

Dear Parishioners

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life.

Pope Francis said recently: "Behind and before every vocation to the priesthood there is always the strong and intense prayer of someone." That someone could be a grandparent, parent, teacher, aunt or uncle, friend or sick parishioner, indeed any parishioner.

Such prayer is not necessarily long in words but should be persistent over time. To assist your prayer there are prayer cards available as you leave church where a five day prayer booklet is available also. But please, only take one if you are determined to pray them.

Lord, Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of our souls,
You who know Your sheep and
know how to reach the human heart.
Stir the hearts of those people
who would follow You
but who cannot overcome doubts and fears.
You who are the Word of the Father,
the Word which enlightens and sustains hearts,
conquer with Your Spirit the resistance and
delays of indecisive hearts.
Awaken in those whom You call the
courage of love's answer: 'Here I am, send me.'

A final word from Pope Francis: "I wish to state this clearly to the young, whose youth and openness to the future makes them open-hearted and generous. At times uncertainty, worries about the future and the problems you daily encounter can risk paralyzing your youthful enthusiasm and shattering your dreams, to the point where you can think that it is not worth the effort to get involved, that the God of the Christian faith is somehow a limit on your freedom. Dear young friends, never be afraid to go out from yourselves and begin the journey! The Gospel is the message which brings freedom to our lives; it transforms them and makes them all the more beautiful. How wonderful it is to be surprised by God's call, to embrace his word, and to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, in adoration of the divine mystery and in generous service to our neighbours! Your life will become richer and more joyful each day!

Today in Clitheroe there is a traditional benediction at 2pm during which we shall pray for vocations.

After Mass there is a retiring collection to finance the training of priests, men like Fr Frankie.

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 of Easter - 26th April 2015 St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee
2pm—Benediction

Monday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

Saturday 2nd May

Eucharistic Service 10.45am

Exposition 11am—11.55am

Reconciliation 11am—11.45am

First Mass of Sunday 6pm

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday—Mass at 11am followed by Coffee **Wednesday**—Mass at 9.15am

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MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

80th Birthday thanksgiving, Lilli Marchese, Fay Connolly, In thanksgiving
Martin Nolan x 3

SICK

Arnold Marsden jnr, Fr Peter Birmingham, Peter Wright, Marie Haslam, Maria Middleton,
Mai Duggan, Elizabeth Booth. Mary Miller, Jack Middleton, Martin Nolan

LATELY DEAD

Fay Connolly

ANNIVERSARIES

Lilli Marchese, Hubert Jackson, Trevor Wilson

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £926.02 Sabden £220.92 S.Orders £170.48 Many thanks
CATHOLIC SINGLES is an organisation which helps single adult Catholics of all ages meet, or visit the website www.catholicsingles.org.uk or email info@catholicsingles.org.uk

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE on 12th, 13th, 14th June at Liverpool Hope University. See poster in porch

CARITAS DIOCESE OF SALFORD are currently recruiting qualified social workers to its School Social Work, Adoption Support and Fostering teams. For further information and details of our Open Day please see www.caritassalford.org.uk/jobs or call 0161 817 2250

GENERAL ELECTION HUSTINGS arranged by Clitheroe Christians in Partnership will take place NEXT Friday 1st May at 7.30pm in the newly refurbished Trinity Methodist Church. Questions will be put to the six candidates on the following—*Health—Poverty/inequality—The Economy—Housing—Environment—Defence/foreign affairs—Immigration*. The authors of selected questions will be invited to put their question to the candidates at the Hustings.

SAFEGUARDING I'm currently in the process of chasing up missing details for some people and will contact them directly. If your forms are still outstanding, please get them to me (Ann Harkin) as soon as possible. I normally go to Saturday night Mass and will be at SMSJ on Sunday 26th April. Susan and Peter White are helping me "over the hill" and Fathers John and Frankie are my unpaid postmen!

MAY DAY 2015 Sunday 3rd May at Schoenstatt Shrine Kearsley, NrBolton, See porch
BIPOLAR DISORDER Are you, or someone you know affected by bipolar disorder. Rollercoaster is a support group starting 14th May in Clitheroe—see poster for details

CAFOD Please sign and post a petition card (in basket in porch) to show our politicians that we care about climate change



MEDAILLE TRUST The Easter edition of the magazine for the Medaille Trust (the Catholic Charity that provides safe houses for victims of human trafficking) is now available in the church porch. These magazines are free of charge. Please take one to raise awareness on what the Catholic Church is doing to tackle human trafficking in this country.

PAUSE FOR HOPE An Ecumenical Service for all who have been affected by cancer at some point in their lives. Sunday 10th May at 3pm at The Holy Name Church, Oxford Road, Manchester with the Bishop of Manchester David Walker and Bishop of Salford John Arnold. See poster in porch

CLITHEROE

GIFT AID ENVELOPES There are still some Gift Aid envelopes awaiting collection—please pick up from the table just before you enter the sacristy. Please remember that if your number falls between 1 and 170 it denotes to us that you pay tax. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay tax please let Janet know—IT IS IMPORTANT. Thankyou

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Saturday 23rd May—Jumble Sale

LADIES GROUP Meeting this coming Wednesday 29th April at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall. 'Bags of Difference' - Kiziizi Kraits, a UK based charity supporting health and education in Uganda. Speaker—Chris Mitchell. Bags will be on sale—all welcome

MISSION TODAY Missio (APF Missions) Spring 2015 magazine available from porch

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY St Michael & St John's, Primary School Summer Bash will be on Saturday 20th June. Live music from 'Kickstart' Cost £25. See poster
LOVE CLITHEROE Come and join us in prayer for our town, our country, our world and our families at the Salvation Army on Tuesday's at 11.30am. Everyone welcome. Please pick up a copy of 'Love Clitheroe' Newsletter from the porch

May 2/3	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	M.Manning	R & C Conti
Readers	M.Taylforth	J.Smith
Eucharistic Ministers	B.Worden & M.Preedy	J.Hall, S.Hall, Volunteer
Tea and Coffee		Sims Family

HELP! HELP! This year Christian Aid week is 10-16 May. If you have helped in previous years and would be willing to help this year please see Janet or ring her. Your help would be very much appreciated—she needs to know one way or the other within the next week i.e. before 30th April.

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner no 10— P.Clarkson

CHRISTIAN AID St Mary's is hosting the village effort for Christian Aid, with a Coffee Morning on Saturday May 9th from 10am to 12noon. There is a bring and buy, tombola, raffle, home-made cakes, jewellery, handbags and scarves, books and cards for sale. £2 Admission included refreshments. Items to sell, cakes, raffle and tombola items are needed as this is the village's big effort for Christian Aid. Please leave them with Damien or Betty at church or with Eileen at 26 Whalley Rd. The Christian Aid collection envelopes can be returned at the Coffee morning.

CAR BOOT SALE St Mary's is holding a Car Boot/Table Top Sale in the Hall Saturday 16th May 10am—3pm. If anyone would like to book a Car Boot space or a large table inside for £10 or a small table for £6 please see Pat Whitwell or tel: 01282 774588. At this event St Mary's is having a general stall for church funds. If anyone has any items to donate please leave them at the back of church or see Pat Whitwell, Margaret Waling, Margaret Parsons of Pauline Hindle. Donations of refreshments will also be welcome.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING of St Mary's Hall Social Committee is on Wednesday May 6th at 7.30pm to make final arrangements for the car boot/table top sale and discuss future events. If anyone has any ideas for social events/fund-raising will they please see any member of the Social Committee.

THANKYOU As many of you will have noticed the last piece of the old astroturf has gone from beside the church. We are now developing this area as a quiet place, as well as an area for taking photographs. The stone circle that will form the centrepiece was generously donated by North West Reclamation. Our grateful thanks to to them. If anyone has any surplus plants or shrubs that they can donate to help complete this job, we would be very grateful. We are also looking for large plant containers. So if you have any of these you would like to pass on we can make good use of them.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/CONFIRMATION Janet will be coming over to Sabden after Mass on a Sunday sometime early next month selling cards, rosaries, missals etc after mass—watch this space.