

## Dear Parishioners

Today we welcome Fr Denis Carter, a Rochdale man and a Columban missionary who has worked in Pakistan, to make this year's overseas mission appeal.

Some question the work of missionaries so maybe the story of an Indian martyr, Blessed Devasahayam Pillai will illustrate how the Holy Spirit works through others to draw to Christ.

He was beatified last month 300 years after his birth before an estimated congregation of a hundred thousand Catholics and is the first Indian lay martyr to be beatified.

Devasahayam Pillai was born into a high caste family in Tamil Nadu and was named Nilakandan Pillai. He entered the service the Maharaja of Travancore and rose to become a trusted advisor. When several bad harvests impoverished Devasahayam's family, he worried that this unaccustomed poverty would lose him respect. He confided his fears to a foreigner, a Dutch official who was also a committed Catholic. He introduced Nilakandan to the Bible and explained to him the meaning of suffering as revealed in the Book of Job. For Nilakandan, Job's example of trust in God in the face of adversity was decisive and he asked to be baptised. In 1745, after nine months instruction he was baptised by a Jesuit missionary and given the Indian name Devasahayam which means 'God's help'.

Devasahayam wrote: "No one forced me to come; I came by my own free will. I know my heart: He is my God. I have decided to follow Him and will do so my whole life." He could not keep his new found faith to himself and spoke to all of Jesus Christ and the Gospel. His wife was one of the many he converted.

His efforts antagonized other upper-caste Hindus and four years later he was arrested and brought before the Maharaja who ordered to return to Hinduism. He refused and imprisonment and torture over a three year period and often in public followed but Devasahayam remained firm in his faith. His fortitude aroused such interest that the Maharaja ordered his execution on January 14, 1752. Local Christians retrieved his body and buried him in their church which immediately became a place of pilgrimage. His death was followed by many conversions in the area.

It is God who calls; we merely facilitate that call, *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

## The Baptism of the Lord (C) 13th January 2013

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



#### Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by coffee

#### Monday & Friday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

#### Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Mass at 9am

#### Saturday 19th January

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

Friday - Mass at 9.15am

#### MASSED RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Bernard Jackson x 4, P & B Hardwick, M.Ragnall x 2, Margaret Atherton,  
Mary Gibbons, Terence Nolan, Henry Thornber, Leo Casey

#### SICK

Sally Hickling, Anthony Cornwell, Bernadette Malone, Peter Hardwick, Leo Casey

#### LATELY DEAD

Renata Micallef, Bernard Jackson, Margaret Atherton, Mary Gibbons

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Henry Thornber, Terence Nolan, M.Ragnall

*There will be an Overseas Mission Appeal at all masses this weekend by  
Fr Denis Carter a Columbian missionary*

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £686.63 Sabden £168.45 Many thanks  
**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, visit the website www.catholicssingles.orginal or email info@catholic singles.org.uk

**CLITHEROE**

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

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

**LADIES GROUP ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MEAL** This Thursday Jan 17th at the Calf's Head, Worston. Would EVERYONE who is going to this function PLEASE meet on the Car Park across from the Social Centre on Lowergate ready to leave at 6.30pm

**PARISH DINNER** - February 9th 2013. Price £17.50 due to increased costs but still good value for money. Entertainment - we welcome back Jason Ashton after who so ably entertained us last year. The menu choices are as follows: **Main Course** - Fish Pie topped with crushed new potatoes and Lancashire cheese or Lamb Casserole with apricots and rosemary or Roast Bowland Beef with Yorkshire pudding, all served with two vegetables. **Sweet** - Trifle or Fresh Fruit meringue or Fruit Pie or Chocolate Fudge Cake. Tea or Coffee. Tickets are now on sale after Mass on Saturday and Sunday's both at Clitheroe and Sabden and are also available on Monday, Thursday and Friday morning from the Parish Office. See poster in porch for more details.

Back by popular demand

**TASTER EVENING**

St Michael & St John's PTA are hosting its third Taster Evening on Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall, as part of the school's 'Food Week'

Come and sample a wide range of recipes - starters, mains and desserts all for £6 a ticket, which will be available from School or the Parish Office. More information or if you would like to cook a dish to share then ring Geraldine Hennigan 01200 425504



**THANKYOU**

*To our dear Parish Family.*

*Thankyou to Fr John and Fr Wareing for their spiritual comfort and the very special mass. Thankyou to all for your love and prayerful support, your attendance at Bernard's Requiem meant so much to myself and all the family. Your hugs lifted us heart and soul. Thankyou also to Kevin and the staff at the Social Centre for a great celebration of Bernard's life. God bless you all. Love and prayers. Margaret*

ROTAS NEXT WK	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	M.Manning	J.Clegg & E.Davies
Readers	C.Astin	School
Euch Ministers	B.Wordon & H.Addy	G.Lambert, P.Donnolly, A.Marsden
Tea & Coffee		B.Parkinson, M.Maffia, M.Manning

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** meets a week on Thursday 17th January after evening mass.

**ROTA'S** Still some people to collect their rota's which can be found in the box on the card table situated near to the entrance to the sacristy

**K.S.C. DANCE** Tonight Saturday 12th January at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall. Dancing to John Lancaster. £6 inc Hot supper

**PARISH DRAW** Still one uncollected prize from January draw - no 160 C.Scott. Please collect from the shelf outside the Parish office.

**CLITHEROE CHURCHES IN PARTNERSHIP** - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 18th - 24th January 2013. Full details of all services can be found on the poster in the porch. We here at St Michael & St John's will be hosting the United Service on the Sunday Evening 20th January at 6.30pm and also the Eucharistic Service on the Monday (21st) at please note 11am

**LADIES GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING** tomorrow evening Monday 14th at 7.30pm in the presbytery

**SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHARITY** a total of £2,170 was raised and has been divided up equally between Cancer Research UK and Brain Tumour Research

**CAFOD** There will be a meeting of the parish CAFOD supporters on Tuesday 15th January at 10am in the presbytery. Would you care to be a new member in this New Year?

**CLITHEROE CHURCHES IN PARTNERSHIP** A.G.M. at St Pauls' Low Moor on Wednesday 16th January. All welcome

**TEA DANCE** Wednesday 16th January in our Parish Hall 2pm-5pm. Come along and enjoy a delicious tea - still only £3.50

**SABDEN**

**BONUS BALL** no 2 - Peggy Fielding  
**ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL** collect batteries and Nestle cereal tokens. Please hand in at school or in the container in porch

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** United Service will be on Sunday January 20th at 4pm in Sabden Baptist Church.

**WANTED**

Volunteer cleaners for St Mary's Church and Hall in Sabden.

There a number of teams and so the work is spread. We are



looking for more volunteers to help, especially as one of our teams is retiring at Easter. If you could spare a

couple of hours once a month please contact Jennifer Mead 01282 770702