

Dear Parishioners

We expect packed congregations in Clitheroe for both the 6pm Christmas Night Mass on Christmas Eve and the 10am Mass on Christmas day. So I again invite parents to leave their children in the sanctuary. There are no chairs but children are used to sitting on the floor as they do in school assembly (you are welcome to bring along a cushion!) This arrangement frees up space in the church benches.

To avoid a crush at the back of the church, apparitors will be on duty to usher you to a bench. Please be directed by them. At Holy Communion time please also follow their directions. No seats may be reserved for later arrivals and the two back benches of the central aisle are reserved for older parishioners with mobility problems.

This year Sabden has only one Mass which will be at 8pm on Christmas Eve. Hopefully all will be able to squeeze in!

Christmas day falls on Saturday but please note that there will be no Saturday evening Mass. On Sunday morning Masses will be as usual at 9.30 in Clitheroe and 11am in Sabden.

A reminder that as Christmas is a time for families to gather together, the same is true for the family of the parish. Do consider inviting at least one member of the parish, who for whatever reason may have grown estranged, to come home for Christmas. We do miss them. And don't only invite them, accompany them and help them feel at home.

This Tuesday evening, the Music group will lead carol singing in the Swan and Royal from 7 to 8pm. It is part of a Lancashire radio initiative to take Christmas to people who may not normally attend Church. Come and join us!

During the week a Radio 4 programme interviewed people who didn't wish to receive their winter fuel allowance and were donating it to charity. As a result of the past weeks of exceptionally cold weather I have kept the church heating running continuously at a boiler temp of 60°C. The church is certainly more comfortable as a result, but what will it cost? So if anyone does not need their winter fuel allowance, please do consider donating it towards our extra heating costs.

To those who will be away visiting family and friends, I wish a very happy, warm and peaceful Christmas.

Finally at this time, let us remember to thank God for the gifts of faith and family and the grace to cherish both.

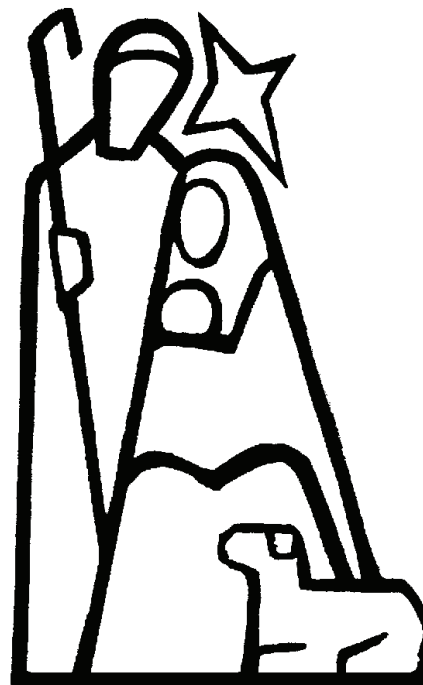
Fr John

# 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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent - 19th December 2010

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



**Sunday**  
Mass at 9.30am

**Monday**  
Eucharistic Service at 9am

**Tuesday,**  
Requiem 11am - Gary Knowles

**Wednesday**  
Mass at 9am  
Funeral service 2pm - Regina Briggs

**Thursday**  
Mass at 9am

**Friday (Christmas Eve)**  
Exposition 11am -12 noon  
Sacrament of Reconciliation 11am - 12 noon

**Carols at 5.30pm**  
**Christmas night mass 6pm**

**Saturday (Christmas Day)**  
Mass at 10am

**Sunday (Boxing Day)**  
Mass at 9.30am

*St Mary's Church Sabden*

**Friday (Christmas Eve) Christmas night mass at 8pm**  
**Saturday (Christmas Day) No Mass**  
**Sunday (Boxing Day) Mass at 11am**

## MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

John Mashiter, Frances and Ron Parker, May Geelan, Ada White, John Hindle, Brian Connolly, Richard Embery, Margaret Watkins, James Reid, Frances Whittaker

**SICK** Margaret Donnelly

**LATELY DEAD** Gary Knowles, Regina Briggs

## ANNIVERSARIES

John Mashiter, May Geelan, Ada White, John Hindle, Brian Connolly, James Reid  
Richard Embery, Margaret Watkins, John Humphreys, Frances Whittaker

## READERS (CHRISTMAS)

Christmas Eve 6pm - Michael Rigg

Christmas Day 10am - Lily Perrin

**WELCOMERS NEXT WEEKEND** Sunday (26th) R & F Holgate

**READERS** Sunday Sheila Shore

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS** Sunday A.Marsden, A.Hickling, P.Sutcliffe

**TEA & COFFEE ROTA** B.Parkinson & M.Maffia

**OFFERTORY Clitheroe** - £772.56 **Sabden** £191.00 Many thanks

**ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S PARISH CENTRE** Opens after Mass on Saturday evening. Why not come in for a relaxing evening, re-kindle 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 Centre will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

**MEMBERSHIP** Membership fees may be renewed from January 7th 2011 every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday evenings. Fees to increase to £10 for adults, £6 for OAP's and students.

**K.S.C. ANNUAL QUIZ** On the Wednesday after Christmas, 29th December, at 7.30pm in our newly refurbished hall, there will be a Family Quiz in air of the HCPT, a charity which takes disabled children to Lourdes for the holiday of a lifetime. It is a **family quiz** so young people will give teams a definite advantage!. To ensure that there is sufficient Pie & Peas please ring Les 427029 or Arnold 427096 to tell them you are coming.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** Thankyou to all who helped or attended. We hope you enjoyed the event which raised £493. All Raffle prizes have been claimed except for a Green Christmas Tree - White ticket no 92

**CHRISTMAS PARISH DRAW WINNERS** £100 179 D.Morgan, £25 -119 F.Holgate, 42 Mrs Byrne, 205 T.Bailey, 106 L.Dixon £10 - 133 C.Leeming, 188 P.Hargreaves, 185 Mrs Hutchinson, 173 Fr Wareing, 8 M.Roberts, 183 P.Worswick, 73 A.Manhold, 50 B.Calvert, 245 J.Ferguson, 74 E.Preedy. Agents may collect prizes on Monday

**ROTA'S FOR 2011** Should be available before the New Year

**SISTER EILEEN** sends her good wishes to parishioners - see card in porch

**S.V.P.** would like to thank the Knights of St Columba for their generous donation to their Christmas Fund

SOCIAL CENTRE  
TOP BAR  
Friday 31st December  
NEW YEARS EVE

*Please note items for the 26th December edition of the newsletter should be in by 9am on Thursday 23rd December*

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

**CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES** There are still some Church Christmas Cards to be delivered and we would be grateful for volunteers. They can be found on the table directly in front of you as you go into the sacristy. Thankyou

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

**LADIES GROUP** The new 2011 programme for our Ladies Group are now available from the porch. Our Annual Ladies Group meal is on Friday 14th January at Waddow Hall 7pm for 7.30pm. Cost £17.50 inclusive. If you would like to join us please see either Janet 424657 or Daphne 427912 for the menu.

**QUILT** The winner of the Quilt, which raised £250, is Pat Hargreaves. Thankyou for your support

**RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND** The Bishop has written in gratitude for the generous response to this first annual appeal for the retired priest's fund. He is particularly grateful to those who have taken out standing orders in favour of this fund.

**TABOR RETREAT HOUSE** programmes for January - July 2011 are now available from the porch

**Christmas Gift Aid envelopes are available from the shelf at the back of church. If you Gift Aid by envelope then you will already have one in your pack, but if you Gift Aid by Direct Debit each month and you wishto give a donation at Christmas then why not Gift Aid it**

## SABDEN NEWS

**CHRISTMAS EVE** the church will be open from 7.30pm for Carols before Mass. Please join us

**BONUS BALL (SABDEN)** The bonus ball winner is no 27 Ann Barker. There is a vacant number for the bonus ball if anyone wants to join - contact Harr or Carol. Winners please collect winnings from Carol or Harry.

**CHRISTMAS DRAW** There is a list of winners up in the porch. There are three unclaimed tickets which were sold at St Michael & St John's - 235 Whisky, 217 Small Hamper and 202 Red wine. Please let Janet (SMSJ) if you have a ticket or inform Susan White at Sabden

**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.