wicks, Mark Noblet, Christopher Lawson, Ciara, Anthonio Dilao, Jamie & Marialyce Bilsborrow, Bernadette O'Neill, Tom Horn, John Ashcroft, Margaret Shepherd, Tony Moran, Marjorie Addison, Sharon Hodgson, Christine, Peter Holland, Ian Moran, Tony Winstanley (Brian's brother), Wilf Rainford, Alyson, Michael Hendry, Christopher Simpson, Auntie Sophie, Christopher Brown, Simon Thompson, Michael Ryan, Sheila Davies, Sheila Cookson, Francisca Rainford, Paula Nicholson, 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 the 10.30 am Mass

### Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Sat	8 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Tim & Helen Forshaw (Wedding Anniversary)
Sun	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am	Tony Hall
		10.30 am	Sue Tomlinson
Mon	10 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Mass</b>	
Tues	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	John Thomas Graham
Wed	12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.30 am (note time)</b>	Jane Fleming (Anniversary)
Thurs	13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>7.00 pm</b>	Special Intention
Fri	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Claire & Finton McManus
Sat	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8.00 am (note time)</b>	LISCF
		6.30 pm (Vigil)	Fr John Conway
Sun	16 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		10.30 am	Mary Rose Preston (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary)

### Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Fri	14 <sup>th</sup>	10 – 10.30 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>No Confessions</b>	

### Special Days this Week:

Sun	9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT</b>
Sun	16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT</b>

### Meetings this Week:

Tues	11 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Eucharist Preparation (Session 1)
Wed	12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	13 <sup>th</sup>	7.15 pm	Journey in Faith
Fri	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm	Open Meeting re Stewardship
Sat	15 <sup>th</sup>	10 am – 3 pm	Lancashire Spirituality Network

### Last Week's Attendance:

Sat	1 <sup>st</sup>	6.30 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 129	Children: 4	
Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.30 am	Adults: 63	Children: 8	
		10.30 am	Adults: 109	Children: 39	Total: 352

**Monies Received:** Offertory (incl. Standing Orders): £1,077.83; Votive Lights: £53.90; Shop: £20; Sale of Goods: £11.40; Photocopying: £5. *Many thanks to you all.*

### Churches Together in Garstang & District

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