

Dear Parishioners

This afternoon, St Michael and John's welcomes civic leaders and members of the Guide and Scout associations to the St George's Day service at 2.15pm, following their parade.

On Thursday the Bishop will confer the sacrament of Confirmation on children from both our schools in St Michael and St John's at 7pm during a non-Eucharistic service. Afterwards he will join families and parishioners in the Hall for refreshments.

Many parishioners have inspected and commented favourably on the renovated church bench (to be found at the back to the left of the central isle of SMSJ church).

We had hoped that the bench could be dismantled and its wood lightly planed. This was the cheapest option. Regrettably, however, the construction of the bench didn't allow this and it had to be chemically stripped of the old paints, then sanded down to bare timber, lightly stained and polished. This process is labour intensive and will cost approximately £585 per bench and with VAT added the price comes to a total of £700! (To buy a new but similar bench would cost around £2,000) I must confess that I am disappointed – fewer but renovated benches would greatly enhance the appearance of the church, particularly after redecoration.

What are the options?

Parishioners or groups could band together and raise the cost of refurbishing a bench over a 12 month period. An alternative would be to renovate 2 or 4 benches a year. Parishioners might think of leaving the cost of renovating a bench or benches in their Will. Both the cost and excellent look and feel of the one renovated leave us much to think about and discuss. What do you think? It will be on the agenda of the next Forum.

The Euthanasia lobby just will not give up and Lord Faulkner has indicated that he will launch another Bill, in the House of Lords, to legalise Assisted Suicide. He will present it in the Lords because an opinion poll taken last September among MPs showed that more than 7 out of 10 MPs would not support a change in the Law. There have been three failed attempts in the last 6 years to legalise assisted suicide. All have failed due to concerns about public safety. The battle continues,

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden

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Fourth Sunday of Easter - 21st April 2013

St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by coffee
2.15pm St George's Day Service

Monday & Friday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Wednesday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 9am (no evening mass)
7pm - Confirmations

Saturday (27th April)

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 **Wednesday** - 7.30pm Year of Faith Vigil Service

Friday - Mass at 9.15am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEKS

Kathleen Wilson, Elizabeth & Harold Rawlinson, Kathleen Davey, Anne Donoghue

SICK

Olive Bromley, Sally Hickling, Albert Blockeel

LATELY DEAD

Margaret Maden, Kathleen Davey, Anne Donoghue

ANNIVERSARIES

Kathleen Wilson, Elizabeth & Harold Rawlinson,

***There will be a retiring collection at all masses this weekend for
The Ecclesiastical Education Fund***

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £658.11 Sabden £152.42 Many thanks
FOOD BANK the Clitheroe Christians in Partnership plan to open the Clitheroe Food-bank on Monday 1st July. Until the foodbank is set up the Salvation Army is preparing food parcels and would welcome food donations. There are a list of suggested foods on the notice board in the porch and a box has been provided at the back of church for anything you wish to donate.

CAFOD On behalf of the people of SYRIA a sincere thanks for the sum of £592.68 (£220 given directly to CAFOD and £372.68 from church boxes) collected for the appeal, much appreciated. The parish CAFOD supporters will meet this Tuesday April 23rd at 10am in the presbytery.

WALSINGHAM Diocese of Salford Pilgrimage Saturday 4th May. Details 0161 653 7284
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.org.uk or email info@catholicssingles.org.uk

LADYEWELL Why not visit the Shrine of Our Lady and the Martyrs at Ladyewell - a Place of Pilgrimage, Prayer and Peace. You can gain a Plenary Indulgence when you visit the shrine in this year of Faith 2013. Pick up a leaflet from the back of church and read the information relating to the plenary indulgence on the notice in the porch.

S.V.P. APPEAL Wanted for a family in need. Any suitable clothes for a 10yr old girl and/or a 4month old baby. Please ring Peter Donnelly 01200 44108

TRADE UNION PRO-OLIFE GROUP *Defending Life, Upholding Justice* The Public & Commercial Services Union are holding elections to the National Executive which commenced April 18th. The PCS have an aggressive pro-abortion policy. Peter Hunter, a Catholic from Blackpool and pro-life campaigner is seeking election to the Executive Committee, taking a firm pro-life stance. It is important that Catholic trade unionists support Mr Hunter in opposing policies which are an affront to human dignity and are imposed on trade union members in an undemocratic and draconian fashion. If you are a member of the (PCS) please read the pink poster in the porch

LADIES GROUP Next Wednesday 24th April 7.30pm a talk given by Mrs Duxbury - The Duke and Duchess of Windsor. All ladies are welcome to join us. £2 inc refreshments.

LADIES GROUP TRIP to the Arboretum on Wed 1st May. Coach leaves the Interchange at **8.20am prompt**. Coffee and biscuits will be served during the journey at 50p each.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Saturday 22nd June the welcome return of Rossendale Male Voice Choir. More details later

ST ANTHONY'S CENTRE FOR CHURCH & INDUSTRY. Unemployed? Facing Redundancy? - we may be able to help! See poster in porch

INVOCATION IN THE NORTH as part of Year of Faith - Catechesis - Discernment - Fellowship - Encountering Christ. 14-16 June at Ampleforth Abbey. See poster in porch

CIVIC SOCIETY next meeting at Ribble Valley Mayors Parlour on Monday 13th May at 7.30pm - 'The History of Whalley Abbey', an illustrated talk by Nigel Neil.

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

SOCIAL CENTRE Committee please meet in the presbytery 8pm Wednesday evening 24th April.

	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	A.Harkin	B.Parkinson & M.Maffia
Readers	A.Southworth	J.Hennigan
Eucharistic Min	T.Woodhead & B.Taylor	J.Hall, S.Hall, T.Mercer
Tea & Coffee		E.Davies & M.Valovin

JUMBLE SALE The K.S.C. are holding a Jumble Sale next Saturday 27th April in our Parish Hall at 2pm - 20p. Jumble will be collected from 6.30pm onwards next Friday evening 26th April. Please ring Arnold on 01200 427096 or Les on 01200 427029 or alternatively you can bring it along to the Hall on Friday evening.

DEFIBRILLATOR Anyone wanting to donate to the Defibrillator (Heart Start Machine) may do so by putting money in an envelope and popping it in the collection. Please mark envelope 'Defibrillator'. **RAFFLE TICKETS at £1 each** to raise funds for the Defibrillator are now on sale from school or from Janet at the presbytery, and they will be sold after both masses **NEXT** weekend 27/28 April. List of prizes is in the porch

'A TASTY EVENING' back by popular demand. The Friends of St Michael & St John's are holding their taster evening on Wednesday 22nd May at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall. We are looking for volunteer chefs and musicians and of course people to come and eat all the tasty dishes. Tickets are priced at £6 each and can be bought from Janet at the Presbytery. Bar will be open. More info Geraldine Hennigan 01200 425504

BOOK SALE There will be second hand book sale in our Parish Hall after mass next Sunday
YEAR OF FAITH Monday 22nd April 2pm at 10 Claremont Avenue, and on Tuesday 23rd April at 2.30pm in the presbytery

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING Saturday 11th May 10am - 12noon at United Reformed Church, Castlegate. Traidcraft & Bring & Buy Stall

SABDEN

BONUS BALL No 6 Joan Thompson

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL collect batteries and Nestle cereal tokens. Please hand in at school or in the container in porch. They are also collecting Sainsburys vouchers

LOST PROPERTY Several items of lost property have accumulated. If you think anything may be yours please collect from the Sacristy. If not claimed we will have to dispose of them.

ANTIQUES VALUING last weekend was a great success with lots of interest. Thanks to everyone who came, who helped and baked cakes. A profit of £438.50 was made and a good time was had by all.

CHRISTIAN AID Coffee Morning on Saturday 4th May in St Mary's Hall (Sabden) from 10am - 12noon. Please support

HAVE YOU READ THIS NOTICE?

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