

## Dear Parishioners

You may remember that near the beginning of the month I quoted from a letter sent by Bishop John, a part of which read: "As part of the work of the Synod on the family, you may know that Pope Francis has asked us to take time to reflect on marriage and family life, and our own experience. It is all too evident that both marriage and family life have been challenged and, in our generation, they have seen unprecedented breakdown. Despite its many struggles, we know that without the gift of family our society would have lost something fundamentally important and good. Marriage is such a noble vocation and family life must be strengthened and assisted, especially in times of difficulty."

Following this letter, further information and suggestions were received from the Bishops Conference of England and Wales. These were discussed at the Parish Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> January and Forum's suggestions were further refined, by a small coordinating group, into a questionnaire.

This questionnaire will be distributed at the end of this month with the request that all responses be returned by 14<sup>th</sup> March.

The questionnaire will be anonymous though you will be asked to tick boxes indicating your gender, age group and whether you are married, living with a partner, separated, widowed, or single. To help you give serious thought to this exercise and, if you wish, to discuss it with your friends, the questions are listed below.

- 1 What are your joys and hopes for family life today?
- 2 What are your struggles and fears of marriage and family life today?
- 3 How can we better understand marriage as a vocation?
- 4 How does your marriage enrich you?
- 5 How does your family life help the world be a better place?
- 6 How does the way your family lives witness to our faith?

It is not necessary to answer every question only those applicable to you and in less than 40 words. This restriction will encourage concise responses and help to coordinate replies. Finally, any replies received back before the questionnaire is distributed will be ignored. And if you don't like the whole idea, then accept it as a penance for Lent which begins on 18<sup>th</sup> of this month.

*Fr John*

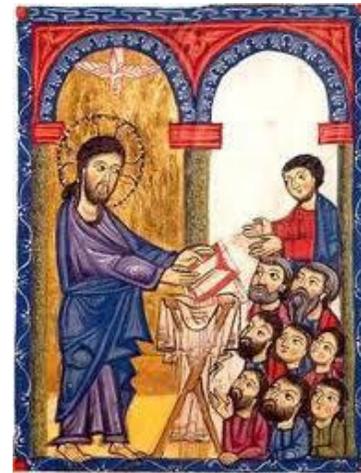
# Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

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

## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 1st February 2015

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



#### Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

#### Monday

Eucharistic Service 9am

#### Tuesday, & Wednesday

Mass at 9am

#### Thursday

Mass at 9am

#### Friday

Eucharistic Service at 9am  
Requiem Mass at 12noon  
Christine Bamber

#### Saturday (7th February)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am  
Reconciliation—11am—11.45am

Exposition 11am—11.55am  
First Mass of Sunday 6pm

## St Mary's, Sabden

**Sunday**—Mass at 11am

**Wednesday**—Mass at 9.15am

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#### MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Mary Cushion x 2, Monic and Harry Wiggan, Bernard and Joyce Cocker,  
Ann Wharton, Mark and Trish Fenlon & family, Mary Preedy

*There will be a retiring collection for CARITAS at all masses  
next weekend 7/8 February*

## SICK

Fr Peter Birmingham, Peter Wright, Joseph Bradley, Marie Haslam, Maria Middleton,

## LATELY DEAD

Muriel Calverley, Eileen Stott, Christine Bamber, Fr J.T.Cribben

## ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Cushion, Monica and Harry Wiggan, Bernard and Joyce Cocker,  
Ann Wharton, Mary Preedy

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £798.45 Sabden £159.73 S.Orders £170.48 Many thanks

**MEDAILLE TRUST** Following the Parish Forum on 14 January we now have 20 people who have expressed interest in combating human trafficking and want to support the work of the Catholic Church in combating it. If you would like to learn more please contact Anthony Brown email: abrown.boggarts@gmail.com or tel: 01200 422811 Alternatively you can simply ask for your name and email address to be added to the list.

**R.C.I.A.** Meetings every Thursday evening after Mass at 8pm in the presbytery.

**Please note: the deadline for notices to be included in the weekly newsletter is Friday morning 9.30am**

**CATHOLIC PARLIAMENTARY & PUBLIC POLICY INTERNSHIPS** For the last twelve years the Catholics Bishops Conference has organised Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships for recently graduated Catholics. This year we are looking to offer 8 internships. For details see Fr John

**LADIES GROUP PROGRAMME** Our new programme for 2015 is now available from the porch—please take one

**RIBBLE VALLEY HOME LIBRARY SERVICE** Do you find it difficult to visit a library possibly because of mobility problems or poor health, then perhaps the Home Library Service can help. One of our library volunteers could deliver books to you? Tel Joan Davies 01200 426885 or contact her at Clitheroe Library.

**'THE EDGE'** The faith and fun evenings for yr 6 and yr 7 (10-12 yrs) - Edge Nights—

have started up again at St Mary's Hall, York Lane, Langho from 6.30pm—8pm. These evenings are designed to be a fun, interactive and faith-filled experience for our young people. The remaining evenings will run for the next two Wednesday evenings 4th & 11th February. Young people attending for the first time just need a consent form filled in by a parent or guardian. Please see Fr Frankie for more details.

## PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

We are organising a Parish Pilgrimage to join the Diocese on their annual trip to Lourdes from 31 July—6 August 2015. If anything like previous years, this pilgrimage promises to be a very special, prayerful and fun-packed experience. We will travel by air from either Manchester or Liverpool and stay at a lovely hotel with full board. The cost is £659. If you would like to go or if you are interested in finding out more then please put your name down on the list at the back of church or see

Fr Frankie BEFORE the deadline—February 28th!



## AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED—PRAYER VIGIL FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Saturday 7 February. Please join the staff and students of Stonhurst College and the Catholic charity 'Aid to the Church in Need' in a Prayer Vigil for Religious Freedom at 7.30pm. The vigil will last about an hour and will give us all a chance to learn about and pray for those Christians around the world who are suffering hardships because of their faith.

**CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY** Saturday 7 February at Salford Cathedral Centre—see poster

**SINGLES** Single, separated, widowed or divorced? See yellow poster

**JOYFUL NOISE** The next Joyful Noise will be at 7.30pm tomorrow evening Monday 2nd February. It takes place every two weeks from then on and is held at Chatburn Methodist Chapel until further notice.

**THE 99 GROUP please meet in the presbytery at 7.30pm Wednesday**

## CLITHEROE

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

**LISTENING EAR** is an ecumenical initiative set up to provide a place where people of all backgrounds can come for a coffee and chat. It was launched recently for Foodbank customers, and others, to have an opportunity for more on-going contact. Listening Ear is run by volunteers from local churches and is open Friday mornings during school term time from 10am and 11.30am at The King's Centre, Millthorne Avenue. More info ring Mark Woodward 01200 444148 or info@clitheroecommunitychurch.co.uk

Feb 7/8	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	M.Roberts	J..Clegg & E.Davies
Readers	V.Murray	P.Donnely
Eucharistic Ministers	A.Harkin & H Addy	P.Sutcliffe, A.Marsden, T.Mercer
Tea & Coffee		P & A Geldard & T.O'Donnell

**YOUTH CHOIR** - there will be a rehearsal on Thursday 5th February in church, 5:45pm - 7:00pm to practise hymns ready for Sunday 8th February 9:30am mass. NEW MEMBERS always welcome - all very informal and easy going! **Particular appeal for more teenagers!!** Just come along on Thursday evening or call Geralyn on 07919 151408 / Sam on 07778 415366 or speak to Father

**LADIES FORTHCOMING EVENT** As part of the WWI anniversary this coming Thursday 5th February our Ladies Group are presenting a Variety Concert with The 50+ Theatre Company from 2pm—4pm. Tickets are £6 and include a Light Afternoon Tea. Tickets on sale after masses this weekend or from the named people on the poster.

**BAPTISM** We welcome Jack Finn Mysko who was baptised last Sunday.

## SABDEN

**BONUS BALL** this weeks winner no 17 M.Pilling

**CRB CHECKS** These are now up for review. If you have had a parish CRB check in the past please see Susan White for update, and/or new form to fill in. Thanks