

## Dear Parishioners

I first visited Israel while on leave from Africa and spent 10 days backpacking round the country. I had little money and so for £3 a day I lived at the level of the Palestinian people and in the process my eyes were opened to their suffering. Twenty years later I returned for 3 months to find their situation had worsened beyond all recognition. Nearly half a million olive trees have been destroyed to clear land for the enforced expansion of illegal Israeli settlements and to build the dreadful security wall. In the process Palestinians have lost land and livelihood. Olive trees are precious; just twenty trees can sustain a family for a year. Olive Aid is a self-help project run by the Catholic Bethlehem University which provides needy families with 3 year old olive saplings and in so doing enable them to escape poverty. Christian and Muslim alike are helped but the project particularly helps stem the emigration of Christian families who suffer the most in the conflict. Today, Christians in Bethlehem constitute less than 15% of the population. Fifty years ago, Christians living in the birthplace of Jesus made up more than 70% of the population. You can buy a tree for £25. For further details see me or go to [www.oliveaid.com](http://www.oliveaid.com)

The Euthanasia lobby is gearing up for another attempt to introduce euthanasia. Please ask you MP to sign Early Day Motion 293 which reads:

“That this House agrees that there should be no further attempts to relax the law on euthanasia or assisted suicide; welcomes the 2010 report for the Economist Intelligence Unit which places the UK at the top of an international league table rating end of life care provision; further welcomes the resolution of the Council of Europe that the practices of euthanasia and assisted suicide must always be illegal and that euthanasia, in the sense of the intentional killing by act or omission of a dependent human being for his or her alleged benefit, must always be prohibited; and encourages the Government to further develop specialist palliative care and hospice provision to ensure care for the dying and terminally ill and to enable a truly dignified and peaceful death remains a top priority.”

Congratulations and thanks to SMSJ whose Christmas Fair raised £2,441 and St Mary's Sabden who raised £2,320 *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](http://olotv.org.uk)

**Email:** [smsj@btinternet.com](mailto:smsj@btinternet.com) **Parish Priest:** Mgr John Corcoran RD

**Second Sunday of Advent (C) - 9th 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 9am

### Wednesday

Mass at 9am

Rotary Club Carol Concert 7pm

### Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

### Saturday (15th December)

11am-11.55am - Exposition      11am - 11.45am Reconciliation (Confession)

11.30am - Rosary - 12noon Eucharistic Service      6pm First Mass of Sunday (quiet)

### Sunday (16th December)

Mass at 9.30am

4pm Advent Candlelight Service: invite friends and children

## *St Mary's, Sabden*

**Sunday** - Mass at 11am - **Tuesday** - Advent Service 7.30pm - **Friday** - Mass at 9.15am

### MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Special Intention, Kenneth & Janet Barlow, Jean Coupe, Kathleen McNally, Joan Kelly  
Richard Embery, Frank Wrigley x 2, Johanna Riley, Patrick Emerson, Mary Cushion

### SICK

Sally Hickling, Brigid Hardwick, Maria Middleton, Kathleen Wilson

### LATELY DEAD

Frank Wrigley, Johanna Riley, Jean Coupe

### ANNIVERSARIES

Kenneth & Janet Barlow, Richard Embery, Kathleen McNally

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £818.21 Sabden £160.28 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  
**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** Still some unclaimed raffle prizes - see list in porch. Please claim them from Parish Office.

**CAFOD** World Gift Catalogues, with ideas for Christmas gifts, available from porch

**CCP (CLITHEROE CHURCHES IN PARTNERSHIP.** Please pick up a flyer from the

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

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.

**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

**YOUCAT** Please put money in C.T.S. box

**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

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** Advent Calendars, Childrens books etc now on sale at back of church. Please put money in C.T.S. box

**ROTARY CAROL CONCERT** The Rotary Club of Clitheroe invite all parishioners to attend their annual Civic Carol Service, being held at St Michael & St John's Wednesday December 12th at 7pm. Both Ribble Valley and Clitheroe Town Mayors will be attending and the music will be provided by the school children. Rotarians will provide mince pies, tea and coffee in the Hall following the service.



**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

**LADIES GROUP** - Committee meeting in the presbytery tomorrow night - Monday 10th December.

**K.S.C.** Council meeting this Tuesday 11th December at 7.30pm in presbytery

*Last weeks back page of the newsletter read:- there would be a candlelight service at 4pm in St Michael & St John's, in fact it is NEXT Sunday 16th December.*

	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	M.Illingworth	P.Dixon & E.Thomson
Readers	A.Southworth	S.Shore
Euch Ministers	A.Harkin & Volunteer	C & J Leeming & R.Embery
Tea & Coffee		C.James,M.Tomlinson,A.Pritchard

**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** Many thanks for your generosity last weekend - Total came to £419.64.

**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 LUNCHESES** 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.

**CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARDS** need to be delivered from Thursday 13th December onwards. 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

**ANNUAL KSC QUIZ NIGHT** - Thursday 27th December - more details next week

*Advent & Christmas Ecumenical event flyers are available from porch*

**SABDEN**

**BONUS BALL** this week no 1 J & C Hartley

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE** Thanks to everyone who made the Christmas Fayre such a success £2320.21 was made and the day was a huge success. All raffle prizes were claimed - list of numbers and winners in porch.

**SERVICE OF LIGHT** Thanks to everyone who helped with the service of light, another wonderful afternoon.

**CAROLS** There will be carols around the tree this Sunday 9th December at 6pm.

**ADVENT SERVICE** this Tuesday at 7.30pm. This is a good way to prepare for Christmas, please come along

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Village Carol Service in St Mary's Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm. Mince pies will be served afterwards.

**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