

Crossing the Threshold

On Saturday 2nd February a group from our parish went to Leyland to attend a conference of clergy and laity at St Mary's church, entitled "Crossing the Threshold". It was the last of several such conferences promoted and organized by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, offering support and resources to help reach out and minister to non-churchgoing Catholics. The programme included prayer, Mass and nine workshops covering: welcoming families, using small groups and Alpha, social action, listening, men's ministries, using RCIA, creating an evangelising parish, using new media and outreach in schools. This event was for the three northwest dioceses of Liverpool, Salford and Lancaster.

As we arrived we were agreeably surprised to see the car park (which is not small!) overflowing – obviously a popular event! The impression was reinforced when we went in to find the church teeming with over 250 people – priests, bishops, religious and laity mingling and enjoying a cup of tea or coffee before starting work. Before the start we had to select 2 workshops to attend from the choice of nine.

After an inspiring and explanatory opening address by Bishop Campbell of Lancaster, we were sent to form small discussion groups to briefly exchange one or two experiences and ideas. This was followed by Mass, concelebrated by the three bishops and all the priests present. As it was the feast of the Presentation we were all given candles to light and hold throughout the mass, symbolic of our baptism. Chief celebrant was Bishop Williams of Liverpool, who gave us a thoughtful homily on the theme of parish and community, with colourful references to his experiences as a native of Liverpool.

Mass went on a little longer than planned, and was followed by lunch, a little hurried but nonetheless appreciated; the sacrament of reconciliation was available during the lunch break. (Here we must pay tribute to the hospitality of Leyland and the Archdiocese – a better Lancashire hotpot is hardly to be found!) Then straight into the two workshops, again a bit truncated to bring us back onto schedule, but full of excellent information, ideas, experiences and most of all, enthusiasm. We were also supplied with extensive and very useful information and resource packs.

Finally we had a short commissioning service led by Bishop Brain, where we were blessed and sent to carry on the work of evangelisation.

So, what next? It's up to us to take things forward – all of us.

Andy Brown

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

3rd Sunday in Lent (C) - 3rd March 2013

St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe

Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by coffee

Monday

Mass at 9am

Tuesday

Eucharistic Service 9am

7.30pm Reconciliation

Wednesday

Mass at 9.15am

Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

Friday

Eucharistic Service 9am

Stations of the Cross 7.30pm

Saturday (9th March)

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 **Tuesday** - 7.30pm Stations of the Cross
Wednesday - 7.30pm Reconciliation **Friday** - Mass at 9.15am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Mary Burke, Mr Tomlinson, Special Intention, Marie Harrison,
Michael Jackson x 3, Stella Mason x 2

SICK

Sally Hickling, Maria Middleton, Angelo Mattillo

LATELY DEAD

Stella Mason, Michael Jackson

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Burke, Hugh Hutchinson

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £783.92 Sabden £131.94 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.catholic singles.org.uk or email info@catholic singles.org.uk
CAFOD Sincere thanks for your Lenten sharing, the Fast Day envelopes collected £589. Fairtrade Fortnight continues till March 10th, keep a watch for the Logo, choose Fairtrade, exercise your 'buying power'! The group will meet on Tuesday 12th March at 10am in the presbytery. Care to come?

Home Pascal Candles are available this year. Please sign the list at the back of the church if you wish to order one. They are £10 including the stand.

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

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

CEILIDH Saturday 16th March 'Dogsbody Band' - (6 piece with caller) Tickets £10 inc Light Supper. Ring Kevin at Social Centre for tickets

BROWNIES St Michael & St John's 4th Clitheroe Brownies are looking for Unit leaders to take over from Easter. The unit has 24 little girls who are all fabulous! The little ladies enjoy meeting up during term time on Tuesday evenings in Clitheroe. If you would like to know more about becoming a unit leader or helper please email Rachel@gofirebird.co.uk

LENT TALKS Next Saturday 9th March in our Parish Hall at 11am (Tea/Coffee served at 10.30am) subject - 'Gideons taking Bibles into schools and hospitals' See poster in porch. There are also Lenten talks being held at Stonyhurst to which we are all welcome - see poster in porch or pick up a flyer which are also available from porch

SAINSBURY'S VOUCHERS Once again our Primary School are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers. Please hand into school or pop in the Parish Communications box in our church porch

EASTER REMEMBRANCE BOOK a remembrance book for deceased relatives and friends is being compiled and will be placed at the back of church. We are asking for a donation of £3 for a lily, which will decorate the church at Easter time. Jane Brown (Saturday) and Teresa Mercer (Sunday) will be collecting money after mass on the table near the greeting cards

ROSARY OF THE UNBORN will be said after Mass/Service each day next week for all Pro-Life issues. Our Lady of Guadalupe. Pray for us

BOOK SALE

Come along to our Parish Hall after Mass on Sunday. Have a Coffee and pick up a good quality book at a bargain price



ROTAS NEXT WK	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	T.Wilkinson	P.Dixon & E.Thomson
Reader	J.Byrne	S.Shore
Eucharistic Ministers	A.Southworth & M.Illingworth	C.Morgan, S.Smith, B.Collinson
Tea & Coffee		S.V.P.

PRO-LIFE DAY OF PRAYER will be held on Saturday 16th March. Exposition from 9am - 5.45pm, with Mass at noon. List of times for 'watchers' before the Blessed Sacrament can be found at the back of church. Please try to come for half an hour. During Mass at 12noon children who have died at an early age or before birth will be included in the special intentions. Please use the slips of paper provided on which to write the Christian name of your child, then place it in the basket provided, situated on the table where repository items are for sale.

CLITHEROE & DISTRICT BIBLE SOCIETY Our next Action Group meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 18th April 7.30pm in the United Reformed Church. All interested are welcome to attend. Would anyone like to represent St Michael & John's **LADIES GROUP TRIP** Both the trips - May 1st to the National Arboretum in Staffordshire and the BBC Media City/Manchester on Dec 4th are fully booked. We have a waiting list so please see Janet or Daphne if you wish to add your name.

There will be a collection for St Vincent de Paul Society at both masses next weekend. Gift Aid envelopes are available from the shelves at the back of church

SABDEN

BONUS BALL 36 Peggy Fielding

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 21st March - Bingo in the Hall at 7.30pm. Admission £5 inc book of tickets and refreshments. Come along and enjoy a great social evening. **ST GEORGE'S DAY** Celebration in memory of Raymond who would have been 80 on 20th April. **Details to follow. ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES DAY** Sat 13th April. An expert from a local auction house will value items at the cost of £1 per item. This promises to be an exciting and fun event. More details later. If anyone has any prizes to donate for these events please contact Margaret or Jean

RED BOXES (APF MISSIONS) are now due, please bring with you to church next time you come. Please make sure your name and address is written on the label on the box. We are in need of someone to take over from Jane Davies who is the contact for the Red Boxes - there is no house to house collection or having to go to the bank, just counting the money from the boxes. Please ring Jane on 01282 680013

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN next Wednesday 6th March 2.50pm - 3.15pm in church. A service especially for children of pre-school age and upwards. Theme will be 'Easter'. All welcome