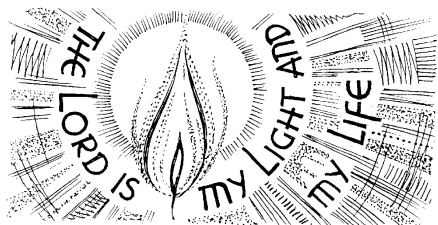


St Mary and St Michael's Catholic Church
Garstang and Calder Vale

A Parish of the Lancaster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees Registered Charity, no.234331
Fr Tom Butler & Rev Deacon D'Arcy Ryan,
Bonds Lane, Garstang, Lancs PR3 1ZB. Tel. 01995 602164
email: ssmm.bonds@btinternet.com
Parish Website: www.ssmaryandmichaels-garstang.org.uk
email for website submissions: parish@ssmarvandmichaels-garstang.org.uk

4th / 5th June 2016
10th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



“Go, your faith has saved you.” How often do we hear that in the gospels? Yet, in today’s gospel, with the story of the raising of the widow’s son, faith doesn’t seem to come into it. Before this episode and cure, Jesus has cured the Centurion’s slave and says of the Centurion, “Not even in Israel

have I found such faith,” and later in the same chapter (7) he forgives the sinful woman saying “Your faith has saved you.” Yet in today’s story, nobody seems to be saying “come on Rabbi, restore this man to health.”

The story is peculiar to Luke and preaches that the God Jesus preaches liberates those who are in death’s prison. For a widow to have lost her only son in a patriarchal society meant that she was without any male agency, and her fate was grim. Jesus’ compassion for someone in such dire need must be the moral of this story. Touching a corpse made a Jew unclean (as indeed would entering the Gentile Centurion’s house), yet Jesus’ love for the widow draws him to the scene. He gives the restored son to his mother just as Elijah does in the first reading, and the onlookers are suitably impressed. “A great prophet has risen among us,” recalling the similar action of Elijah. There are three types of descriptions in the gospels of Jesus as prophet. In the first, Jesus acts like a prophet, although the text does not actually call him one. In the second, Jesus uses the title ‘prophet’ for himself; and in the third, as in today’s, the title is used to describe Jesus’ power. God is shown to draw near to needy people through Jesus’ Kingdom Mission.

We still hope today that our faith and that of our companions will cause a miraculous outcome to sometimes impossible cases. Going to pilgrimage sites like Lourdes or Knock, we still feel the closeness of God; God drawing near to needy people; God’s compassion is still shown in cures that we cannot medically explain, and people are still moved to glorify God. Why some are cured and others not we do not know. Funerals were common in Jesus’ time; he must have met them, but no others are mentioned. Faith is not the trigger today, and yet we do not know the full story. It is Jesus’ love and compassion we must rely on so that Jesus can say to us “Your faith has saved you. Welcome to the Kingdom of Heaven.”

D’arcy

New items and information

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 (602 024).

Parish Safeguarding

The Diocese has begun a re-check programme of parish volunteers who were previously cleared for their roles prior to 2013.

In the case of our parish, this involves possibly re-checking over 100 volunteers. We will be contacting you in groups over the next 12 months to enable those who wish to continue as volunteers to complete the re-registering process.

The last stage of the process involves registering on-line with the DBS update service, which in turn reduces the need for making future DBS applications if you have multiple roles within the same workforce or when the Diocese completes re-checks in the future.

(Ted/Annette)

Red Mission Boxes – Would you please bring these to church next weekend 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. Many members of our parish have a Red Box in their homes. It’s a way we support 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.

Day for Life – Sunday 19th June 2016 – 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. Please support the crucial work of Day for Life by giving generously to the collection there will be on that day. Further information can be found at www.dayforlife.org. There are prayer postcards at the back of church – please take one. And please pray for Day for Life. Your prayers will make a vital difference.

Day of Renewal – The next Day of Renewal will be held on **25th June 2016** at St Clare’s Church, Sharoe Green Lane, from 10 am – 4 pm in the church hall. The day will be led by Fr Conrad, Franciscan Friar of the Renewal. The theme is *Find the Holy Spirit in his manner of working (St Francis of Assisi)*. For further information contact Rev Bernard Loveland, tel. 01539 563 391. See poster at back of church.

Date for your diary – SS Mary & Michael’s School are holding their **Open Day on Friday 8th July 2016**. This popular celebration of life in school is given added impetus again this year because it takes place on the final day of our annual Arts Week. This year’s theme is ‘100 Years of Roald Dahl’ and each class will spend the week in art-related activities based around the themes of his books, stories and illustrations. 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 welcomed 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)

Previously Published Items

Deanery Mass for Vocations – This will be held on Friday, 17th June at 7 pm in the Cathedral.

Women Together in the Diocese of Lancaster – A day has been organised for all ladies from our Diocese to come together on Saturday, 18th June 2016 at St Joseph’s Church, Ansdell, Lytham St Annes. The theme for the day is “Mercy in the Year of Mercy”. This will be led by Father John McGowan from Tabor. See poster on notice board and the back of church. Should you require any further information, please contact Sue Gornall on 01772 715 495, or email suegornall@aol.com.

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 01995 603 802.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at about this time: Julia Cowburn, Judith Swarbrick, John Blacklock, Cyril Swarbrick, Anthony James Stephenson, Francis Wells, Elizabeth Critchley, Canon David Murphy, Javier Coto, Bridget Cooney, Rose Ward, Matt Pedder, Mary McNicholls, Mary Ball, John Swarbrick, Hylda Wells, Raymond Stopforth and Ian Michael Gornall. *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 Towers, 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, 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.)*

Response to the psalm at the 10 am Mass:

Mass Times & Intentions, Saturday 4th – Sunday 12th June 2016

Sat	4 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Arnold & Monica Hargreaves
Sun	5 th	10.00 am	Judith Swarbrick (Ninth Anniversary)
Mon	6 th	No Mass	
Tue	7 th	12 noon	Brian Hargreaves
Wed	8 th	7.00 pm	Everyone who needs a prayer
Thurs	9 th	9.30 am	M & L Ronayne
Fri	10 th	9.30 am	Agnes Robinson
Sat	11 th	9.30 am	All Our Parishioners
		6.00 pm (Vigil)	Fiona Catterall (Sick)
Sun	12 th	10.00 am	Gerald Whittaker

Devotions and Celebrations this week:

Wed	8 th	6.45 pm	Rosary
Fri	10 th	10 – 10.30 am	Holy Half-hour for Vocations to the Priesthood
Sat	11 th	10 – 10.30 am	Confessions

Special Days this week:

Sun	5 th	10 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Mon	6 th	St Norbert
Thurs	9 th	St Colomba; St Ephraem
Sat	11 th	St Barnabas
Sun	12 th	11 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Meetings this Week:

Wed	8 th	7.30 pm	Choir Practice
-----	-----------------	---------	----------------

Last Week’s Attendance:

Sun	29 th	6.00 pm (Vigil)	Adults: 116	Children: 4	
		10.00 am	Adults: 117	Children: 26	Total: 263

Monies Received:

Last Weekend: £1,064.77; Votive Lights: £50; Wedding: £350; Special Collection (St Barnabas Society): £378. *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.

We apologise to anyone who has been trying to phone, or email in the last week. We have had no phone or internet connection. Hopefully things are resolved by the time you read this, and we will be doing some catching up.
Thank you for your patience and understanding.