

Dear Parishioners, Today is Vocations Sunday, the day on which each year we pray for vocations not only to the priesthood but also to religious life. Pope Benedict has written a letter for today in which he stresses the responsibility of each of us to encourage our young people to consider dedicating their lives to God in this special way. He writes: "Following Christ today means learning to keep our gaze fixed on Jesus, growing close to him, listening to his word and encountering him in the sacraments; it means learning to conform our will to his. The Lord does not fail to call people at every stage of life to share in his mission and to serve the Church in the ordained ministry and religious life. Particularly in these times, when the voice of the Lord seems to be drowned out by other voices and his invitation to follow him by the gift of one's own life may seem too difficult, every Christian community, every member of the Church, needs consciously to feel the responsibility to promote vocations. It is important to encourage and support those who show clear signs of a call to priestly and religious life and to enable them to feel the warmth of the whole community as they respond 'Yes' to God and the Church. I encourage them, in the words which I addressed to seminarians: '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'. It is essential that every Christian become more sensitive and attentive to the pastoral care of vocations, helping young people at every level of family, parish and associations to grow into a genuine friendship with the Lord, cultivated through prayer; to grow in familiarity with the sacred Scriptures and listen attentively to the word of God; to understand that entering into God's will does not crush or destroy a person, but instead leads to the discovery of the deepest truth about ourselves; and finally to be generous in our relationships with others, since it is only in being open to the love of God that we discover true joy and the fulfilment of our aspirations." Timely words on which to ponder and pray!

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden

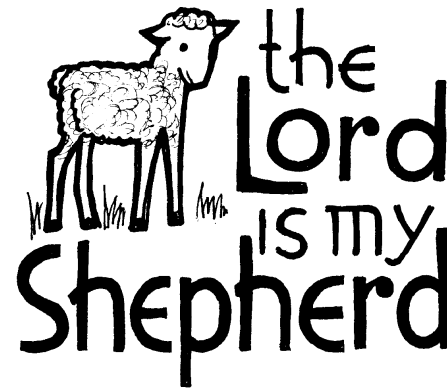
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Fourth Sunday of Easter - 15th May 2011

St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by coffee

Monday and Friday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Wednesday & Thursday

Saturday (21st May)

11-11.45am Sacrament of Reconciliation

11 - 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 9.15am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Chris Carr, Kennedy Family, Shirley Preston

SICK

Vincenzo Ditri

LATELY DEAD

Winifred Agnes Walsh, Shirley Preston

ANNIVERSARIES

Robert Hutchinson

WELCOMERS NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday - M.Roberts **Sunday** - R & F Holgate

READERS

Saturday - M.Taylforth **Sunday** - School

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday - L.Perrin & H.Mercer **Sunday** - A.Marsden & J & S Hall

TEA & COFFEE

D.Morgan & K.Farnsworth

OFFERTORY St Michael & St John's £694.60 Sabden £243.78 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.

TOP LOUNGE BAR Saturday 21st May - Johnny Solo. **SATURDAY 11 JUNE** East Lancs Hospice Charity Event in the Hall with DJ and Tribute Artist (Elvis and others) Tickets £6 at Social Centre or from any committee member. **SUNDAY JULY 31ST.** There will be a meeting for members in the club at 7.30pm to elect a new committee.

AFTERNOON TEA DANCE Next Wednesday 18th May in our Parish Hall 2pm - 5pm. Come along and enjoy a dance, a chat and excellent Afternoon Tea - all for £3.50 !!!

RWANDA GROUP TRUST who help the poor in Rwanda through their Charity Shop in Preston are having their Annual get together at Alston Lane RC Parish Hall in Grimsargh at 2pm today Sunday 15th May. Jacobs Join - so bring a sandwich or some other food to share. More details in porch

PARISH FORUM The minutes and reports from various parish organisations can be found on the notice board in the porch.

BAPTISM We welcome Jamie Lynch who was baptised last Sunday

WELCOME an extra person wanted to go on our Welcome rota - only once every three months - Any offers !! Just give your name in to Janet at the presbytery if you would be willing to help.

There will be a retiring collection for the Ecclesiastical Education Fund at both Masses this weekend.

RIGHT TO LIFE WALK



**Bank Holiday Monday
30th May 1.30pm from church**

Arnold will be outside church both this and next weekend collecting names for sponsorship
This is your chance to help this "LIFE OR DEATH" charity.

Refreshments provided on the way.

Stewards for the walk are still needed.

Many thanks to the Knights of St Columba for £200 sponsorship

MEMORIAL MASS A Memorial Mass is to be offered for Trudi Mansfield, a recently deceased member of the parish CAFOD group and friend to many this coming Tuesday May 17th at 7.30pm in this church. May she rest in peace

SECRET SINGERS United Reformed Church Thursdays 10.30am - 12 noon £4 per session - See poster in porch

ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS Schoenstatt Shrine Kearsley, Bolton on Saturdays during May. See poster in porch. Also at the Schoenstatt Shrine May Day and Pilgrim Mother Rally on Sunday 15th May at 1.30pm. See poster in porch

WHIST & DOMINO DRIVE at St Wilfrid's Club, Longridge Thursday 26 May at 7.30pm. Admission £1.50 inc Tea & Biscuits

CARITAS Salford Rescue Society continues to operate under its new name - Caritas. If you are considering fostering and you would like further information from the Caritas Fostering Team, please visit our website www.caritassalford.org.uk or contact us on tel no 0161 817 2250

MODERN BALLROOM AND LATIN DANCING in our Parish Hall with bar to refresh you next Saturday May 21st - Entrance £5

LADIES GROUP next meeting Wednesday 25th May at 7.30pm 'My Life as a Dancer' a talk and demonstration of some dances with Victoria Cunliffe.

SABDEN NEWS

BONUS BALL (SABDEN) The bonus ball this week is no 3 Sue Aspin. Please collect winnings from Carol or Harry. There are still 2 spare numbers for this weekly draw if anyone would like to join in, again see Carol or Harry.

GARDEN PARTY/SPRING FAYRE There will be a meeting on Wednesday 25th May at 7.30pm in the hall - this is a provisional date to be confirmed. The Garden Party is on 18th June. This may be an opportunity also to discuss or vote for our 2 representatives for the joint finance committee.

TABLE TOP SALE was a huge success thanks to all who helped and supported. The raffle was claimed. £404.30 was raised. Thanks again.

CONFIRMATION Next Sunday the children on the Sacramental programme will be confirmed. It will take place during the 11am Mass at St Mary's. Please support and pray for them.

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.

CAFOD/SCOUTS

CLOTHES SALE

of new Children's and Ladies wear. Kindly donated by a high street store.

Saturday 21st May in St Michael & St John's Parish Hall
10am - 3pm.