

Dear Parishioners

Advent is a time of waiting, expectation and preparation – on one level for the light and joy that will burst forth at Christmas, the commemoration of the birth of Jesus, and on another level the Christian longing that Christ will come again as the fulfilment of the entire world's expectations.

This year Advent is short – just three weeks and a day. It will pass before we realise it, so begin your Advent preparation today. At the back of both churches there are little Advent activity books for both infants and for junior aged children at 50p each. For adults there are *Walk with me* booklets to help you give daily a little time to thought and prayer and also drink from a small oasis of peace among the frenetic preparations for Christmas. They are £1 and dovetail nicely with the *Year of Faith*.

You could also consider taking a **YOUCAT**, heavily subsidised to sell for the amazing price of £2. A parishioner has commented: "I never thought that a catechism could be so interesting and with this you can dip into any part and learn something new and interesting". Another wanted to take a copy but thought that they were only for those attending the group sessions. But no, they are there for everyone. Take, read and grow!

Today (Sunday) in Sabden we host the annual village ecumenical Advent service at 4pm to which parishioners from both our churches are invited. It will be a service of light with lots of candles and prayerful reflection before the children join with us in a candlelight procession.

In Clitheroe, St Mary Magdalene's will host an Ecumenical Advent service at 6.30pm.

Next Sunday there will be a candlelight service at 4pm in St Michael and St John's.

Finally a reminder of the *Year of Faith* groups that meet this week. (Meetings last only 45 minutes).

Bernard Warren's, 10 Claremont Ave at 2pm on Monday 3rd December,

The Presbytery on Thursday 6th December at 8pm after the evening Mass,

St Mary's Sabden on Saturday 8th December at 10am.

Do make a special Advent effort to go to one. *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

First Sunday of Advent (C) - 2nd December 2012

St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday & Friday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday

Mass at 9.15am

Wednesday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

Friday

11am Funeral Service Johanna Riley

Saturday (8th December)

11am-11.55am - Exposition 11am - 11.45am Reconciliation (Confession)
11.30am - Rosary - 12noon Eucharistic Service 6pm First Mass of Sunday (quiet)

St Mary's, Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am 4pm Ecumenical Advent Service

Wednesday 2.30pm - All Gods children service **Friday** - Mass at 9.15am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Special intention, Ashfield Batts, Stephen Clough, James Reid

SICK

Sally Hickling, Cecilia Brown, Brigid Hardwick, Maria Middleton, Kathleen Wilson

LATELY DEAD

Frank Wrigley, Stephen Clough, Johanna Riley

ANNIVERSARIES

Ashfield Batts, James Reid, Betty Haslam

Please pray for Frank Wrigley who died last Sunday 25th November, and whose Requiem and burial was on Friday

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £688.40 Sabden £152.99 Many thanks
CAFOD FESTIVE FUNDRAISER St John 's and St Philip's Padiham on Friday 14th December at 7.30pm. Tickets £3 for adults - children Free. See poster in porch
JESUITS AND FRIENDS The Winter 2013 magazine is available from the porch
YEAR OF FAITH - SALFORD DIOCESE Posters of events are up in the porch
LADYEWELL A combined celebration of the two Feast Days, Dec 8th, Immaculate Conception and Dec 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe, will take place at the Shrine on Sat Dec 8th. Mass 12noon followed by a lunch break, bring a packed lunch. Hot drinks available.
ST AUGUSTINES CAROL SERVICE Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th at 7.30pm proceeds to CAFOD
ST JOSEPH'S PENNY Volunteers required - if you would be willing to help please see the poster in the porch and take one of the tear off slips

CLITHEROE

SOCIAL CENTRE Sunday evening In addition to the usual Quiz on a Sunday evening is 'Play your Cards Right'. Please come along - Everyone welcome
CHRISTMAS FAYRE This year raised £2,441.74 Thankyou to all who helped in any way to make this a success. Would the lady who came along with a bag full of knitted goods - please give Janet a ring at the presbytery 01200 423307

The Social Centre is now open through from 12noon on Saturdays & Sundays

CAFOD World Gift Catalogues, with ideas for Christmas gifts, available from porch
CCP (CLITHEROE CHURCHES IN PARTNERSHIP) Please pick up a flyer from the porch listing the shared worship events during Advent.
LITTLE CHURCH New members needed to help run groups. No need to be a parent or even have children - just enthusiasm and a willingness to teach young children about the gospel. Contact Geraldine Hennigan 01200 425504.
LADIES GROUP TRIP Leaves the Interchange at 8.45am prompt. Fully booked
JOY TO THE WORLD Christmas Concert. A celebration of Christmas, the Summer Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee in music, dance and drama. Saturday 15th December at 7.30pm in Trinity Methodist Church, Clitheroe. See poster in porch
ST NICHOLAS NIGHT You are invited - especially children- to join in the Walking Nativity through Clitheroe Town Centre on Friday 7th December. Assemble at St Mary Magdalene at 5.15 for mince pies and mulled wine then at 5.45 the Walking Nativity goes through the Town Centre and ends up for prayers and carols at the crib at 6.10pm. After that watch the East Lancashire Hospice Santa Dash come through Clitheroe. Everyone is encouraged to 'dress biblical' (including adults) - shepherds, angels, kings, animals. More information on andyfroud@gmail.com or tel 0796 957 66914
CHRISTMAS FAYRE RAFFLE There are still some unclaimed prizes - numbers are up in the porch. To claim yours please go to the Parish Office.
CHRISTMAS TEA DANCE Wed 19th Dec in our Parish Hall. Admission is £6 which including Buffet Tea and a free glass of Wine. Tickets available from Daphne 427912
PARISH DRAW WINNERS NOVEMBER - £100 205 C.Astin, £25 82 H.Grainger, £10 188 S.Bailey, 193 T.Peters, 276 M.Wandless, 266 A.Marsden, 97 f.Kerr
CHRISTMAS CARDS Advent Calendars, Childrens books etc now on sale at back of church. Please put money in C.T.S. box
YOUCAT Please put money in C.T.S. box

ROTAS for the Jan/Feb/March 13 will be compiled within the next two weeks. If you want to come off either welcoming, reading or making tea a coffee please let Janet know BEFORE Thurs 13th Dec. If you're new to the parish and would like to help on any of the rotas please ring or see Janet. See notice board for next weekends rotas
LADIES GROUP ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MEAL will be on Thursday Jan 17th at the Calf's Head, Worston - 6.30pm for 7pm. - £18.50. Menu's are available from the porch. Please let Daphne or Janet have them back together with your money.
APF MISSIONS Mission calendars & newsletters are now available in the porch
S.V.P. QUARTERLY COLLECTION this weekend. As this collection goes towards the Christmas gifts, please be as generous as usual. Gift Aid envelopes are available from the shelves at the back of church.
CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL to be held on Friday 14th 11am - 4pm, Saturday 15th 10am - 2pm and Sunday 16th 11.30am - 4pm in Trinity Methodist Church. Opening by Ribble Valley Mayor 11am Friday morning, with musical items from pupils of Pendle Primary School. In addition on Saturday, there will be craft stalls during the day.
ADVENT LUNCHES begin Tuesday at The United Reformed Church. Theme is 'What Christmas means to me' and each week a young Christian (late teens/early 20's) will speak at 12.30pm. Lunch of Soup and a roll and mince pie will follow at 1pm
LADIES GROUP PROGRAMME 2013 are now available from church porches.
BAPTISM We welcome Mark Jonathan Selwood who was baptised last Sunday
ROSARY OF THE UNBORN will be said after Mass/Service each day next week. Our Lady of Guadalupe pray for us
CHRISTMAS CARDS Would anyone who bought any of the boxes of cards at the Christmas Fayre please contact Janet in the Parish Office
CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARDS need to be delivered from Thursday 13th December - please contact Janet in the office if you would be able to help posting them.
GREENERY is required for our Christmas decorations - please bring along from week commencing 16th December.
DIARIES for 2013 are also available on the shelves at the back of church - 50p. Please put money in C.T.S. box

Advent & Christmas Ecumenical event flyers are available from porch

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this week no 37 - R.Waling
A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Wednesday 5th December Christmas Bingo.
ALL GOD'S CHILDREN SERVICE this coming Wednesday at 2.30pm in church.
VILLAGE SERVICE OF LIGHT in St Mary's today Sunday 2nd December at 4pm. This promises to be a lovely service for both adults and children. Come and join the village in the start to Advent. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the hall.
ADVENT SERVICE Tues 4th at 7.30pm. Come along and join in our Advent journey
CHRISTMAS BINGO Wednesday 5th December 7.30pm in the hall. Admission £5 to include a book of tickets. Also refreshments. Great fun for all the family.
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL collect batteries and Nestle cereal tokens. Please hand in at school or in the container in porch
DIARIES are on sale 50p each and also Salford Diocesan Almanacs for 2013
CHRISTMAS PROMS by Earby Band at St Nicholas Church Hall, Friday 7th December at 7.30pm. Tickets £7 including light refreshments. Tickets from Cathryn on 01200 428240 or Angela 01282 779376 or arfrw@tiscali.co.uk