

Dear Partshtoners.

I wanted to share with you an inspiring testimony from Bishop Paul S. Loverde of Arlington, Virginia in the United States. The accounts are personal and from the heart. It was part of a pastoral letter, which he wrote on the Feast of Christ the King last November (at the end of the Year of Faith). The pastoral letter was entitled "Go Forth With Hearts on Fire", and below are extracts taken from the letter in Bishop Loverde's own words.

"I share with you a very personal experience of Christ which occurred just several years ago, decades into my life as a priest and bishop. Without a doubt, I have understood, accepted, and experienced in many ways the love of Jesus for me precisely as a disciple, priest, and bishop. However, there was always a kind of glass wall in terms of experiencing His love. It was as if I could see Him through the wall, and He could presumably see me, but I did not experience His love to the depth that I so desired. That was not His fault, but mine: somehow, I was not receptive enough.

Then, during a silent eight-day retreat with a group of fellow bishops, the retreat director suggested that I bring these passages from Isaiah before the Lord in lectio divina and prayer:

"Because you are precious In my eyes and honoured, and I love you.
Fear not, I am with you... Do not fear, I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine." (Is 43:2,4-5)

It was during prayer with these texts that the Lord allowed this glass wall to suddenly and unexpectedly shatter! I cannot express in words how profoundly I was touched. I knew without a doubt that He loves me. I was grateful beyond words! I recalled an antiphon from Morning Prayer for the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart: "My son, give me your heart; note carefully the way I point to you." As a result of His great mercy towards me, I live in a new way, not perfectly and not without all the struggles of daily life, but with an inner conviction that I cannot deny or ever forget. This experience can also be yours!"

And a few final words of encouragement from our last Holy Father along the same theme "Faith is above all a personal, intimate encounter with Jesus, and to experience his closeness, his friendship, his love; only in this way does one learn to know him ever more, and to love and follow him ever more. May this happen to each one of us." Pope Benedict XVI (General Audience 21/10/09)

Fr Frankle

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden

Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 1AG

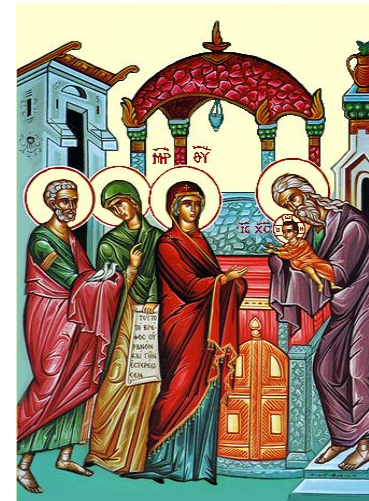
Tel 01200 423307 website: olotv.org.uk

Email: smsj@btinternet.com Parish Priest: Mgr John Corcoran RD

Assistant Priest: Fr Frankie Mulgrew

The Presentation of the Lord - 2 February 2014

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

Friday

Eucharistic Service 9am

Saturday 8th February

11am – 11.55am Exposition
11am – 11.45am Reconciliation
12noon – Eucharistic Service
6pm – First Mass of Sunday

St Mary's Church, Sabden

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

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Peter Zakrzewski, Margaret McKenna, Ann Wharton, Mary Cushion
Jimmy & May Redhead, Hugh Capstick

SICK

Sally Hickling, Teresa Tomlinson, Peter Wright, Nigel Winnard,
Pat Shepherd, Bob Morrison, Eileen Duggan

LATELY DEAD

Peter Zakrzewski, Hugh Capstick

ANNIVERSARIES

Stanislaw Barnowski, Margaret McKenna, Ann Wharton,
Mary Cushion, Jimmy & May Redhead

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £673.22 Sabden £199.67 S/Orders £201 Many thanks

R.C.I.A.

This coming Thursday in the presbytery after the 7.30pm Mass

JOHN BELL a unique opportunity to meet and hear the renowned author, hymn/song-writer, preacher and broadcaster - the Rev'd John Bell of the Iona community at Christ Church, Chatburn on Saturday 8th February 10am - 4pm. No charge for any part of the day, lunch included, but donations will be appreciated. No need to book (except for lunch - we need to know for catering). Contact Canon Rodney Nicholson on 01200 458019 or email rodnic03@gmail.com. See poster in porch for more details

WANTED anyone out there have a laptop they no longer use or want? . It could be put to good use by the Salvation Army (if it is not broken or needs repair it can still be of use) who now run G62 an initiative that provides a walk-in service to support those who are trying to break the cycle of unemployment. They provide free wi-fi Internet access and use of laptops for job searching or benefit claims as well as CV's or any other job related information. Please ring Elizabeth 07709 351394 or Brenda 07709 352383

TECHIE HEAVEN A relaxed technology based group for young people aged 11-17 with opportunities for hands on IT activities on Fridays in term time 7pm - 9pm at St Mary's Centre (entrance off York Street) www.techieheaven.co.uk See poster in porch

FOOD BANK now known as Ribble Valley Foodbank. There are now two centres - Trinity Church Clitheroe and St Paul's Longridge, which was opened recently. Around 5600 meals were distributed and 620 people fed between July 13 and January 14. A permanent collection point has been set up in Tesco's and they will top up everything collected by 30% cash. Thanks to all who faithfully donate food. Please note that at the moment they have enough soup, beans and pasta but are running low on fruit juice, baby hygiene items and tinned peas/carrots.

SALTMINE On 11 February the Saltmine Theatre Company present 'Eden 2 Eternity' to local high schools. It lasts just over an hour and brings the story of the bible to life - flyers will be available shortly. The production takes place during the day but it has now been opened up to beyond school audiences to those who may be free during the day. Tuesday 11th February £4 - see poster in porch

ANNUAL PARISH DINNER in our Parish Hall on SATURDAY 1st MARCH - £17.50 per person Tickets will be on sale after Mass this weekend, next weekend or from Carol 426769, Les 427029, Daphne 427912 or Roseline 425503, Susan 01282 422455 Or from the presbytery. Three course meal plus music for all types of dancing. Details of menu choices on poster in porch

SANDYMOUNT RETREAT HOUSE (Crosby Promenade) February Workshop 'Understanding and Managing Stress. Phone 0151 924 4850 for more information

K.S.C. VALENTINE DANCE Friday 14th February - Dancing to John Lancaster Tickets £6 which includes Hot Pot Supper. Tickets from Les 427029 or Arnold 427096

CLITHEROE

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

RAFTING THE GRAND CANYON an invitation for Friday 7th February, with Stuart and Anita Kellington at Trinity Methodist Church. Cost £5 payable at the door including refreshments.

Rota Feb 8/9	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	A.Harkin	A & J Marsden
Readers	C.McGuire	P.Donnely
Euch Min	M.Illingworth & A.Southworth	S.Hall, J.Hall, R.Embery
Tea/Coffee		P & A Geldard

JIMMY CRICKET LAUGHTER SHOW organised by our Ladies Group and held last Friday raised £2,250 for the charity Mary's Meals. All raffle prizes now claimed.

SALTMINE On 11 February the Saltmine Theatre Company present 'Eden 2 Eternity' to local high schools. It lasts just over an hour and brings the story of the bible to life - flyers will be available shortly. The production takes place during the day but it has now been opened up to beyond school audiences to those who may be free during the day. Tuesday 11th February £4 - see poster in porch

ST JOSEPH'S PENNY celebrates its 110th anniversary this coming Lent. We need volunteers to speak to school pupils as well as parishes - anyone interested - see poster in porch

PARISH DRAW WINNERS - JANUARY

£100 - 19 A Marsden, £25 -162- S Clark, £10 - 166 R Conti, 188 G.Gorrighan, 40 C.Astin, 33 M.Walmsley, 178 G.Fellows Please collect prizes from your agent.

LADIES GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 10th February 7.30pm in presbytery **CARITAS** are seeking to recruit NURSES and CARE STAFF for its new project in South Manchester for young adults with disabilities and life limiting conditions. Full details

www.caritassalford.org.uk/jobs or from Sam Johnson 0161 817 2250

ROSARY OF THE UNBORN

Will be said after Mass/Service each morning this week. Everyone welcome to join in. Our Lady of Guadalupe Pray for us

A BIG THANKYOU to the Ladies Group for organising the Jimmy Cricket Laughter Show last Friday. A great night! A grateful parishioner.

FREE We have a few new HP Inkjet cartridges no's 56, 58 and 338 going free. See Janet in office

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 11 A & C Brown

HALL KEY the Key for hall still missing. Please can everyone have another look before we go down the route of changing the lock

St Mary's, Sabden present

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK



from the New Village Folk, with every member of the cast/production team except for one being from the village.

in St Mary's Community Hall on

**Thursday 27th, Friday 28th February 7.15pm
Saturday 1st March at 2pm & 7.15pm**

Tickets £10 (£8 concessions)
evening performances - £5 Matinee

Tickets (price includes Potato Pie supper) from Margaret Parsons 01282 778652/078011 95897

Diane Collinson 07944 868088
Jean Haythornthwaite 01282 772270

Bring your own drinks along (except for matinee)