

Dear Parishioners

Cherishing life, Accepting Death is the title of this year's DAY FOR LIFE, an appropriate theme as we ponder the prospect of the Assisted Dying Bill to be debated by Parliament on 11th September.

Preaching at Mass earlier in the year, Pope Francis said, "The two texts in the day's liturgy (Acts 20:17-27 & John 17:1-11) say the word 'goodbye': Paul entrusts his own to God, and Jesus entrusts his disciples to the Father"

Before the images of Paul who weeps, kneeling on the beach and that of Jesus weeping in his heart as he leaves his disciples, Pope Francis recommended that we reflect on ourselves and ask ourselves: "who will be the person to close my eyes? What will I leave?"

He noted: "Paul and Jesus, in these passages, both do an examination of conscience: 'I have done this, this and this'. And thus it is good to ask oneself, in a sort of examination of conscience: 'What have I done?' And to do so with the awareness that it is good for me to imagine myself at that moment: one never knows which 'see you later', 'see you soon', 'see you tomorrow', 'until we meet again' will become our final 'goodbye'".

The Holy Father then invited further reflection: "Am I prepared to entrust to God all of my loved ones, to entrust myself to God? To say that word which is the Son's word of entrustment to the Father?"

Pope Francis also encouraged us to find a little time to read Chapter 16 of the Gospel according to John or Chapter 19 of the Acts of the Apostles. These are "the farewell of Jesus and the farewell of Paul".

"In the light of these very texts, it is important to think that one day I too will have to say that word: 'goodbye'. "To God I entrust my soul; to God I entrust my history; to God I entrust my loved ones; to God I entrust all".

He concluded, "let us commemorate Jesus' goodbye as we pray "that Jesus, died and risen, will send us the Holy Spirit so that we learn this word, learn to say with all our strength this last word: 'goodbye'". The moment of that utterance we leave in God's hands.

Despite the distraction of the holidays please do remember to contact your MP asking them not to vote for the Assisted Dying Bill.

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge
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Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Gee

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 26th July 2015

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 1st August

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

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Sunday—Mass at 10am

(Parish Mass Book p.112. Eucharistic Prayer III p.27, Preface 5 page 69)

Tuesday—Mass at 9.30am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Mary Bithell, Susan Allen, Giovanni Marchese, John Ramsden

SICK

Fr Peter Birmingham, Sally Hickling, John Ramsden, Carol Waterworth,
Arnold Marsden jnr, Susan Allen

ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Bithell, Elizabeth Hutchinson

There will be a collection at all masses this weekend for 'Day for Life'

Please note: Notices for the Newsletter need to be in by 9.30am on a Friday morning

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £643.42 Sabden £169.78 Dunsop Bridge £449.00
Standing Orders £170.48

SAFEGUARDING DBS clearances have begun to come through. A few glitches and some may have been 'claimed' by a different parish. Don't worry it doesn't make any difference the diocese will amend it. Don't forget to register online at www.gov.uk/dbs-update-service and please send me (Ann Harkin) a copy. anhark456@aol.com

CAFOD In his encyclical *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis calls on us all to make simple daily gestures to care for the world's poorest people, for future generations and for the earth, our common home. This is an opportunity to live wisely, think deeply and love generously. **Where will you start?** Here are some ideas: use less water, avoid using paper or plastic, use public transport or car share, turn off the lights, cook only what can be reasonably consumed, plant trees, show care for other living beings.

VACANCY Salford Diocese have a vacancy for a Building Surveyor. This is full time appointment. See poster in porch

FR FRANKIE'S MEMORY BOOK a copy of the book that was presented to Fr Frankie, is available at the back of church—please have a look BUT do not take it home!

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE For those who are going on the pilgrimage, please collect the minutes of our last meeting from the sacristy. Flight tickets can be collected from Susan after Mass on Saturday 25th July and Sunday 26th July. Alternatively, please contact Susan on 01200 425928/0788769. If you can, please pay £10 for the coach when you collect your ticket. Thank you

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES. Anyone who wishes a petition to be taken for them, to be placed at the grotto, please use the box at the back of the church. The box will be available until Wednesday 29th July. Boxes are also available both in Sabden and Dunsop Bridge. **ON THURSDAY 30th JULY** all pilgrims and parishioners are invited to come together at the 7.30pm evening Mass to mark in a spiritual way, the beginning of our journey to Lourdes.

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER PRAYER FESTIVAL for Young Adults 16-35 yrs at Walsingham 27th—31st August. Coaches available—see poster in porch for website and email contacts

JESUITS & FRIENDS The Summer edition of the magazine is available from porch

S.V.P. No meetings for next 2 weeks—re-commence Tuesday 11th August 7pm

BETTY WARD the young parishioner who gave her hair to charity has so far raised £1,358.76 and rising. Well done Betty

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY November 21st at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral—Catholic Youth Conference—Year 10+ 'Build my Kingdom' Embrace 2015. see poster in porch

CLITHEROE

LADIES GROUP Wednesday 29th July in our Parish Hall at 7.30pm admission £2 including light refreshment. Gail Newsham will give a talk on the fascinating story of Dick, Kerr Ladies Football Club 1917-1965. At this meeting we will be taking names and money for our Annual Treasure Hunt on Wednesday 26th August—see below

TREASURE HUNT Wednesday 26th August. Meet on the Lowergate Car Park at 6pm. If you don't want to join in the Treasure Hunt but just want supper, then be outside the Swan and Royal at 7.15pm. Menu's are available next Wednesday at our monthly meeting and afterwards from the church porch.

COOKERY CLASSES Steady progress is being made on our bid to start classes in Clitheroe, but we need more volunteers for the following — cooks—washers up—collecting food from supermarkets—to name but a few. If you are interested in this project or are willing to help in any way then why not come along to our next meeting on Monday 17th August at 7.30pm at The United Reformed Church. We would be delighted to see you and whether or not ask that you will hold this project in your prayers

Aug 1 & 2	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	Margaret Roberts	B.Barker & C.Riley
Readers	Claire McGuire	P.Donnely,
Eiucharistic Ministers	A.Southworth & A.Harkin	E.Thomson, I.Parkes, H.Addy
Tea and Coffee		Embery family

ROTA'S The new rotas are now available. Those who do not receive them by email can pick up their copy from the box on the table near the sacristy door.

MISSIO (Red Boxes) We are asking people to check if they have a red box at home which for some reason may not have been collected for a while. Maybe you have moved house. Envelopes for your donations are available in the porch along with contact details for Janet and Sion Hall. Please call us with any query you may have 01200 428949. As Pope Francis recently said 'By making a personal donation you are giving a part of yourself, first to the Lord and then to others, which becomes a tool for the evangelisation of humanity built on love.'

TABOR September—December 2015 Programme now available from porch.

PARISH DRAW will commence in September. Cost of a ticket is £20. You will be given a number which will go into the draw which will take place at the end of each month (10 months in total). If you would like a ticket then please fill in one of the blue forms that are available at the back of church with your name, address and telephone number and pop it in the box provided. **Please note: In the past if you received your ticket from either Arnold Marsden, Janet Clegg, Peter Sutcliffe, Sheila Webb, Derrick Hutchinson, Anne Marie Williams, or any other agent namely Margaret Marsden who retired or Mary Preedy who sadly passed away YOU STILL NEED TO COMPLETE ONE OF THE SLIPS.**

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 35—Margaret Parsons. There are some numbers not taken up for the bonus ball. It's just £1 per week. You never know it may be you! If you have not already joined but would like to there are two spare numbers. Please see Harry Waterworth if you would like one of them.

DROP IN FOR COFFEE at St Mary's Community Hall this coming Wednesday July 29th from 10am—12noon and then the last Wednesday of each month. Free Admission—Tea, Coffee, biscuits, juice, magazines, colouring books for the children. All welcome to pop in for a cuppa.

DUNSOP BRIDGE

ST HUBERT'S DUCK RACE August Bank Holiday Monday 31st August beginning at 2pm. Please take a book (or take some books!) of tickets to sell for the race and write the number of the book(s) and your name on the form. (individual tickets £1; book of ten: £10.00. Tickets can also be had from Arnold Marsden 01200 427096 or Les Collinson on 01200 427029

