

Dear Parishioners,

We welcome back our school community to a new academic year.

As you are probably aware St Michael and St John's school is oversubscribed and no longer able to accommodate all the Catholic children living within its catchment area.

As a result of the increasing number of houses being built in Clitheroe this situation will grow more acute. So we must adapt to ensure that children who are unable to attend a Catholic school will have the opportunity of joining the diocesan preparation programme for the reception of First Holy Communion and the sacraments of Confirmation and Reconciliation.

A new programme will begin after a preliminary meeting with parents of children who attend both our school and other non-Catholic schools in the area and who wish their children in Year 3 (and above) to receive their first Holy Communion in June next year. At the meeting I shall explain the new arrangement which is outlined below and which is based on the principle that parents are their children's primary teachers of the faith. Parents must then apply in writing to join the course.

Excluding December, children and parents will attend a monthly 9.30 Sunday Mass and afterwards for half an hour children will meet with their catechists. Parents will meet with one of the priests. During the second period of half an hour parents will join their children and help them complete some simple exercises. Then the following Sunday all will attend the 9.30 Mass to celebrate some aspect of what they learned the previous week.

I do not hide the fact that this new arrangement will demand commitment and sacrifice on the part of both children and parents. Where that commitment is not made then the family will be asked to leave the programme.

During the past couple of years at both the Olympic and Commonwealth games we have seen something of the commitment and sacrifice made by the participating athletes, abled and disabled alike, in order to win a medal. During this important year as our children prepare to receive the greatest gift of all, the Eucharistic Body of Jesus himself, then they and their parents must be prepared to prioritise this programme above all other activities. The choice is theirs.

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden

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Tel 01200 423307 website: olov.org.uk

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Frankie Mulgrew

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31st August 2014

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday & Wednesday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

Friday

Mass at 9am

Funeral Service 11am - Mary Wilson

Saturday (6th September)

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 **Wednesday** - Mass at 9.15am

Thursday - Funeral Service 11am Elma Bywater

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Seamus Drain, Jim Story, June Holgate, Fr James Evans, Matthew Perrin
Alice & Patrick Emerson, Harold Bradley x 3, Margaret Egan x 2, Special intention

SICK

Fr Peter Birmingham, John Lofthouse, Peter Wright, Seamus Drain, Jim Story

LATELY DEAD

Harold Bradley, June Holgate, Gemma Hanson, Mary Wilson,
Margaret Egan, Elma Bywater

ANNIVERSARIES

Alice & Patrick Emerson,

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £737.27 Sabden £150.49 S/Orders £170.48 Many thanks

CHRISTIANS IN IRAQ APPEAL Clitheroe £332.04 Sabden £100.00

The total now has reached £1537. This is the last week you can donate in the boxes at the back of church.

LADIES GROUP 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 - only a few seats left **Please note could we please have the money in for this trip by Monday 15th September.** For those who put their names down for 'Top Hat', we have now purchased the tickets - £46.50 each. You can either pay in full or pay a deposit of £25 to either Daphne or Janet



WATER AID In support of the charity Water Aid we are holding a Ballroom and Sequence Dance, Music by Rex, NEXT 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.

CATENIAN ROSARY GROUP are appealing for Rosary beads. We send Rosaries to Aboriginals 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

INTERFAITH SERVICE In response to the dreadful suffering and violence caused by ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and Africa at the present time, Blackburn Cathedral is conducting a Universal Prayers for Peace Interfaith Service every Wednesday at 10.30am, through until the end of October, with the aim of unifying communities locally and sending out a signal of support to suffering groups around the world.

LOVE CLITHEROE BBQ Clitheroe Christians in Partnership (CCP) is arranging the 'Love Clitheroe Barbecue' and Funday on Saturday 13th September on the Castle Field 12noon - 3pm. We welcome help from volunteers to set up the stage, put up tents, welcomers and table hosts, people to give out leaflets in town, cook and serve food, and help with the various activities. If you wish to be involved, then please complete one of the forms that can be found at the back of church.

S.V.P. The quarterly collection for the Society will take place next weekend 6/7 September. Gift Aid envelopes will be distributed at masses this weekend to prepare for this. Please give generously.

JUMBLE SALE the K.S.C. will be holding their next Jumble Sale on Saturday 4th October at 2.30pm.

JOYFUL NOISE Tomorrow Monday 1st September at St Paul's, Low Moor at 7.30pm. Why not come along and join in the hymn singing.

MASS OF HEALING

SUNDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2pm

If you wish to come to this Mass please complete a form from the back of church available from this weekend.

This information is needed to arrange lifts and transfer from cars to hall and refreshment numbers.

Please return forms to box at the back of church by Tuesday 23rd September

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY H.C.P.T WALK Sunday October 5th

Please note: Could any items for next weeks newsletter please be in at the Parish Office by Thursday 9am. Thankyou

CLITHEROE

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

AUTUMN FAIR we are well on our way with arrangements and hope to have Raffle tickets on sale within the next two weeks. We are still taking donations for the raffle and would be grateful for home-made jams and preserves and soft toys (in good condition). Just drop off at the presbytery.

CHURCH FLOWER TEAM in preparation for the Autumn Fair we would be very grateful for unused artificial flowers and Christmas decorations that you no longer want. Please leave these at the presbytery as soon as possible.

Sept 6/7th	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	M.Valovin	A & J Marsden
Readers	A.Harkin	G.Lambert
Eucharistic Ministers	F.Ellis & Volunteer	J.Hall, S.Hall, R.Embery
Tea & Coffee		L & B Collinson

MUSLIM/CHRISTIAN INTERFAITH MEETING This Tuesday 2nd September 7.30pm - 9pm at The United Reformed Church.

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. We are always grateful for new volunteers.

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 45 J.Shorter

COFFEE MORNING at St Mary's Parish Hall on Saturday 4th October. Cake stall and Raffle. Tickets £1

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

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 events