

Dear Parishioners

Today is Home Mission Sunday and it highlights what should be a deep concern for each of us. It's estimated that while there are around one million churchgoing Catholics in England and Wales, there are at least four million who rarely or never visit a church except for funerals; those whom we variously describe as lapsed, resting or non-practicing. In response to this, the Bishops of England and Wales invite all parishes today to recognise this alarming situation and make it a special priority this coming year to make contact, to invite and encourage non-churchgoing Catholics to return to practice.

While lapsing is not new within the Catholic community, it has increased markedly in recent years and the worry and anxiety experienced by parents, grandparents, other family members and friends of non-churchgoing Catholics, is deep and heartfelt. I'm sure that we each hold in our heart and prayer at least one person in our family who seems disconnected from the life of the Church. Today we remember them in a very special way and also in prayer bring before the Lord the wider work of evangelisation in our land.

There are leaflets available as you leave church. The smaller one (With Pope Francis on the front) offer general information to practicing Catholics. The larger: *Catholic and have lost touch?* is for you to take if you have a person specifically in mind and to pass it on to them.

Prayer

Loving Father, whose arms are always open to welcome us home, we bring before you all those that we know who are non-churchgoing Catholics. (Here recall the names of those you know) We ask that you bless them abundantly and ignite in their hearts, and in ours, a desire to seek your love.

Through Christ your Son, show us how we might lovingly reach out to non-churchgoing Catholics, especially those closest to us. May the Holy Spirit guide them on your path and help us to see how we might support them on their faith journey.

Remove anything from our paths that prevents us from drawing close to one another and to your loving embrace.

May we experience the joy of knowing that we all are your beloved sons and daughters, churchgoing or not, and give us the confidence to witness to your Son, who is the source of our life and our hope. Amen.

A new **RCIA** programme begins a week on Thursday, 26th September, in the Presbytery at 8pm for one hour. I know of four candidates interested in joining the church, but please feel welcome to join us if you want to increase your knowledge of our faith. Consider also encouraging someone who has been away from practice to come along. Invite them! *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

Assistant Priest: Fr Frankie Mulgrew

24th Sunday in Ordinary time - 15th September 2013

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by coffee

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 9.15am & 7.30pm

Friday

Mass at 9am

11am Funeral Service - Ken Carden
1.15pm Funeral Service - Peter Holgate

Saturday (21st September)

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

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am **Friday** - Mass at 9.15am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Special Intentions, Frances & Graham Ellis, Suzanne Brown,
Mary Bishop, Special intention, Betty Brown

SICK

Sally Hickling, Peter Wright, George Weld-Blundell, Pat Pozzi,
Mary Shepherd, Breda Powell, Teresa Tomlinson, Monica Hargreaves

LATELY DEAD

Mary Bishop, Ken Carden, Peter Holgate

**This weekend there will be a quarterly collection for the S.V.P.
Next Sunday there will be a collection for Home Mission Sunday**

The parish office will be open Tuesday but closed Thursday this coming week

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £768.50 Sabden £168.11 Many thanks

RACIAL JUSTICE Clitheroe £224.72 Sabden £45.21 Many thanks

FOOD BANK We are always grateful for donations of dry and tinned goods - see list in porch. If you can help us by donating food at the St Michael & St John's collection point, or bringing it to the foodbank at Trinity Church on one of the days we are open (Mon, Wed, Fri 11am - 1.30pm) or to one of the collection points in town e.g. Ribble Valley Homes, Library, Barclays and Skipton Building Society

OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM Feast will be celebrated in Salford Cathedral on Tuesday 24th September at 7.30pm (Rosary & Confession 7pm). Celebrant: Canon McBride. Refreshments after Mass. All welcome

2nd ROSSENDALE SCOUT CONCERT BAND at Waddington Methodist Church Saturday 21st September. Please see poster in porch for more details.

LADYEWELL Feast Day of Our Lady of Walsingham, Tuesday 24th September. Devotions begin with Mass at 12noon

CAFOD 'How lovely to think that no one need wait a moment, we can start now, slowly changing the world! How lovely that everyone, great and small, can make their contribution toward introducing justice straight away. And you can always give something, even if it is only kindness!' - *Anne Frank, Diary of a young girl.*

FINANCE COMMITTEE please meet Tuesday 7.30pm in Presbytery

THREE WITNESSES - a modern retelling of the Gospel of Luke written & produced by Saltmine and UCCF (Universities & Colleges Christian Fellowship), and performed by Tuesday 15th October 7.30pm at The Grand. £5 to book call 01200 421599 and see poster in porch



H.C.P.T.SPONSORED WALK

This year our annual sponsored walk will take place on **SUNDAY 29th SEPTEMBER**. It will start at 1.30pm from church. As a result of the terrible floods in Lourdes earlier in the year much of the equipment used by H.C.P.T. and stored in the cellars there were destroyed. This equipment will need to be replaced and so we are asking you this year and help us raise even more money. Both Fr John and Fr Frankie will be walking. Sponsorship forms will be available this weekend from Arnold Marsden.

ST MARY'S CENTRE Harvest Ceilidh

Friday 20th September from 7.30pm. Live band - Frolicking Pete and the Fumbling Fingers. £5 (£2.50 extra for Pie & Peas supper). All proceeds from this event go to the Foodbank. See poster in porch

PRESENTATION EVENING & PARISH SOCIAL

All parishioners are invited to come along to welcome Fr Frankie and to say goodbye to Vincent at this special event on **Friday 27th September at 7.30pm** in our Parish Hall.

Our Ladies Group are catering and would be grateful of donations of cakes or desserts - trifle, cheesecake, fruit pies etc for this event
Thankyou



Rota 21/22 Sept	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	A.Harkin	M.Swales & T.O'Donnell
Readers	V.Murray	K.Downes
Euch Min	B.Worden & M.Preedy	J.Hall, S.Hall, R.Embery
Tea & Coffee		L & B Collinson

Please note: the rota above does not take into account any changes made by individuals

YEAR OF FAITH Wednesday 2nd October - an evening with Canon Dr Jeremy Duff - 'An introduction to the Book of Revelation' and Tuesday 8th October an evening with Fr Denis McBride - 'The Power of Parables'. Venue - St Gabriel's RC High School Bury. More details on poster in porch

CLITHEROE

LADIES GROUP Kendal trip 19th Sept. THIS TRIP IS NOW FULLY BOOKED. Coach leaves Interchange 8.45am and will arrive back in Clitheroe 5.30pm - 6pm.

SUPER SAUSAGE SIZZLING SUPPER (SABDEN) tickets available from Janet
LADIES GROUP next meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 25th September - CRYSTAL POWER - FACT OR FICTION? A talk with Mr Robert W Wood. £2 including refreshments.

TEA DANCE next Wednesday 18th September 2pm - 5pm in our Parish Hall

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

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING at St Paul's, Low Moor Saturday 28 September 10am - 12noon. Contact Christine Willman 01200 423573 See poster

BAPTISM We welcome Kornelia Maya Zyemuntowicz baptised last Sunday

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 5 Jane Davies

FLOWER FESTIVAL To celebrate the re-opening of St Nicholas Church, - Friday 11th October Preview Evening and Earby Brass Band Concert. Tickets £10. Festival on 12/13 October plus Local Arts & Crafts 11am - 5pm. Admission £4 - Home Made Refreshments. We have been asked to contribute to the Flower Festival. There will be a box in the porch for any donations. Please help if you can.

SUPER SAUSAGE SIZZLING SUPPER Wednesday September 25th in St Mary's Hall Bangers and Mash supper from Burnley sausage supremo George Heys. Who has created sausages for royalty, football clubs and special events, and he will be creating one just for us. The jolly butcher and his boys will then entertain with his sausage making skills and amusing anecdotes. Tickets £6 on sale at the back of church or from Margaret Waling, Margaret Parsons, Kay Galea or Jean Haythornthwaite. Starts 7pm for 7.15pm Tickets also from Janet at Clitheroe

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - VARIETY CONCERT with the 50 Something Theatre Company, Thursday November 14th at 7.30pm. All types of songs from popular tunes to operatic arias along with comedy sketches and much more.