

Dear Parishioners, Today we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension, transferred from Thursday to today to enable as many Catholics as possible to join its celebration. We commemorate the day when Christ's bodily presence left our physical world of space and time. As Christ left he gave both a promise and a command.

The promise: that he would remain with us through the power and working of the Holy Spirit, the celebration of whom is next Sunday, Pentecost Sunday.

The command: that his disciples offer his revelation, his love and his way of living to the whole world.

Missionaries take this task to heart and still today leave their homes, cultures and languages to share the Gospel with others. Today we welcome the Comboni missionaries to our parish for the annual Mission appeal.

This weekend also we are asked to pray for those who use modern methods of communication to transmit the Gospel message and all who work in the media.

Because Pentecost Sunday is the most appropriate day on which to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation I plan next week to confirm both in Sabden and Clitheroe. Sunday Masses will be at the usual times with Confirmations administered during the 11oclock Mass in Sabden and in Clitheroe during a special Confirmation service at 3pm in the afternoon.

Fr John

An Ascension Day Reflection

'Go, preach the Gospel to all nations.'

This was the farewell command of Christ.

He has no body now on earth but ours.

He has no hands but ours to feed the hungry.

No feet but ours to seek out the lost.

No ears but ours to listen to the lonely.

No tongue but ours to comfort the sad.

No heart but ours to love the unloved.

Lord, take pity on us, your timid and fearful disciples;

give us the courage to witness to you in the world,

so that the Gospel may be preached,

and people may find their way into your kingdom.

(Fr Flor McCarthy SDB)

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

The Ascension (B) - 20th May 2012

St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe



Wednesday, Thursday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Sunday

Mass at 9.30am (sung) followed by Coffee

Monday

Mass at 9am

Tuesday

9am Eucharistic Service

12noon Funeral Service

Valerie Haworth

Wednesday, Thursday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Friday

Requiem Mass at 10.15am

Mary Johnston

Saturday (26th May)

11am-11.55am - Exposition

St Mary's Church Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am (sung)

Friday - No Mass

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Vincenzo Ditri

SICK

Sally Hickling, Margaret Cross (nee O'Donnell) Australia

LATELY DEAD

Valerie Haworth, Mary Johnston

ANNIVERSARIES

Vincenzo Ditri

There will be a Mission Appeal at masses this weekend by Comboni Missionaries

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £726.27 Sabden £118.81 Many thanks

Please note: the Social Centre is now open 7 days a week from 7pm and Sunday lunchtime from 12noon - 3pm

SOCIAL CENTRE Sunday evening In addition to the usual Quiz on a Sunday evening is 'Play your Cards Right'. Please come along - Everyone welcome

SOCIAL CENTRE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL Memberships can be renewed from 8.30pm every Monday or Friday evening

CATHOLIC SINGLES is an organisation which helps single adult Catholics of all ages meet, either one to one or through social events. Please tel 0161 941 3498, website www.catholicssingles.org.uk or email info@catholicssingles.org.uk

INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS Mass in preparation for the will take place in Salford Cathedral at 7.30pm NEXT Friday 25th May. See poster in porch. **ALSO** there will be a Service of Prayer for the Eucharistic Congress at St Albans Blackburn on Tuesday 22nd May at 7pm - see poster in porch.

RWANDA GROUP TRUST Annual get-together TODAY Sunday 20th May at Alston Lane Church Hall, Grimsargh at 2pm. Jacob's Join. Everyone welcome

CARITAS Annual Garden Party on Saturday 9th June at The Barlow RC High School, Didsbury 1pm - 4pm. There are some Raffle tickets £1 each, available from the Parish office. This year there will be a silent auction, including two signed photographs of Manchester City FC donated by the club more details 0161 817 2252 or fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk **JOB VACANCIES** - Three job vacancies - please see poster in porch

ST MARY'S COLLEGE Three Evening Degree Courses - Education & Special Needs - Education & Early Childhood Studies - Accounting and Business Management (ACCA Accredited) to commence September 2012. Tuition fees £5,500 per year - more affordable than majority of universities. Further information contact Jean Isherwood on 01254 586977 or j.isherwood@stmarysblackburn.ac.uk or go along to the Information Evening on Monday 28th May between 5.30pm and 7.30pm. Also St Mary's College will be offering free transport on the College bus services in the new academic year.

CYCLE CHALLENGE Geraldine Hennigan and Jane Miller are taking part in the Women for Women Cycle Challenge in Sri Lanka in September 2013. This is a 400km bike ride in aid of the Genesis Research Trust (promoting science for the health of women and babies). To raise money for this we are holding a Coffee Morning with homemade cakes and a Bring and Buy book sale. We hope you will join us on Friday 18th May 10am - 12.30pm at Hetton House, Eastham St, Clitheroe. Everyone welcome. Further details ring 07813 782130

CLITHEROE

ON THE MOVE BBQ organised by Clitheroe Churches in Partnership - Next Friday & Saturday - see local press for details

LADIES GROUP The next Ladies Group meeting will be on Wednesday 30th May 'The Bra Spa' and entertaining talk on Optifit bras

FOOD BANK Clitheroe Christians in Partnership propose that we look into the setting up of a food bank and would like to form a committee composed of representatives from each of the churches to explore the feasibility of such an enterprise as there is a local need. More information from Rita Heyes on 01200 443834 or rita@hayesr.plus.com

NEXT WEEKEND	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	C.Harkin	M.Swales & T.O'Donnell
Readers	C.McGuire	C.Morgan
Eucharistic Ministers	L.Perrin & H.Mercer	T.Mercer, C.Morgan, P.Donnely
Tea & Coffee Rota		Fellowes family

LADIES GROUP MYSTERY TOUR Our annual Mystery Tour this year will be on Wednesday 27th June. Set off from Interchange at 4.45pm. Eat at approx 6.30pm. The cost this year unfortunately has had to be increased to £22 (last year we made a loss) but does include tips for driver and waitresses. Everyone - friends, husbands etc are also very welcome. The menu - Main Course and Sweet plus Tea or Coffee is **Main Course**, Home-Roasted Ham with fresh pineapple, new potatoes and Salad or Home made Steak, Mushroom & Thwaites Ale Pie with Home-made chips and mushy peas, or Home-made Lasagne, with Garlic bread and Salad, or Fresh Fleetwood-landed battered Haddock Fillet with home-made chops, mushy peas and tartare sauce. **Sweets** - Cheesecake, or Apple and Blackberry Crumble, or a selection of Ice Creams. Names will be taken at our next meeting on Wednesday 30th May or ring Janet on 01200 423307 ext 3, or Daphne on 01200 427912

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/CONFIRMATION CARDS at very reasonable prices on sale at the back of church

CATHOLIC COMPANION May issue now on sale only £1 - excellent value

DIAMOND JUBILEE - a special service of thanksgiving to mark the Diamond Jubilee H.M. Queen Elizabeth II at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5th June at St Mary Magdalene

FROM THE ARCHIVES Universe Diamond Jubilee Edition now on Sale £3.50

SABDEN

BONUS BALL (SABDEN) The bonus ball this week is no 20

FR BIRMINGHAM'S JUBILEE is organised for Wednesday 13th June at 7.30pm. Notices will be in porch this week for anyone wishing to contribute to the refreshments afterwards, cakes and savouries

GARDEN PARTY will be on Saturday 16th June 2pm-4pm all usual stalls. We would like to make this a memorable event. Again there is a list at the back of church for people to help with stalls.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - an Olympic Quiz on Saturday 30th June and Bingo on Wednesday 11th July.

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL collect batteries and Nestle cereal tokens. Please hand in at school or in the container in porch

MOTHER AND TODDLER GROUP starts in St Mary's Hall on Monday 11th June at 9.30am. £1 including Tea or Coffee and snacks for the children. We would however be grateful for any donations of Toys and Books. Please contact Katy Collins on 01282 680617 or Suzanne Brown on 01282 771517

HALLS FOR HIRE

for Birthday's,
Celebrations,
Funeral
Receptions,
Anniversaries
etc

contact
**ST MICHAEL &
JOHN'S**
Kevin Shepherd
01200 428915
ST MARY'S SABDEN
Suzanne Brown
01282 771517