

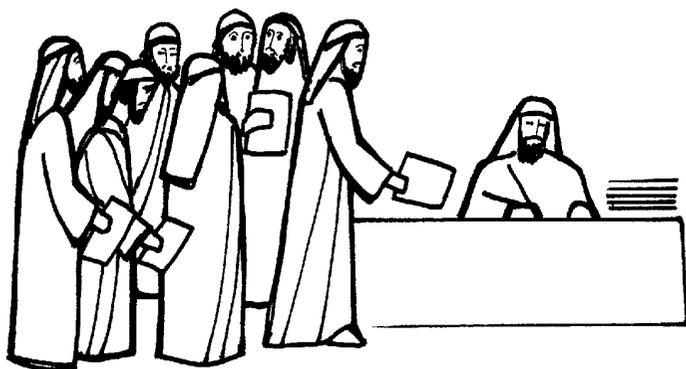
St Mary and St Michael's Catholic Church Garstang and Calder Vale

A Parish of the Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity, no.234331
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17th / 18th September 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



The cruelty of the treacherous people of the first reading, who cannot wait for the chance to “buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals”, is almost too much to bear. And yet, all of us would fall prey to such ruthlessness if we did not love and serve the one Master, Jesus Christ, “who sacrificed himself as a ransom” for all. Probably the first time that those cold-hearted merchants “tampered” with their scales, in order to cheat others, it seemed to them like a very small matter. But “the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great.” The choice offered to our freedom in every moment counts. God our saviour “wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth”.

With hands lifted up in holy prayer, we become those trustworthy people to whom God entrusts great things.

New items and information

This weekend is Home Mission Day – There will be a collection for the Home Missions, supporting the work of evangelisation in England and Wales. Prayer cards are available to encourage us to pray for this work.

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes – on Monday, 19th September, the group of fifteen people will be setting off for Lourdes. In this Year of Mercy our Pilgrimage will be representing the parish, and we hope the parish will be praying for us, as we will be praying for you. We would be very happy to take your petitions and prayers to leave at the Grotto, and to light any candles for your special intentions. There is a box at the back of church for your requests – please mark the envelopes PETITIONS, PRAYERS, and/or CANDLES. This box will remain in church until after the 10.00 am Mass this Sunday, 18th September. Please note, there will be a Mass at 10.00 am on Monday before we depart, to which all parishioners are of course welcome.

Whist & Domino Drive This Monday, 19th September, in the Plessington Chapel, from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. All welcome – come along for tea, coffee, cake and fun!

Chivuna Minutes The minutes of the meeting which took place on Friday 9th September are now available for collection.

Summer Quiz for CAFOD/Chivuna Thank you to all who purchased quiz sheets or donated, raising £119 in total. It was a close-fought contest, and the winners are the Brooks family, with runners-up Brenda Richardson and Caitlin Billingsley – congratulations! Prizes will be awarded shortly (Answer sheet at the back of church).

Day of Renewal ‘Turning the world upside down’ led by Fr Philip Connor, at St Clare’s Preston. Saturday 15th October 2016 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. For more information see poster at back of church.

Previously Published Items

CAFOD Preston Harvest Fast Day Meeting is on Monday, 26th September, from 7 – 8.30 pm at St Wilfrid’s Parish Centre, Chapel Street, Preston, PR1 8BU. Everyone is welcome. For further information, see poster at the back of church.

John Bradburne was born in Skirwith, Cumbria, and after much searching for his vocation, devoted the last 10 years of his life to serving a leper colony in Mutemwa, Zimbabwe. John loved the down-trodden and those rejected by society, and had a great devotion to Our Lady and the Trinity. In 1979, during the war in Zimbabwe he was abducted from his hut where he lived near his beloved lepers, and shot. The booklets available at the back of Church outline his story, and unexplained appearance of three drops of fresh blood at his funeral beneath the coffin. This caused the coffin to be opened and his wish to be buried in his lay Franciscan habit was fulfilled. There have been many instances of people receiving help after asking for John’s intercession, and turning to God by his example. The Mutemwa Leprosy and Care Village, is supported by the John Bradburne Memorial Society, and there is a cause for John to be made Venerable. Please help yourself to a booklet and prayer leaflet. For more information see Helen Spencer.

The next meeting of Churches Together in Garstang and District will take place on Wednesday, 12th October at 3.00 pm in St Thomas’ Parish & Community Centre.

St Thomas' Men's Fellowship – Although this is called “St Thomas' Men's Fellowship”, only about one-third of the members are from St Thomas' – all are welcome to come. Meetings just four times a year at the Royal Oak - £15 a night, and this includes a meal and a talk. If anyone is interested in joining, the next meeting is on 18th November; the talk will be given by Roy Smith on the Suffragettes. The meetings for 2017 are 20th January, 28th April, 8th September and 17th November. If you are interested in going, or for further information, please contact Mr Burnett on 01995 603 104; mb 07708 705 428.

Traidcraft Autumn/Christmas Catalogues are now available from the back of church. If you are able, please support some of the world's poorest producers with your purchases, whilst raising money for Chivuna clinic. *Helen Spencer.*

The Closing Mass for the Year of Priestly Vocations will be celebrated on Tuesday, 27th September at 12.15 pm at the Cathedral at Lancaster. Everyone is welcome.

Dates for your diary - Fr Luiz Ruscillo will lead a series of reflections on the Parables in the Gospels on Tuesday evenings, 7pm - 8pm at the Education Centre, on the following dates: 27 September; 11 and 18 October; 15 and 22 November.

Noddfa – There will be a retreat at Noddfa from Monday, 10th to Friday 14th October. If anyone is interested in going, please contact Jean Andrews on 603 802 or Elizabeth Horn on 602 024, and they will be in touch with you.

Wednesday Word for the weekend Mass of 25th September can be found on yellow paper at the back of church.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Mary McKeivitt, Norman Turton, William Eastham, Anne Birchall, Brian Campbell, James Coyne, Bill Acton, Arnold Hargreaves, Mary Watson and Thomas Swarbrick. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Theresa Harrison, Margaret Hibberdine, Billy (5 yrs old, suddenly gone blind and paralysed), Pat Nickson, Gerard Gough, Bob Cross, Chris O'Connor, Craig Smith, Leo Rabbett, Anne Walmsley, Brian Moss, Jim Winstanley, Fiona Catterall, John Sweeney, Rod Pearson, Peter Ibison, Marie Corrigan, Jean Parkinson, Ann Wicks, Ewan (he had responded well to brain tumour treatment, even able to move up to secondary school this year. The family appreciates your prayers and asks that they continue as he is not out of the woods yet), Phillip, John Fairey, Pat Hickey, Sheila Murphy, 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 Intentions 2016: September

“That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become ever more aware of their mission to evangelise.”

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 17th – Sunday 25th September 2016

Sat	17 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Rev John Horn
Sun	18 th	10.00 am	Gerald Whittaker
Mon	19 th	10.00am (please note time)	Before departure of Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes – all welcome
Tue	20 th	12 noon 1.30 pm	The Davis Family Funeral Service
Wed	21 st	7.00 pm	Anyone who needs a prayer
Thurs	22 nd	9.30 am	Madge Rowe (lately dead)
Fri	23 rd	9.30 am	Maurice Iddon
Sat	24 th	9.30 am	All our Parishioners
Sun	25 th	6.00 pm (Vigil) 10.00 am	Evelyn Armstrong Someone sick

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	21 st	6.45 pm	Rosary
Sat	24 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this week:

Sun	18 th	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Home Mission Day
Tues	20 th	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Companions
Weds	21 st	ST MATTHEW
Fri	23 rd	St Pius of Pietrelcina
Sat	24 th	Our Lady of Walsingham
Sun	18 th	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Meetings this Week:

Wed	21 st	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
Thurs	22 nd	4.00 pm	Liturgy & Spirituality meeting

Last Week's Attendance:

Sun	28 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 121	Children: 6	
		10.00 am	Adults: 116	Children: 19	Total: 262

Monies Received:

Offertory (including Standing Orders): £1,032.00; Votive Lights: £44.00; Special Collection: Catholic Education £165.00. *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'.