

Dear Parishioners

Our Lady of the Valley is the first parish of the diocese to be visited by our new bishop. Bishop John will come next Sunday, to celebrate the 9.30am Mass in Clitheroe and then the 11oclock in Sabden.

Last Monday at his installation Bishop John preached without notes and everyone I spoke with was impressed by his style and what he said. He is a bishop very much in the style of Pope Francis.

Because Mass in Sabden will remain at the usual time Bishop John will not be able to meet many parishioners in Clitheroe but don't let that deter your attendance. He will be principle celebrant and will preach, so do come along and by your presence show him what an active and vibrant parish we are.

At the end of his installation he asked everyone to join him in a simple daily prayer: **Stay with us Lord on our journey.** I'm not too sure where this journey will take us but mark my words, Salford diocese is certainly going to move!

No doubt you have noticed the two glass lecterns in the sanctuary and I'm most grateful to Tony Hargan who drew the plan, ordered the reinforced glass, supplied the glaziers with the measurements and then assembled them. To have a similar lectern built (they can't be bought off the shelf) would cost over £1,200. Ours were built for only £250 each and one of them was paid for by a kind donor.

The Comedy and Carols evening was a huge success with the Radio Lancashire team impressed by the numbers who came on such a dreadful night. The comedians were very good (the local boy was given the loudest reception!) and the congregation sang wonderfully well, ably led by our music group. The retiring collection for Olive Aid raised £382. To listen to the programme, tune into Radio Lancashire at mid-day on Christmas Eve morning.

One of the comedians praised our church and then as he looked at the sanctuary commented: 'And this is where Gothic meets IKEA!' I don't need to mention that out of respect, the Blessed Sacrament had been removed from the Tabernacle.

Christmas cards, carrying the times of all Christmas week services will be delivered to all parishioners' homes. If by chance you don't receive one then it is because we don't know your address!

During these coming busy two weeks please remember to pause and sanctify each day by a few minutes of quiet prayer.

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden
Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 1AG

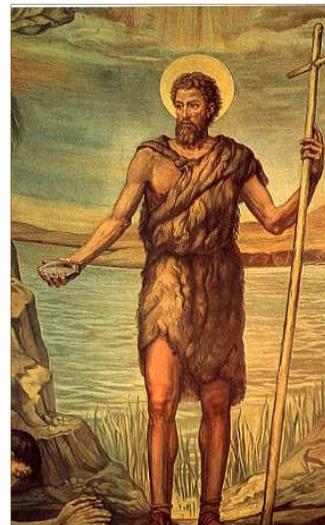
Tel 01200 423307 **website:** olotv.org.uk

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Frankie Mulgrew

Third Sunday of Advent - 14th December 2014

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am
followed by Coffee

Monday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

Saturday (20th December)

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

Thomas Glannon, Carol Turner x 4, Denis Schofield, Vivienne Tingle, Frances Whittaker, Maria Middleton, James Reid, Molly Walton x 2, Richard Embery, Private intention,

SICK

Fr Peter Birmingham, Fr Peter Knowles, Peter Wright, John Lofthouse, Joseph Bradley, Marie Haslam, Maria Middleton,

LATELY DEAD

Thomas Glannon, Reginald Leeming, Keith Rhodes, Peter Dickinson

ANNIVERSARIES

Richard Swarbrick, Frances Whittaker, Denis Schofield, James Reid, Richard Embery

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £771.57 Sabden £184.56 S.Orders £170.48 Many thanks **S.V.P.** A big thankyou to everyone who contributed to the collection which totalled £700.60 This will help a lot of needy families this Christmas.

CATHOLIC SINGLES Single, separated, widowed or divorced? See yellow poster **R.C.I.A.** Meetings continue on Thursday evenings 8pm in the presbytery.

ANN HARKIN (Safe Guarding Rep) will be available next Sunday 21st Dec at 12noon St Mary's, Sabden. She may also be contacted at anhark456@aol.com to arrange a meeting at another time.

MEDAILLE TRUST The latest edition (the Catholic Charity that provides safe houses for victims of human trafficking) now available in the church porch. Please take one.

JESUITS & FRIENDS Winter edition now free from church porches

K.S.C. ANNUAL FUN QUIZ on Monday 29th December 7.30pm start. Please telephone Les Collinson to book—we need to know for catering. Thankyou

COMEDY & CAROLS will be broadcast at mid-day on Christmas Eve on Radio Lancashire.

2015 ALMANACS Some people have been asking for a 2015 Almanac, but up to press they haven't been received. As soon as they are you will be informed and will be put out for sale.

CLITHEROE

URGENT We urgently require volunteers to join our depleting band of church cleaners, who spend an hour every Monday cleaning the church and the toilets. Please consider this appeal—one hour only. Fr John

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 CHRISTMAS MEAL Friday 23rd January at the Newdrop—3 course meal £21 Menu's are available from the porch. Please return menu choice and money to either Janet or Daphne by next Thursday 18th December

MISSIO (APF RED BOXES) Mission Calendars for 2015 are now available FREE from the church porch.

CHOIR NEXT SUNDAY The Youth Choir will be singing at 9.30am Mass next Sunday 21st December. The practice will be on Thursday 18th December in church 5.45pm—7.15pm. If anyone wishes to join us please come to the rehearsal. Further information contact GERALYNN LAMBERT 07919 151408, Sam Smith 07778 415366 or either Fr John or Fr Frankie.

2015 DIARIES have now arrived and are available at the back of church cost £1. Please put money in C.T.S. box on the wall

JOY TO THE WORLD 2014 TONIGHT SUNDAY at 6.30pm ST JAMES'S CHURCH



A celebration of Christmas and recalling events in 2014 in music, drama, dance and poetry including carols for everyone, featuring Ribble Valley Choir and Orchestra. This event is free to attend and will end around 7.45pm when refreshments will be served.

There will be a retiring collection for Christian Aid.

*All the Clitheroe churches
are involved*

CHRISTMAS CARDS Christmas Cards, etc are on sale at the back of church. Some cards have been reduced—a pack of 10 for only £1

ADVENT LUNCHEAS at The United Reformed Church each Tuesday throughout Advent. This weeks speaker—Andrew Whitehead. See poster in porch

Dec 20/21	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	M.Manning	D.Marsden & J.Byrne
Readers	A.Southworth	P.Sutcliffe
Eucharistic Ministers	A.Southworth & B.Taylor	C.Morgan, S.Smith, B.Collinson
Tea & Coffee		R & C Contin & E.Thomson

K.S.C. COUNCIL MEETING this coming Tuesday 16th December at 7.30pm in the presbytery

ST HUBERT'S DUNSOP BRIDGE Fr Chaloner thanks all who bought or sold raffle tickets—list of winners porch. The Raffle and Bingo evening raised £1815

LOVE CLITHEROE NEWSLETTER is now available from the porch—free, please take one.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERIES We would be very grateful for your help again delivering Christmas cards. Some people have telephoned to say they would help and their cards have been put in an envelope with their name on—they can be found in the box near the sacristy door. Anyone else who wish to deliver some may take their pick of the remainder which have been batched up into areas of Clitheroe. **Please note: Households with a child in our Primary school will get theirs via school**

CHRISTMAS TREE Would anyone like to help decorate the tree this year? If you would then stay behind after mass next Sunday (21st)

SABDEN

During Advent from Monday to Saturday the church will be open for private prayer from 9.30am—10.30am

BONUS BALL this weeks winner 8—Carol and Harry Waterworth. Two spare bonus ball numbers have become available - £1 per week. See Carol Waterworth

VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE This year St Mary's is hosting the village Carol service this coming Tuesday 16th December at 7pm in church. Come along and support this lovely event. Refreshments will be served in the hall afterwards. Listen to the Christmas story told in song, poems and readings. Come for a really good sing!

CHRISTMAS MARKET St Mary's is running a Christmas Market TODAY Sunday 14th December 3pm—7pm in the hall with 20 stalls selling all manner of Christmas goods, home-made gifts, knitted toys, crafts and much more. Father Christmas will be there to meet the children bearing gifts and you can buy festive fare such as hot-dogs, mince pies and mulled wine. All proceeds are for the upkeep of the community hall. Admission is FREE.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE Thankyou to all who made the fayre such a success, a really good event. We raised £1794. There are still some unclaimed raffle prizes—252—Mulled Wine, C.Holden 191—Vodka, S.Popper, 1007-Biscuits—Brenda Kay. Please claim your prize from the Sacristy. The Door prize is also unclaimed—number 58. A list of all winning numbers is available both in Clitheroe and Sabden porches.

2015 DIARIES have now arrived and can be found in the porch £1