

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend I wanted to tell you about my favourite saint – St Catherine of Siena.

Catherine was born in the year 1347 and lived till 1380. She was born the youngest of a very large family. From early on in her life Catherine experienced visions and practiced penances. As early as the age of seven she consecrated her virginity to Christ and by 16 she had joined the third order of the Dominicans. Catherine had really desired to enter the Dominican convent but had felt God instruct her not to do so. For three years during her teenage years Catherine retreated to her room for intense prayer and mystical encounters with Christ, whereupon she emerged from her room to serve and assist her family, the sick, the poor and the un-churched. The era of the 14th century in which she lived, was a troubled time within the Church and socially. Her life was one spent dedicated to prayer and penance, serving others in charity. God recompensed her charity to the poor by many miracles, often multiplying provisions in her hands. When the fame of her sanctity started to spread, she was inundated as a spiritual guide personally and through her letters to people of all position; politicians, nobles, ordinary people, artists, religious, etc, the most notable being Pope Gregory XI who responded to her challenge to go back to Rome and leave his exile in Avignon.

Back then there was severe unrest not only within the Church itself, but between Church and state leading to a civil war between Florence and the Papal states. Catherine travelled a lot in order to try and encourage reconciliation and peaceable solutions even risking her own life.

Another renowned characteristic she was famous for, was when hardened sinners would come to her aggressively and angry, but at the mere sight of her, and looking into her eyes which had such depth of love for them, they would be converted. In fact three Dominican Priests were commissioned by Pope Gregory XI, to hear the confessions at Siena, of those who were induced by the saint to enter upon a change of life; these priests were occupied, day and night, in hearing the confessions of many who had never confessed before. Most notably two famous assassins going to die with blasphemies in their mouths, and in the transports of rage and despair, were suddenly converted and repented in their last moments, by the saint's prayers.

Catherine wrote her greatest spiritual work, 'The Dialogue,' (still available today) in which through prayer, she had a conversation with God – were she petitioned Him, and shared the mystical revelations she received back. Through this and her other notable writings she became a Doctor of the Church. And in 1999 she was made co-patroness of Europe by Blessed John Paul II, who quoted one of her most famous lines during his Pontificate 'If you are what you're meant to be you'll set the whole world on fire.'

Fr Frankie

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden

Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 1AG

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Frankie Mulgrew

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 9 February 2014

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday, Tuesday

Mass at 9am

Wednesday

Eucharistic Service 9am

Reception 7pm - Mary Preedy

Thursday

Requiem Mass 10.30am Mary Preedy

Mass at 7.30pm

Friday

Eucharistic Service 9am

Saturday 15th 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

Stella Mason, Kate McConnell, Mick Cush, Pat Shepherd, Mrs Slezak, John Carty, Monica & Harry Wiggans, Betty Cornwell, Special intention

SICK

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

LATELY DEAD

Mary Preedy, Kate McConnell, Mick Cush, Mrs Slezak, John Carty

ANNIVERSARIES

Stella Mason, Peter Hardwick, Monica & Harry Wiggans

**There will be a retiring collection at all masses next weekend for
The St Barnabas Society**

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £682.21 Sabden £191.35 S/Orders £201 Many thanks

R.C.I.A.

This coming Thursday in the presbytery after the 7.30pm Mass

WANTED The Salvation Army in Clitheroe now run a G62Club which is helping the jobless fill in online applications and other matters. They wish to appeal for any redundant laptops in any condition working or not - they do not need to be 'good'. Please ring Elizabeth 07709 351394 or Brenda 07709 352383 if you can help. There are currently more people needing help than there are computer places.

FURNITURE STORE from time to time we have enquiries from people wishing to dispose of furniture. There is now a facility for used furniture through Open Doors in Burnley ☎ 01282 452400

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. 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

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 At present we have an excellent supply of baked beans, pasta and soup but are running low on fruit juice, baby hygiene items and tinned peas/carrots. Many thanks for your generosity and continued support.

ANNUAL PARISH DINNER in our Parish Hall on SATURDAY 1st MARCH - £17.50 per person Tickets will be on sale after Mass this 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

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

CAFOD The group will be running a stall at the Hurst Green Flea Market in the Village Memorial Hall on Sunday 23 February 9am - 4pm. Refreshments available all day.

TEA DANCE Wednesday 19th February in our Parish Hall 2pm - 5pm. Come and enjoy meeting up with friends and enjoy an afternoon of dancing. £3.50 which includes Pie and Peas.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES The 2014/15 envelopes are now ready for collection. They are in alphabetical order on the table in front of the Sacristy door in Clitheroe or from the porch in Sabden.

REIGNITE calling all 16-35yr olds for an exciting, engaging, retreat event - **Reignite!** with great feedback from the young people who have attended previously, with just the right balance of spirituality, prayer and fun. This next event will take place on Saturday 1st March, 10.30am-4pm at St Josephs, Audley Range, Blackburn, BB1 1TG. Including great speakers, Mass, quiet/reflective time, group work, activities, and much much more. For more info or to book your place go (under 18's just need to apply for a consent form.) to reignite@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

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

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. Please note the appeal for volunteers ends 10th February - tomorrow!!

CLITHEROE

Rota Feb 15/16	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	J.Bentley	M.Swales & T.O'Donnell
Readers	A.McGuire	M.Barrett
Euch Min	T.Woodhead & B.Taylor	G.Lambert, C.Leeming, A.Marsden
Tea/Coffee		S.V.P.

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

LADIES GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 10th February 7.30pm in presbytery

FREE We have a TWO new HP Inkjet cartridges no 338 going free. See Janet in office

K.S.C. Council meeting this coming Tuesday 11th February at 7.30pm in the presbytery

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER This year will take place on Friday 7th March here at St Michael & St John's at 7.30pm more details later.

DOES GOD LOL We have now got some more copies of Fr Frankie's book - Does God LOL Cost £7.99. Please put money in CTS box (see below for Sabden)

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner NO 29 D.Bromley

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

CAR PARK BARRIER The new barrier is now installed. It will be kept locked between Mass and other events. Key available on request.

FUND RAISING There will be a meeting on Tuesday 4th March at 7.30pm for fund raising and other events. Please come and pool your ideas.

If anyone wants a copy of Fr Frankie's book please let him know or ring Janet 01200 423307. If no reply please leave a message on answer-phone

St Mary's, Sabden present

JACK AND THE BEAN-



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 or 078011 95897

Diane Collinson 07944 868088

Jean Haythornthwaite 01282 772270

Bring your own drinks along (except for matinee)