

Dear Parishioners

I've been asked to confirm the arrangements for Christmas services that were agreed at the last Forum.

There will be a Reconciliation service (Confession) this Tuesday at 7.30pm in St Mary's when Sabden children will make their first Reconciliation. Parishioners of both churches are encouraged to join this spiritual preparation for Christmas. Reconciliation is available every Saturday at St Michael and St John's (SMSJ) from 11am to 11.45 am.

Christmas Eve Masses are at 6pm in Clitheroe and 8pm in Sabden. On Christmas Day, Mass is in Clitheroe only at 10am. This year Christmas Day falls on Saturday but there is no evening Mass. On Boxing Day, Sunday Masses are as usual: 9.30am in Clitheroe and 11am in Sabden. Remember that we are now one Parish with two churches, so feel welcome at either church!

With Christmas approaching it is time to think of inviting family or friends who have fallen away from regular practice **to come home again for Christmas!** Who will you invite? And remember, it can take courage to step inside a church building after a period away so don't just invite, also accompany them home.

Following the successful parents meeting last month another is planned for Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm in SMSJ Social Centre to explore how best we may meet the Faith needs of our 11 to 14 year old parishioners and make the liturgical life of the church more relevant to them. Parents, this is a date for your new diaries! The Head of St Augustine's, Mr McNamara, is to open a page on the school website to invite comment from parents (and teenagers) in other parishes.

Next year's marriage preparation course is on the two Sunday afternoons of 31<sup>st</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February. Couples planning to marry next year should contact me as soon as possible.

As an experiment the church heating is running daily for 12 hours at 65c. Since our gas bills (we buy centrally at a competitive rate) are paid every quarter, I'll not know whether this will save money but at least it will ensure a warm church during daylight hours!

Finally, a sincere thank you to all who in whichever capacity worked for the success SMSJ's Christmas fair. Thank you all.

During the pre-Christmas rush and bustle do keep your mind focused on what Christmas is really about.

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

Parish Priest: Mgr John Corcoran RD

## Second Sunday of Advent - 5th December 2010

### St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe



#### Sunday

Mass at 9.30am

#### Monday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

#### Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Mass at 9am

#### Friday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

11am Service to open Christmas Tree Festival

#### Saturday (11th December)

11am - 11.45am Sacrament of Reconciliation

11am - 11.55 noon Exposition 11.30am Rosary

Eucharistic Service at noon

First Mass of Sunday 6pm

Christingle Service at 7pm after mass

### St Mary's Church Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am

Friday - Mass at 9.15am

#### MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Special Intention, Simon John, Mark Novak, Jane Noonan (2)

Janet & Kenneth Barlow

#### SICK

Margo Barlow

#### LATELY DEAD

Catherine Hargreaves (nee Turner), Jane Noonan,

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Janet & Kenneth Barlow, Fr Francis Hannan SJ

**WELCOMERS NEXT WEEKEND READERS EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Sat - M.Manning Sun - B.Parkinson & M.Maffia  
Sat - C.McGuire Sun - M.Barrett  
Sat - R.Carter & B.Taylor  
Sun - K.Hickling, I.Parkes, R.Embery  
J.Marsden & M.Marsden

**TEA & COFFEE ROTA**

**OFFERTORY Clitheroe** - £620.28 **Sabden** £138 Many thanks

**S.V.P.** The collection last weekend raised £390.23 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.

**UNITED ADVENT SERVICE** at Trinity Methodist Church TONIGHT Sunday 5th December 6.30pm Including the Christmas Cantata 'STAR' by Robin Nelson, telling the Christmas story with music, narration and dance. Tea and biscuits available after the service.

**MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS PARCELS** If you have reached the age of 80 during 2010 you are eligible for a parcel. Please give your name in to Janet at presbytery. Please note if you have had a parcel in past years your name will already be on the list.

**ADVENT LUNCHESES** at United Reformed Church this coming Tuesday. Service 12.30pm followed by lunch at 1pm. Speaker this week Gilly Farthing (St James). See poster in porch

**SOCIAL CENTRE -TOP BAR**

TONITE Sat 4th December  
The return of popular singer  
**JOHNNY SOLO**

Thursday 16th December  
**SLAIDBURN SILVER BAND**  
Christmas Carol Concert

Friday 31st December  
**NEW YEARS EVE**  
Free and easy nite

**ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S PARISH CENTRE**

Have a vacancy for a cleaner to carry out weekend cleaning duties and provide cover for weekday cleaner for time-off for leave or illness.

To provide additional caretaking duties by arrangement. Regular hours  
Saturday 9am - 12 noon  
Sunday morning 9am - 12 noon.  
Rate of pay £6 per hour.  
Additional hours by arrangement.  
Rate £6 per hour

To arrange an interview contact  
Mrs Evans on

01254 828820 during office hours or  
mobile 07970 783680 or contact the  
steward Terry Peters in person or by  
phone on 01200 423073

**LADIES GROUP** Coach for Castle Howard on Wednesday 8th December leaves at 8.30am prompt from the Interchange. **PLEASE NOTE WE HAVE JUST HAD A CANCELLATION AND THEREFORE THERE IS ONE SPARE SEAT IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO GO - RING DAPHNE OR JANET.** The Annual Ladies Group meal will be on Friday 14th January at Waddow Hall 7pm for 7.30pm Cost £17.50 inclusive. If you would like to come along please see either Janet 424657 or Daphne 427912 for the menu.

**ST AUGUSTINES CAROL SERVICE** Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th December at 7.30pm. All proceeds will be used to purchase CAFOD 'World Gifts', to help transform the lives of some of the poorest families and communities in developing countries

**CAFOD** Looking for inspiration for Christmas gifts? Take a look at Cafod's leaflet of World Gifts - Christmas gifts that show you really care. Leaflets available at back of church

**TAIZE SERVICE** Mon 6th December 7pm United Reformed Church

**CHRISTMAS TEA DANCE** Wednesday 15th December Admission £6 including buffet refreshments and free raffle. Everyone welcome and guaranteed a good time.

**THE QUILT** Hurry, hurry, hurry - only 9 chances left.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL NEXT FRI, SAT & SUN 10 - 12 December** in our Church and Parish Hall. Admission £1 Adults - children free (accompanied by adult) We will gratefully accept greenery to decorate - please bring to church on Sunday 5th December. We also need Home made cakes and biscuits (delivered to church Thursday 9 December). Volunteers are required to assist with setting up and clearing away, and stewards to assist during the festival. Please contact Jane Brown 01200 441949 or Carol Riley 01200 426769

**LANCASHIRE SINGS CHRISTMAS** at the Waggon & Horses Tuesday 21 Dec 7pm - 8pm. An interactive carol service broadcast by Radio Lancashire. Carols, readings & interesting guests. Enquiries Helen Coles 01200 425186

**ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S SCOUTS** our scouts are bag packing at Sainsburys from 11am - 3pm on Sunday 19th December. All proceeds to Scout Headquarters

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** Help will be needed again with the delivery of church Christmas cards. They should be ready to collect after masses NEXT weekend. If you are willing to help please contact Janet.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** The deadline for shoe boxes are being collected from school NEXT Tuesday 7th December.

**JESUITS & FRIENDS MAGAZINE** Winter 2010 edition available free from porch

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT** St Mary's College 14th December - see poster in porch

**ROSARY OF THE UNBORN** will be said each morning next week after Mass for all Pro-Life intentions. Our Lady of Guadalupe pray for us

**CHRISTMAS CARDS, DIARIES ETC NOW ON SALE - BACK OF CHURCH (FRONT OF WAR MEMORIAL). PLEASE PUT MONEY IN CTS BOX**

**SABDEN NEWS**

**BONUS BALL (SABDEN)** The bonus ball winner is no 8 Dee Ellis. Winners please collect winnings from Carol or Harry.

**ST MARY'S PARISH HALL (SABDEN)** To book the hall contact Tony Hargan and his telephone number is 07711 635084

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

**COAST - THE QUIZ** This years quiz is inspired by the 'Coast' TV programme. Quiz sheets £1, will be on sale after mass on Sunday at St Michael & St John's and available in the porch at St Mary's Sabden from this weekend. Contact John Shorter on 01282 771878. All profits to St Mary's Parish Hall fund.