

Dear Parishioners

In letter sent last Monday to seminarians, Benedict XVI affirmed that the priesthood isn't something that belongs to the past but is vital for the future.

In his letter he recalled a conversation he had with an officer after being conscripted as a teenager into the German army in 1944. "The company commander asked each of us what we planned to do in the future. I answered that I wanted to become a Catholic priest. The lieutenant replied: 'Then you ought to look for something else. In the new Germany priests are no longer needed.' I knew that this 'new Germany' was already coming to an end, and that, after the enormous devastation which that madness had brought upon the country, priests would be needed more than ever. Today the situation is completely changed. In different ways, though, many people nowadays also think that the Catholic priesthood is not a 'job' for the future, but one that belongs more to the past. You, dear friends, have decided to enter the seminary and to prepare for priestly ministry in the Catholic Church in spite of such opinions and objections. You have done a good thing. Because people will always have need of God, even in an age marked by technical mastery of the world and globalization: they will always need the God who has revealed himself in Jesus Christ, the God who gathers us together in the universal Church in order to learn with him and through him life's true meaning and in order to uphold and apply the standards of true humanity. Where people no longer perceive God, life grows empty; nothing is ever enough. People then seek escape in euphoria and violence - these are the very things that increasingly threaten young people. God is alive. He has created every one of us and he knows us all. He is so great that he has time for the little things in our lives: 'Every hair of your head is numbered'. God is alive, and he needs people to serve him and bring him to others. It does make sense to become a priest: the world needs priests, pastors, today, tomorrow and always, until the end of time."

The RCIA group met on Sunday and decided that we will meet regularly on Tuesday evenings, beginning a fortnight on Tuesday, 9th November, at 7.30 in the Presbytery. This will interest those who wish to learn more about the faith, have missed making their First Communion, wish to join the Church or are simply curious about what makes a Catholic tick! If you have a friend who is interested but shy of walking into the Presbytery - then bring them along yourself

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden
Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 1AG
Tel/Fax 01200 423307 Email: smsj@btinternet.com

30th Sunday of Ordinary time 24th October 2010

St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe



Saturday (23rd October)

11am - 11.45am Sacrament of Reconciliation
11am - 11.55am Exposition 11.30am Rosary
Eucharistic Service at noon
First Mass of Sunday 6pm

Sunday

Mass at 9.30am

Monday, Tuesday & Friday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Wednesday & Thursday

Mass at 9am

St Mary's Church Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am Friday - Mass at 9.15am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Lily Jackson, Margaret Melville, Edward Worswick

SICK

Gerry Jacques, Vincenzo Ditri, Valerie Lambert, Warren Hayton

LATELY DEAD

Teresa Embery, Aaron Thistlwithwaite, Leo Durkin

ANNIVERSARIES

Lily Jackson, Edward Worswick

WELCOMERS NEXT WEEKEND Sat - T.Wilkinson Sun - P.Dixon & B.Byrne
READERS Sat - R.Carter Sun - M.Donnelly
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS Sat - R.Carter & B.Taylor
Sun - K.Hickling, J.Hall, S.Hall
TEA & COFFEE ROTA P & A.Geldard & T.O'Donnell

OFFERTORY Clitheroe - £752.00 Many thanks
ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S PARISH CENTRE Opens after Mass on Saturday evening. Why not come in for a relaxing evening, rekindle old friendships and make new ones. Don't forget Sunday evening is our regular Family Quiz Night between 8pm—10pm **BINGO** on Tuesday evenings.
THE PRO LIFE GROUP wish to thank all who walked or sponsored our walk across Morecambe Bay. £1,501 was raised plus a donation of £200 from the Knights of St Columba making a total of £1,701. In the spring of 2010 a few people donated £230 to Sr Rosanna of the Sisters of the Gospel of Life when we met at Fernyhagh. Thank you all.

MORRISONS 'LET'S GROW' vouchers are being collected by our primary school please pop any you may wish to donate into the parish communications box in the porch or hand them in at the presbytery or school.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE Just a reminder that this year is on Sunday 21 November. A box has been placed near the Baptismal Font in church for you to deposit any donations.

MEDJUGORJE visit to shrine 24 - 31 May 2011 - see poster in porch

PAPAL VISIT SOUVENIR We now have some spare copies which have been placed on the book table (near War Memorial), £3.50 each. Please put money in C.T.S. box. If you ordered one then please collect it from sacristy. Thankyou

ST FRANCIS XAVIER AWARD was a scheme introduced last year at Stonyhurst. Award holders are likely to be gifted young Catholics who would benefit from life in a boarding community and thrive in the environment Stonyhurst offers. Beneficiaries of this award may enjoy up to 70% remission off school fees. Want to know more, then pick up a leaflet from the porch.

LADIES GROUP Wednesday 27 October at 8pm in the **School Hall** (Parish Hall still undergoing refurbishment). A talk with Ian & Emma Robinson on Organic and Rare Breed Animals. Produce for sale afterwards. Everyone Welcome. **Committee meeting** Tuesday 2nd November 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY United Advent Service at Trinity Methodist Church on Sunday 5th December 6.30pm. We welcome singers of any age. If you would like to sing in the choir and you are not already on mailing list contact Steuart Kellington 01254 248855 or email: s.kellington@tiscali.co.uk. Rehearsals commence Sunday 7th November 2.30pm - 4.30pm at Trinity

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER November leaflets now available from porch

There will be a retiring collection at both masses this weekend for "WORLD MISSION SUNDAY". If you should like to Gift Aid your donation envelopes are still available from shelves at back of church.

SOCIAL CENTRE -TOP BAR

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NEXT Saturday 30th October
HALOWEEN PARTY NITE

Saturday 20th November
MAMA MIA NITE

Saturday 4th December
SINGER - JOHNNY SOLO

Organised by Liz

CAFOD DID YOU KNOW.....that CAFOD partners use football to bring about positive change? The Millennium Stars is a local football team founded by CAFOD partner, DON BOSCO HOMES (DBH), after the civil war in LIBERIA. Most of the team are former child soldiers who, during the war, were separated from their parents. For DBH and CAFOD, playing in a football team nurtures positive role models and develops leadership skills, offering hope for a positive future.

QUILT Some years ago a parish member, now deceased, made an exhibition quilt. It took 9 months to make and it was made for love with the hope that it would bring great happiness to its owners. It is made from American cotton, fully washable and uses machine Trapunto, machine quilting and some hand embroidery - apparently quite unique. The design is a traditional single Irish chain with Celtic inspired designs. We are organising "a draw" at £5 "a go". There will only be 50 tickets so you have a guaranteed 1 in 50 chance of winning and owning this beautiful quilt. It will be on display near the Lady Altar this weekend 23/24 October and at later dates. The draw will take place at the end of the Christmas Tree Festival on 12th December. Please take time to have a look at this beautiful quilt.

DEANERY MASS today Sunday 24 October 11.15am at St Albans, Blackburn followed by sharing food and thoughts in the Parish Social Centre.

CHRISTIAN LUNCHEON GROUP Friday 29 October 11.45am for 12 noon at Henthorn Community Centre. Speaker Rev Canon Rodney Nicholson on "Faith, Hope and Love". Jacobs Join

*We welcome into God's family and our parish community
Isla May Stewart who was baptised last Sunday*

BONUS BALL (SABDEN) The bonus ball winner is no 32 Margaret Waling. Winners please collect winnings from Carol or Harry.

ST MARY'S PARISH HALL (SABDEN) Please note that the person you need to contact if you wish to book the hall is now Tony Hargan and his telephone number is 07711 635084

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL are collecting batteries and nestle cereal tokens. Please hand them in at school or in the container in the porch.

St Michael & St John's Parish Hall
GRAND RE-OPENING
(after refurbishment & redecoration)
present

PHIL COOL

One of Britain's most unique comedy artists.
FRIDAY 12th NOVEMBER at 7.30pm
Tickets £15 available from Terry in the Social Centre 423073, Janet at the Presbytery 423307,
Mike Bradley 07768 746709,
Les Collinson 07890 042319 or
Damian Buggie (Sabden) 01282 770709
Tickets will also be sold (SMSJ) after both masses Saturday and Sunday

CHRISTMAS FAYRE (SABDEN)
Please put any donations for Christmas Fayre in boxes in porch. We would particularly like new items suitable to be sold for £1 on a £1 stall. There is also a list in the porch for raffle prizes, please donate if you can, we want to make this a good fund raiser.

PAPAL SOUVENIR BOOK
Would those people who ordered them please collect them from Susan White.

CHRISTMAS DRAW There will be a grand Christmas Draw, tickets on sale soon