

Dear Parishioners, "Laetare Jerusalem!" "Rejoice Jerusalem!" The first words of the Entrance Antiphon for today have given this Fourth Sunday of Lent a special name: Laetare Sunday. Today we rejoice that we are half way through our Lenten journey and are closer to celebrating the greatest feast of the Christian year: Easter.

However, our joy this year is muted. Muted because fewer of our younger families and children will attend Mass today than did a year ago. This decline began last summer when the time of Mass was brought forward from 10 o'clock to 9.30am. Sabden's congregation on the other hand has increased since they moved to the later time of 11am. As a parish we need to discuss what can be done to remedy this fall off. I appreciate that some families have to leave home by 9.10 to arrive and park in time for the 9.30 Mass. The recent Forum made a number of suggestions: that the Masses swap around and begin with Sabden Mass at 9.30 followed by the 11.00 at Clitheroe; or that we revert to 10am in Clitheroe followed by 11.30 at Sabden; or we compromise and begin in Clitheroe at 9.45 followed by Sabden at 11.15. Mass in Clitheroe lasts an hour but in Sabden because of smaller church it is only 45 minutes. We do need to do something: we have simply lost too many young families from Sunday Mass in Clitheroe. Please discuss this issue and bring these and other ideas to the next Forum on 4<sup>th</sup> May when it will be Clitheroe's turn to host the meeting.

On Maundy Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> April at 10.30 am, the Bishop, with priests of the diocese and representatives of each parish gathered in the cathedral, will celebrate the Mass of Chrism during which the oil of Catechumens, the oil for the Anointing of the sick and finally the Chrism oil for Baptism, Confirmation, Ordination and the Dedication of altars and churches will be blessed. Clergy renew their dedication to the service of Christ and his people and the congregation promise to support the Clergy in their mission. Entrance is by ticket and includes refreshments following the Mass. Tickets are free and available from me.

Finally, those who ordered the Home Paschal Candle may collect them from the sacristy.

Fr John

# Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden

Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 1AG

Tel 01200 423307 Website: olotv.org.uk

Email: smsj@btinternet.com Parish Priest: Mgr John Corcoran RD

**4th Sunday of Lent - 3rd April 2011**

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



**SUNDAY**

Mass at 9.30am followed by coffee

**MONDAY**

9am Eucharistic Service

**TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY**

Mass at 9am

**FRIDAY**

Eucharistic Service at 9am  
7.30pm Stations of the Cross

**SATURDAY (9th April)**

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

## *St Mary's Church Sabden*

**Sunday** - Mass at 11am followed by coffee

**Friday** - Mass at 9.15am

**MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK**

Joseph Dewhurst, Winifred Walsh, Donn's intention, Millie & Caitlin Mercer-Holden

**SICK**

Mary Hunt, Vincenzo Ditri

**LATELY DEAD**

Winifred Walsh,

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Joseph Dewhurst, Millie & Caitlin Mercer-Holden

## WELCOMERS NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday - M.Illingworth Sunday - M.Swales & T.O'Donnell

## READERS

Saturday - C.Riley Sunday - C.Morgan

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday - B.Worden & A.Southworth Sunday - A.Marsden & J & S Hall

## TEA & COFFEE

J.Marsden & M.Marsden

**OFFERTORY** St Michael & St John's £651.88 Sabden £146.53 Many thanks  
**ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN'S PARISH CENTRE** Opens after Mass on Saturday evening. Why not come in for a relaxing evening, re-ignite old friendships and make new ones. Don't forget Sunday evening is our regular Family Quiz Night between 8pm—10pm **BINGO** on Tuesday evenings. All members welcome.

**SATURDAY April 16th** - St George's Night - Free and Easy

**MEMBERSHIP** Membership fees may be renewed every Monday, Friday and Sunday evenings. Fees to increase - £10 for adults, £5 for OAP's & students.

**LADIES GROUP** There are still some spare seats on the bus to Harrogate on Thursday 14th April cost £7. If you wish to go to the Flower Show you can pay on the door. Tel Janet 424657 or Daphne 427912 to book.

**CRAFT AFTERNOON** Thursday 7th April 2pm - 4pm in the presbytery. We will be doing some machine sewing and sorting out knitting and knitters !! We are appealing for any 4ply or double knitting wool you may have - red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, white, black, pink, gold - small amounts as well as large. If you are remotely interested - come along - you are not committed.

**PRO-LIFE DAY OF PRAYER** Saturday 9th April 9am - 6pm Exposition and Prayer throughout the day. 12 noon Mass celebrating the gift of life. A basket of Remembrance is on the book shelf at the back of church. Please put the names of any child who died before birth or in infancy into the basket. List of watchers before the Blessed Sacrament in the porch - needed for the whole day. The school is collecting **SAINSBURYS & TESCO VOUCHERS**

**WALSINGHAM** 7th May 2011 One day pilgrimage - see poster in porch

**CAFOD** Anne Marie Coppock, CAFOD's long-serving representative in Salford Diocese, is to reduce her hours creating a vacancy for a two day part-time manager. Go to [www.cafod.org.uk/about-us/jobs/uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk/about-us/jobs/uk) for more details and application form

**BAPTISM** We welcome into God's family and our parish community Finley Kai Holliday and Zachary Beau Holliday who were baptised last Sunday

**CAFOD** in recognition of its work in Albania, CAFOD has recently been awarded the Mother Teresa Order, by the President of Albania. Between 1993 and 2007 CAFOD implemented 430 programmes, including the construction of 72 schools, 2 new bridges and 14 health centres.

**K.S.C. DANCE** to John Lancaster Saturday 9th April at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall. Tickets £6 inc Hot supper. Tel 427029/427096

**Gift Aid Envelopes are now available for collection from the Sacristy**

**CATHOLIC ROADSHOW** to raise funds for Heart Gives Unto Heart Catholic Internet Radio

After the successful broadcast during Pope Benedict's visit last autumn, the radio has organised a Catholic Roadshow to visit 20 towns during the summer. The Roadshow will feature a *free* art/photo/icon/Vatican stamp exhibition; *free* workshops around the subject of "Helping Your Priest and Parishioners" A *free* Roadshow newspaper will be published. In the evening a Gala Concert will feature a variety of artists including **Fr Stan Fortuna** - the rapping friar, **Don Maclean** - broadcaster, singer and raconteur and **Edwin Fawcett** - evangelical singer. Tickets available on the website [www.hguhroadshow.co.uk](http://www.hguhroadshow.co.uk). Gerry Coates 0790 607 3376. **Nearest venue:** Sacred Heart Parish Centre, 313 Preston New Road, Blackburn BB2 6PL on Wednesday 18th May. **Concert artists:** Edwin Fawcett, Jo Walkden, Charly Pinfold (Rise Theatre), Gerry Coates, Bobby Jo (Mime & Dance), Teresa Brown (Violin), Deborah Walcott-Grappie

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** on Friday's at 7.30pm during Lent.

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

## SABDEN NEWS

**BONUS BALL (SABDEN)** The bonus ball this week is no 38 Alan Dewhurst. Please collect winnings from Carol or Harry. Please can people keep up with the payments for this. If you are not up to date and win, any arrears will be subtracted from your winnings.

**TABLE TOP SALE** Saturday 7th May. Tables from £7. Further details and table bookings contact Dee Ellis on 01282 773984.

**TESCO VOUCHERS** are being collected also by Sabden school.

**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.

Clitheroe Churches in Partnership

## LENT COURSE

Saturdays during Lent in our Parish Hall starting with a talk at 11am followed by Lunch of assorted bread and cheeses  
Cost £2

Next Saturday 9th April  
Monsignor John Devine OBE  
'Making the case for faith'

**Everyone Welcome**

**There will be the quarterly S.V.P. collection at both masses next weekend 10/11 April.**



**Please give with your usual generosity. Thankyou**