

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

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18th / 19th June 2016

12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



“Of all the world religions, Christianity plays the part of the shock battalion, the punishment brigade thrown in where things are most dangerous, at the hottest part of the front. Where the hand-to-hand fighting is thickest, there the death-battalion is thrown in. They blow up their bridges behind them.

Look at them, the heroes of Christendom. You won't find many prudent ones among them. Their story is a long succession of martyrdoms and deaths, undergone by a phalanx following their God's example. They are soldiers, displaying their scars and wounds to the world as decorations.

And who enlists with them? People of all nations, the scum of the earth, even criminals, but always those

who have taken up the cross. Anyone can join: the ignorant, the sinful – provided he is ready to throw himself into the battle. It is the religion of maximum hope born of despair.

Nowhere do you find such close contact with death as in Christianity. Fear is not absent. But it is transformed into a force able to pierce a breach in the tomb and spurt out the other side. Not the contemplation of eternity, but the possession of eternity, in battle, with one sole weapon: the readiness to die.” (*Andrei Donatovich Sinyavsky, Russian dissident*)

Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do you say I am?” Peter replies: “The Christ of God.” Peter knows this to be so, not because he discovered the answer in a book, but because he looked at the facts of his own life. Since he had met Jesus Christ, he had changed. And the change that he experienced in his person can only be the work of a divine Person. Since the time Peter began to belong to Christ, he became more fully himself. God had poured out on him “a spirit of kindness and prayer.” Once Peter looked “on the one whom they have pierced”, he was able to make his profession with even more conviction, right up to the day of his own martyrdom. (*Magnificat*)

This Sunday is the Day for Life – There will be a second collection after both Masses this weekend. This year, **Day for Life** focuses on the wonder of the gift of human life and the gift of our common home which is God's creation. It provides an opportunity for people to think about the connections and relationships between people and the earth which we inhabit. Pope Francis has powerfully articulated in ‘*Laudato Si*’ that there is a real need to rediscover a spirit of wonder and awe at the gift of human life so that all life may be properly respected and a new heart created for the home in which we live. Further information can be found at www.dayforlife.org. There are prayer postcards at the back of church – please take one. As well as donating to the collection, please pray for **Day for Life**. Your prayers will make a vital difference.

St Vincent de Paul Society – The next meeting of the SVP will be held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 21st June at 2 Brooklands Drive.

Our Lady's Catholic College, Lancaster – When parents are considering which secondary school to choose for their sons and daughters, they are invited to come along to the Open Evening at Our Lady's Catholic College. The School's last Section 48 confirmed that it is an Outstanding Catholic School. The Open Evening is **Tuesday, 28th June from 6.30 pm**. Address is Morecambe Road, Lancaster, LA1 2RX.

Did you know.... CAFOD is part of Caritas International – a group of 160 Catholic aid agencies known as “the helping hand of the Church”? When a crisis hits, Caritas is already on the ground. We help millions of people each year in almost every country in the world. Together with our partners and the local Church, we save lives, relieve suffering and help rebuild communities affected by conflict and natural disasters. **You are CAFOD**. None of our work is possible without you. Join us today, and put your faith into action.

Quotation from CAFOD newsletter: “We believe that everyone in the world has the right to live their lives with dignity. That's why we work through the local Catholic Church and other partners in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East to fight poverty and injustice, wherever the need is greatest....Thank you for your continued support for our brothers and sisters overseas.”

Diocese of Lancaster Annual Pilgrimage to Ladywell led by Bishop Michael Campbell, OSA. 2nd July 2016, beginning with Eucharistic celebration at 11.00 am at St Mary's Church, and ending with Benediction at 3.00 pm. For more information please see poster at back of church.

Parish Draw – Congratulations go to Liz Boden and Miss F Wrennal for being our May winners. Do you have just the one number; fancy a better chance of winning? Why not buy another number before the June draw, only £17 (pro rata). Don't wait: contact Trish & Kev O'Hanlon on 01995 604 292. Thank you for all the continued support.

Previously Published Items

Cor et Lumen Christi Community, Wigton – Experience the Loving Touch of the Holy Spirit. 25th – 26th June 2016 – donation only event. To book or for more information see website www.coretlumenchristi.org, email scuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org, or tel 016973 45623 / 07516 075896.

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 19th – 26th September 2016 – There are still a few places available on our parish visit to Lourdes in September. The cost is £675 (sharing a room) for seven nights, plus costs for insurance, coach transfer to and from Manchester airport, and two excursions when in Lourdes. Please see poster at the back of church, and if interested contact Jean Andrews (603 802) or Elizabeth Horn (602024).

Red Mission Boxes – Please leave these this week at the back of church for emptying, or if you would prefer, you can now empty the contents of the box into an envelope which can be collected from the church shop.

More than just a Red Box – This year marks 150 years since the Red Box was introduced. Having a Red Box in our homes is a way of supporting Missio, the Pope's official charity for overseas mission, and the Mill Hill Missionaries, Britain's own missionary society. Bishop Kevin Dowling, whose diocese of Rustenberg and its work with HIV/AIDS in South Africa, is supported through the Red Box, said "That little Red Box is the symbol of something very beautiful happening everywhere." If you would like to help by having a box in your home, please contact Celia Horn, tel: 602 341.

Date for your diary – SS Mary & Michael's School are holding their **Open Day on Friday 8th July 2016**. An invitation has been sent from Mrs Wilkinson at school to the parish saying they would be delighted if you could come and join them and see first hand what a wonderful school we have. Visitors will be welcome from 9.30 – 11.30 am, and 1.30 – 2.30 pm. If you would like to attend, please contact the school in advance. (Tel. 603023)

Please pray for the repose of the soul of: Joan Gorton, who died in Liverpool. Her Requiem Mass will be held here at SS Mary & Michael, this coming Monday, 20th June, at 1.00 pm. *May she rest in peace.*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: William Swarbrick, Mrs Kendrick, Betty Watson, Valerie Smith, Joseph Barton, Veronica Billington, John Towers, Michael Parkinson, Mary Doran, Mary McNicholas, Cathie Cadden and George Kenyon. *May they rest in peace.*

We ask the Lord to encourage and give health to our sick and disabled parishioners, families and friends, including: Bob Cross, Chris O'Connor, Craig Smith, Leo Rabbett, Anne Walmsley, Brian Moss, Jim Winstanley, Fiona Catterall, John Sweeney, Rita Whittaker, Rod Pearson, Peter Ibison, Marie Corrigan, Jean Parkinson, Ann Wicks, 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, Anthonio 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 June

Join with the Holy Father in praying:

"That seminarians and men and women entering religious life may have mentors who live the joy of the Gospel and prepare them wisely for their mission."

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 18th – Sunday 26th June 2016

Sat	18 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Tony Chriscoli
Sun	19 th	10.00 am	George Gidlow (Birthday anniversary)
Mon	20 th	1.00 pm	Requiem Mass for Joan Gorton
Tue	21 st	No Mass (Please note)	
Wed	22 nd	7.00 pm	A Deceased Relative
Thurs	23 rd	9.30 am	Florence Ackroyd
Fri	24 th	9.30 am	Agnes Robinson
Sat	25 th	9.30 am	LISCF
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Wilfrid and Agnes Garstang
Sun	26 th	10.00 am	Elizabeth Hogarty

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	22 nd	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	24 th	10 – 10.30 am	Holy Half-hour for Vocations to the Priesthood
Sat	25 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this week:

Sun	19 th	12 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Yr C) – Day for Life
Tues	21 st	St Aloysius Gonzaga
Wed	22 nd	ST JOHN FISHER & ST THOMAS MORE
Thurs	23 rd	St Ethelreda (Audrey)
Fri	24 th	NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
Sat	25 th	Our Lady of Fernyhalgh
Sun	26 th	13 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Yr C)

Meetings this Week:

Tues	21 st	7.30 pm	St Vincent de Paul Meeting (2 Brooklands Drive)
Wed	22 nd	7.30 pm	Choir Practice

Last Week's Attendance:

Sun	12 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 127	Children: 7	
		10.00 am	Adults: 107	Children: 33	Total: 274

Monies Received:

Last Weekend: £1,696.18 (including a yearly payment); Votive Lights: £50.60; Shop: £35.

Many thanks to you all.

Churches Together in Garstang & District

Ecumenical Morning Prayer will be held at 07.45 am each Tuesday in June at Garstang Methodist Church.