

Dear Parishioners

Bishop Declan Lang on behalf of our catholic Bishops' Conference has appealed on behalf of the persecuted Christians of Iraq.

I invite you to join with people from across Iraq in praying for an end to the violent persecution that threatens to extinguish the ancient Iraqi Christian community. Bishops in Iraq have selected today as a day of prayer.

Events in Iraq over the past few weeks have been disastrous. Christians have been systematically driven out of Mosul. A community of 60,000 before 2003 has dwindled over the years and is now down to almost nothing. For the first time in 1,600 years, no Masses are being celebrated in Mosul. Many Christians have fled to the surrounding Nineveh Plains and into Kurdistan as militants from the Islamic State, formerly the Islamic State of the Levant (ISIS), threaten those who do not subscribe to their fundamentalist ideology.

We are witnessing today an act of religious and ethnic cleansing toward Christians as well as other minority communities, as extremists drive people out of the lands that have been their home for thousands of years. Some churches have been converted into mosques, ancient monasteries lie abandoned and the homes of Christians have been daubed with signs that would mark them out as a target for the extremists.

I call on our government and those of other states to prioritise action to save the Christian and other persecuted communities of Iraq and to offer them the help and support they need urgently.

I invite the Catholic community to support Aid to the Church in Need as well as all other Catholic charities offering emergency and pastoral support to Iraqis at a time of great crisis.

Most important of all, I appeal for your prayers so that God may show the people of Iraq his infinite mercy: comfort the mourners, bind up their wounds and heal the broken-hearted in those biblical lands that have been a cradle of civilisation.

Prayer for Christians of Iraq

Lord, the plight of our country is deep and the suffering of the Christians is heavy and frightening us, therefore we ask you Lord to assign our lives, grant us patience and courage to continue to witness our Christian values with trust and hope.

Lord, peace is base of any life; give us peace and stability to live with each other without fear, anxiety, with dignity and joy, glory to you forever.

† Louis Raphael I Sako
Chaldean Catholic Patriarch

There will be a voluntary collection after Mass,

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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 10th August 2014

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe

Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Wednesday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Eucharistic Service at 7.30pm

Friday - The Assumption

Mass at 9.15am & 7.30pm



SATURDAY (16th August)

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 followed by Coffee **Friday** - Assumption Mass at 11am

---000000---

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Monica Blockeel, Special Intention, Margaret Batts, Elsie Simpson, Ann Wharton

SICK

Fr Peter Birmingham, John Lofthouse, Peter Wright

ANNIVERSARIES

Monica Blockeel, Margaret Batts, Elsie Simpson

Holy Day Friday 15th August - The Assumption

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £714.36 Sabden £112.59 S/Orders £194 Many thanks
Thankyou to St Martin-de-Porres for prayers answered

LADIES GROUP Our annual **TREASURE HUNT** on Wednesday 27th August to Skip-ton - cost including supper (menu's available from porch) £13. Our next coach trip is to **LITTLE MORETON HALL/STOKE ON TRENT** on Wednesday 22nd October - cost £20 or £13 (National Trust member) which Includes guided tour of the hall & tip for the driver. Please give your names and money to either Daphne or Janet. On Wednesday 11th February 2015 we are planning a coach trip to Manchester for shopping or whatever you want to do. The musical TOP HAT is on tour so if anyone would like to go to the matinee performance on that day the cost is approx £45 (which does not include the coach fare) Please give in your names to either Janet or Daphne by TODAY Sunday 10th August



WATER AID In support of the charity Water Aid we are holding a Ballroom and Sequence Dance, Music by Rex, on Friday September 5th in our Parish Centre from 7.30pm. Tickets £8.50 including a hot supper are available from the Centre - please ring 01200 423073.

WALSINGHAM Members of the Blackburn Branch of the Walsingham Association will be visiting our parish to join us for a Eucharistic Service on the eve of the Assumption, next Thursday 14th August at 7.30pm. Afterwards light refreshments will be available in the presbytery, large end room. The Branch's annual pilgrimage to Walsingham in 2015 will take place May 19th - 21st. Cost from £150 per person for Standard room. Non-returnable deposit £50. Bookings will be taken on the night or by ringing Vincent on 01254 209101. Come to honour Our Lady, both at the Eucharistic Service and on the pilgrimage.

CATENIAN ROSARY GROUP are appealing for Rosary beads. We send Rosaries to Aborigines in Australia and to Third World countries in Africa and the Pacific To date we have sent 100,000 rosaries but many more are needed. Please either send any rosaries to John Riley, 112 Lonsdale Rd, Bolton or hand them in at the presbytery. Thankyou

JOYFUL NOISE Monday 18th August. Joyful Noise is a group of people from Chatburn, Clitheroe and surrounding villages who meet fortnightly simply for the pleasure of singing hymns old and new. On 18th August from 7.30pm to 9.30pm we will be meeting for the first time at St Michael & St John's. Joyful Noise is not a choir, just people who enjoy a good sing. You are cordially invited to come along and sing your favourite hymns. Light refreshments provided. For more information ring Kevin Downes on 01200 443341

TEA DANCE Wednesday 20th August in our Parish Hall 2pm - 5pm. Come and enjoy meeting up with friends and enjoy an afternoon of dancing. Still only £3.50 for a lovely afternoon tea

Our weekly newsletter is posted each week on the parish website, where you can find past newsletters and much more info about parish organisations and event

CEMETERY MASS



Our annual mass in St Joseph's cemetery for all deceased parishioners and clergy and for family and friends of those attending, will be a fortnight on Monday, the Bank Holiday, 25th August at 11am.

This year we shall remember especially all those from our parish who died in the First World War and other armed conflicts.

CARITAS JOB VACANCIES see posters in porch

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER August leaflets now available from the porch

MILK BOTTLE TOPS Thank you to everyone who brought in bottle tops for a child's wheelchair. We do not require any more - appeal now closed.

CLITHEROE

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

JIM BOWEN will be appearing in our Parish Centre on the afternoon of Thursday 14th August starting at 2pm. Licensed Bar. Tickets from Centre £4. See poster in porch

AUTUMN FAIR an Autumn Fayre will be held on Saturday 18th October. There will be a variety of stalls - Jewellery, Cakes, Preserves, Chutney, Woodcrafts, Paintings, Plants, Flowers, sweets, Craft items e.g. Knitted goods, Chocolates or any NEW unwanted gifts you may have. We are also hoping to have a **GIANT RAFFLE** and would appreciate offers to Sponsor (or partially sponsor) a significant 1st Prize or offers of other prizes. Please complete one of the forms you will find at the back of church with your offer of a prize and then place it in the box provided. We need to start selling tickets as soon as possible - Please contact Janet or Carol if you have any questions regarding this or with your offers of donations.

August 16/17th	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	M.Manning	B.Barker & C.Riley
Readers	J.Byrne	J.Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	B.Worden & M.Preedy	C.Morgan, S.Smith, B.Collinson
Tea & Coffee		S.V.P.

LADIES GROUP Committee meeting tomorrow evening at 7.30pm in the presbytery

K.S.C. COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the presbytery

UNWANTED BATTERIES Please note: it would help if you put used batteries 'loose' into the Parish Communications box - sometimes they come in round empty vitamin pill containers - from which the batteries are difficult to take out. Thankyou Also please note: we do not take 'hearing aid' batteries

ROTA'S Please let the Parish Office know if you wish to remain on either Welcoming, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers or Tea and Coffee rotas or indeed volunteer to go on one of them. We need to know by 13th September prior to the new one being drawn up.

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 25 J.Sharp

ST MARY'S HALL The new social committee has a line-up of events planned. First up a **Family Quiz and Fun Night** with music/disco on Friday September 19th at 7pm. Adults £5 children 50p. Supper inc but bring your own drinks. Friday October 24th sees a **Family Games Night** from 7pm. Free entry, just 50p to take part in each game i.e. pool, darts etc. Friday November 14th **Motown Night** from 8pm with bar. Admission £5. Saturday 6th December **Christmas Fair**. Friday December 12th **Christmas Concert** featuring soprano Grace O'Malley and other artistes. Sunday December 14th **Christmas Market** from 3pm. We need lots of raffle and tombola prizes for these events. If you can help please drop them off in the church porch. Thankyou