

## Dear Parishioners

During a recent homily based on the Gospel of Nicodemus meeting Jesus at night, Pope Francis proposed three marks of a "people reborn," which characterized the early Christian community. He said then as now a Christian community should be characterized by interior unity, witness of Christ, and care of its members.

He spoke of the "rebirth from on high" in the Holy Spirit, who gave life to the first group of "new Christians" "They had one heart and mind," the Pope said, and so were a community in peace. "This means that in this community there was no room for gossip, envy, calumnies, defamation. Rather peace and forgiveness: 'Love covered everything.'"

Francis stressed the importance of today's Christians' attitudes: "Are they meek, humble? Do they vie for power between each other in their community? Are there envious quarrels? Is there gossip? [Then] they are not on the path of Jesus Christ. This feature is so important, so important, because the devil always tries to divide us. He is the father of division."

But he also recognised that problems existed even for the first Christians. He recalled "the infighting, the doctrinal struggles, power struggles." As an example of this he pointed to the widows who complained of a lack of assistance so that the Apostles "had to create deacons."

Pope Francis proposed a reflection for today's Christian communities: "Does this community give witness to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ? Does this parish, this community, this diocese really believe that Jesus Christ is Risen?"

He went on to describe the third characteristic which measures the life of a Christian community: their care for the poor. "What is your attitude or the attitude of this community toward the poor?" he asked. "Second, is this community poor? Poor in heart, poor in spirit? Or does it place its trust in riches, in power?"

"Harmony, witness, poverty and care for the poor. This is what Jesus explained to Nicodemus: This comes from above. Because the only one who can do this is the Holy Spirit," the Pope concluded. "This is the work of the Spirit. The Church is built up by the Spirit. The Spirit creates unity. The Spirit leads us to witness. The Spirit makes us poor, because He is our wealth and leads us to care for the poor."

*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

## 3rd Sunday of Easter - 4th May 2014

### St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



#### Sunday

Mass at 9.30am  
followed by Coffee

#### Monday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

#### Tuesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

#### Wednesday

Requiem 12.45pm Trevor Wilson

#### Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

#### SATURDAY (10th May)

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    **Wednesday** - Mass at 9.15am

#### Masses received this week

Florence Jean Gloag, Ronnie Foster, Philip Morris, Trevor Wilson x 7

#### SICK

Peter Wright, Fr Peter Birmingham, Maria Middleton,  
John McGough, John Lofthouse, Margaret Regan

#### LATELY DEAD

Philip Morris, Trevor Wilson, Ronnie Foster, Florence Joan Gloag

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

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £729.36 Sabden £127.24 S/Orders £194 Many thanks

**Should you wish to Gift Aid your weekly offertory and would like a set of envelopes ring Janet 01200 423307 ext 3 or mention it to Fr John or Fr Frankie**

**WANTED - CLEANER** for our Parish Centre (Clitheroe) as soon as possible, to work Sunday mornings from 7am for 4 hours. Must be trustworthy, honest and reliable. This position involves moving chairs and tables about, so the applicant needs to be fairly fit and healthy. More details please contact Theresa ( 01200 423073

**LADIES GROUP** . We still have a few spare seats for the Leyburn trip which is on Wednesday 14th May. We also have some spare seats on the coach for the Afternoon Matinee Music Hall starring Jimmy Cricket - we are ordering the tickets tomorrow morning, so if you are still interested let us know - this is your last chance. We are also taking names for all the other trips during the year - please let Daphne 01200 427912 or Janet 01200 423307 ext 3 know if you wish to join us.

**NBCW (NATIONAL BOARD OF CATHOLIC WOMEN)** We are invited to join the first event organised by the newly formed NBCW in Salford Diocese NEXT Saturday 10th May at St Sebastian's Hall, Douglas Green, Salford. This will take the form of a day of reflection on Pope Francis' letter - 'The Joy of the Gospel'. Details in porch

**CAFOD** Join team CAFOD at the Pennine Lancashire 10k this June. Run for All Pennine Lancashire 10k from Burnley City Centre Sunday 22 June 2014. Please see poster in porch for details or website runforall.com

**FIRST WORLD WAR COMMEMORATIONS** On 4 August Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will lead the nation in commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of WW1. Many church communities in the Ribble Valley will want to mark the centenary and honour the fallen too. These commemorations will be held over four years until 11 November 2018. In order to support and sustain any events it has been suggested a small group come together and share and plan them. We hope that a few from each church would be willing to come to a meeting which has been arranged for Tuesday 6 May at 7.30pm in Text House, Edisford Road. Please see Janet or ring her/leave a message on 01200 423307 ext 3 if you are interested.

**FOOD POVERTY CONFERENCE** 'Feed a Friend' food poverty conference to be held at St Mary's Centre NEXT Saturday 10 May at 9.30am will cover food poverty at home and abroad marking the beginning of Christian Aid week. 'Feed a Friend' will start with findings about food poverty locally from Ruth Haldane, the manager of the Ribble Valley Foodbank. See poster or visit [www.feedafriend.co.uk](http://www.feedafriend.co.uk) Sue Shepherd 425053. Light lunch for which offers of homemade soup would be most welcome.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S ART EXHIBITION TUESDAY** 13 May 4pm - 6pm at Whalley Library. See poster in porch

**CARITAS** Two job vacancies - Fundraising Manager and Charity Shop manager - see poster in porch

**ST AUGUSTINES GOLDEN JUBILEE PARTY** Saturday 21st June 7pm til midnight Live Music - Bar - Food available. Over 18's - Dress: Smart/Casual. Tickets are available from school £10 or go to [www.sarchs.com](http://www.sarchs.com) for details or email [info@sarchs.com](mailto:info@sarchs.com).

**MASS OF HEALING** Sunday 18th May at 2pm. Forms for this mass are available at the back of church. Completed forms should be placed in the box in church by Wednesday 14th May. Thankyou

**CATHOLIC SINGLES** an organisation which helps single adult Catholics to all ages meet, either one to one or through social events. Please tel 0161 941 3498 or visit [www.catholicsingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicsingles.org.uk) or email [info@catholicsingles.org.uk](mailto:info@catholicsingles.org.uk)

### **CLITHEROE**

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

**CHRISTIAN AID** May 11 - 17th. Envelopes can be collected this coming week from the presbytery for those who have volunteered.

**BAPTISM** We welcome Joseph Tobias Addy who was baptised last Sunday  
**TABOR RETREAT HOUSE** 'Exploring the questions' - a series of sessions available October/November 2014 - pick up a leaflet from porch. Early booking is advisable.

**ROSARY OF THE UNBORN** will be said after morning Mass/Service this week for all Pro-Life intentions. Our Lady of Guadalupe Pray for us

**PARISH DRAW WINNERS APRIL** £100 - 24 M.Carr, £25 - 283 M.Parsons, £10 236 M.Sellers, 263 Mrs Wrigley, 12 B.Calvert, 169 R.Dewhurst, 152 N.Berry. Winners please collect their winnings from their agent. See poster in porch

May 10th /11th	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	J.Bentley	R & C Conti
Readers	F.Bird	J.Hennigan
Eucharistic Ministers	F.Ellis	E.Thomson, I.Parkes, P.Donnely
Tea & Coffee		P & A Geldard & B.Barker

### **SABDEN**

**BONUS BALL** this weeks winner No 12 V.Robson

**CHRISTIAN AID** Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy in St Mary's Community Hall NEXT Saturday 10 May 10am - 12noon. Home made refreshments, raffle and tombola. Stalls will sell cakes, books, plants, bring & buy and there will be new jewellery, handbags and scarves by 'Goldilocks'. Admission £2 inc refreshments. Donations of raffle and tombola prizes or for any of the stalls can be given to either Betty Clarkson, Ann Barker or Margaret Parsons would be very much appreciated. Last year's effort for Christian Aid was very disappointing so please help if you can by going along on the day.

**CARDS** First Holy Communion cards for sale from the rack in the porch.

**NEW CRIB FIGURES** Jesus, Mary & Joseph have already been donated, so if you would like to donate towards the rest or sponsor a figure there is a red box in the porch for this, or if you have any ideas for fund raising please let us know.

**There will be the opportunity to buy Confirmation Cards, Holy Communion cards and gifts (e.g. Rosaries) after Mass on a Sunday (date to be decided) during May,**