

## Dear Parishioners

Pope Francis has made today, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, an International Day of Prayer against Human Trafficking. Anthony Brown the parish and local coordinator against human trafficking explains:

Saint Josephine Bakhita, the patron saint of trafficking victims, was born in Sudan in 1869. Captured and by Arab slavers she was sold in the markets of El Obeid and Khartoum until finally bought by the Italian Consul, Callisto Legnani. For the first time since the day she was kidnapped, she found that no one used the lash when giving her orders; instead, she was treated with love and as one of the family.

Callisto returned to Italy and when he and his family had again to move abroad he left Bakhita in the care of the Canossian sisters, an Italian Religious order. There, she came to know and experience God's love. She had always believed in God but had never known who he was until then. In January 1890, Bakhita was baptised Josephine and made her First Holy Communion. When Callisto returned, with unusual courage, she expressed her desire to remain with the Canossian sisters. She had by then come of age and enjoyed the freedom of choice which Italian law guaranteed.

On 8 December 1896 Josephine Bakhita made her religious vows and for the next 50 years lived in the Canossian community, involved in various services: cooking, sewing, embroidery and attending to all who called at the convent door, especially the poor and those in trouble. Her sisters in the community esteemed her for her constant sweet nature, exquisite goodness and deep desire to share her love of Jesus with others.

As she grew older she experienced long, painful years of sickness but always responded to people with a smile. She died on 8 February 1947 surrounded by the sisters. A crowd quickly gathered at the convent to have a last look at their 'Mother Moretta', their 'Dark Mother', and ask for her prayers.

I have ordered 200 prayer cards for Sunday 8 February and hope that you will take one from the porch and pray for the victims of human trafficking

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February is also Caritas Sunday when you are invited to be part of the rich heritage of charity in our diocese and to reflect on the part that we all as members of our church and community have to play in bringing about a fair and compassionate society

Anthony Brown, The Medaille Trust and Caritas Salford.

*There is a retiring collection today for Caritas which supports people living on the margins of society and who are often overlooked by statutory bodies. Fr John*

# Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe & Sabden

Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 1AG

Tel 01200 423307 website: oltv.org.uk

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Frankie Mulgrew

## 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 8th February 2015

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



#### Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

#### Monday & Wednesday

Eucharistic Service 9am

#### Tuesday

Mass at 9am

Children's Reconciliation 7.30pm

#### Thursday

Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

#### Friday

Mass at 9am

#### Saturday (14th February)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am

Exposition 11am—11.55am

Reconciliation—11am—11.45am

First Mass of Sunday 6pm

### St Mary's, Sabden

**Sunday**—Mass at 11am

**Wednesday**—Mass at 9.15am Children's Reconciliation 7.30pm

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#### MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Private intention x 2, Sr Mary Kelly x 2, Leo Musker,  
Christine Bamber x 2. Patrick Shepherd, Mary Courtney, Stella Mason

#### SICK

Fr Peter Birmingham, Peter Wright, Joseph Bradley, Marie Haslam,  
Maria Middleton, Sr Mary Kelly,

#### LATELY DEAD

Fr John Cribben, Christine Bamber. Mary Courtney

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Stella Mason

*There will be a retiring collection for CARITAS at all masses this weekend*

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe 816.93 Sabden £170.30 S.Orders £170.48 Many thanks  
**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

**‘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 evening is next Wednesday evenings 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 FORUM** The next Forum will be on Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm in St Michael & St John’s Parish Hall.

**RECONCILIATION** This week in an important week for our children in both Clitheroe and Sabden who will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. (First Confessions as we oldies knew it) Parishioners, family and friends are encouraged to come along to both offer their support and also take this opportunity to experience God’s love, mercy and reconciliation for themselves. The service begins in St Mary’s Sabden at 7.30pm Wednesday and at 7.30pm in St Michael & John’s on Tuesday.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE—LENT CAMPAIGN** Help to end abortion. Launch meeting 7.30pm Sunday 15th February at St Kentigern’s Social Club, Hart Road, Fallowfield M14 7DW—all welcome

**REIGNITE—ON THE MOVE!** For all young adults in the Diocese (16-35yrs) the popular ‘Reignite’ project that takes place every month at Salford Cathedral seeking to help—engage, enthuse and enliven you faith—is coming to St Joseph’s R.C.Church, Audley Range, Blackburn BB1 1JP for a retreat day on Saturday 21st February 10.30am—4pm. The day will include Mass, great talks, Reconciliation, Adoration, small groups etc—led by leading catholic youth workers, plus input from you own peer group. Please join us for this special opportunity of reflection, fun, time out and inspiration. To register and more info please go to reignite@dioceseofsalford.org.uk. Under 18’s please apply for a consent form. Thankyou

**FLAME 2**—Catholic Youth Festival at Wembley Arena March 7th. More details later.

### 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!



**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR** wanted at Salford Diocese—see poster in porch.  
**SINGLES** Single, separated, widowed or divorced? See yellow poster

### CLITHEROE

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

Feb 14/15	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	A.Harkin	R & C Conti
Readers	M.Taylforth	Martha Barrett
Eucharistic Ministers	A.Southworth & B.Taylor	J.Hall, S.Hall, Volunteer
Tea & Coffee		S.V.P

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT** a play written by Matt Byrne performed by Front Row Theatre Company at the Grand Tuesday 10th February. It is based on research undertaken at foodbanks including our own Ribble Valley Foodbank. See poster

**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. Info Mark Woodward 01200 444148 or info@clitheroecommunitychurch.co.uk

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Women’s World Day of Prayer this year on Friday 6th March 7.30pm at The United Reformed Church

**LADIES GROUP** Committee meeting Monday 9th February 7.30pm in presbytery

**WHALLEY FLOWER CLUB** In St Michael & St John’s Parish Hall Thursday 12th February 7.30pm. Non members £6. Julie Walker will be demonstrating ‘La Dolce Vita’

**TEA DANCE** Wednesday 18 February in the Parish Function Suite 2pm—5pm. Dancing/Afternoon Tea/Good company. Admission £3.50. More information from Daphne tel: 01200 427912

**APF MISSION (Red Boxes)** Mission box donations to church by Sunday 15th February. Many thanks

### SABDEN

**BONUS BALL** this weeks winner no 15 S.Brown

**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. Ann Harkin should be coming on Sunday 22nd February, so if forms can be returned then along with 3 evidences of ID (we can photocopy them then) Thankyou.

**BAPTISM** We welcome Sebastian Maurice Capstick who was baptised last Sunday

### K.S.C. DANCE

dance to

**John Lancaster**

Modern Sequence & Ballroom

7.30pm Friday 13th  
February

£7 including  
Hot Supper

Tel 01200  
427029/427096

