

Dear Parishioners

"How great a lie ...to make people think that lives affected by grave illness are not worth living!" *Pope Francis*

Whilst hospital visiting an elderly and frail lady whom I didn't know, asked whether I could answer a difficult question: "I've told the doctor that if I have another heart attack I don't want resuscitating. Was that wrong?" I reassured her that she had nothing to worry about because we are not obliged to use *extraordinary* means to maintain life. I then explained that her decision was not a form of assisted suicide but that she had simply decided to leave matters in God's hands.

That advice is totally in line with the principles of Church teaching, as described in the *Day for Life* cards that are available at the back of church.

The first principle is that we embrace life. Every person is loved by God and every life is a precious gift never to be destroyed or neglected. It is wrong to hasten or bring about death. God will call us in his good time.

The second principle is that we accept death. This means there is no obligation to pursue medical treatment when it no longer has any effect or, indeed, harms the patient, or where the risks or burdens of the treatment outweigh the likely benefits.

Both these principles should guide our decisions when faced with a medical crisis.

Needless to say, such important decisions are best faced with others – medical and care experts along with immediate and extended family members. The family, after all, should be the privileged place where we find mutual support and understanding.

In such discussions these two questions can guide us:

"Does this decision love and respect life?"

"Does this decision accept the inevitability of death?"

We should attempt to answer yes to both, as life itself is a gift from God and death but the gateway to new life with Him.

For further information go to: www.dayforlife.org

Finally, please do contact your MP and ask him to oppose the Assisted Dying (Assisted Suicide) Bill to be debated in Parliament in a month's time. Contact details for Nigel Evans: House of Commons, London SW1 OAA or email: evansn@parliament.uk Other MP's can be found on Parliament's website: <http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/>

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge

Lowergate, Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 1AG

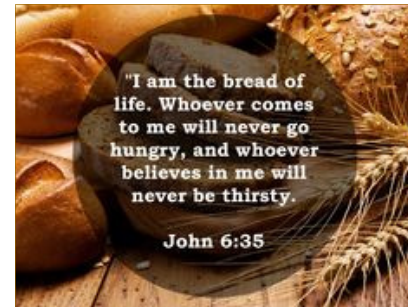
Tel 01200 423307 **website:** olotv.org.uk

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Joseph Gee

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 2nd August 2015

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

Friday

Mass at 9am

Saturday 8th 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.114. Eucharistic Prayer I p.18, Preface VII page 69)

Tuesday—Mass at 9.30am

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MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Fr Denis Dwyer, Geraldine Oultram

SICK

Fr Peter Birmingham, John Ramsden, Carol Waterworth, Arnold Marsden jnr, Winifred Aunger, Geraldine Oultram

LATELY DEAD

Fr Denis Dwyer, Margaret Pustelnick, Sally Hickling

ANNIVERSARIES

Mark Jezierski

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

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £681.75 Sabden £185.56 Dunsop Bridge £330.00
Standing Orders £170.48

DAY FOR LIFE Clitheroe £237.07 Sabden £62.54 Dunsop Bridge £92.59

SAFEGUARDING The majority of the clearances have now arrived and I'm just chasing up a few remaining people who have outstanding documentation. I'll have a little holiday in August and will restart in September. Ann Harkin
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.

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER PRAYER FESTIVAL for Young Adults 16-35 yrs at Walsingham 27th-31st August. Coaches available—see poster in porch for contact no

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

S.V.P. No meeting next week—re-commences Tuesday 11th August 7pm

ANOTHER DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Sunday 30th September H.C.P.T Walk—more details later

ROYAL LANCASHIRE SHOW Churches Together in Lancashire have a tent at the Royal Lancashire Show and are looking for helpers Friday 7th—Sunday 9th August. Interested, then email chris.halliwell@blackburn.anglican.org. On Sunday 9th an ecumenical worship activity is being organised with The Bishop of Blackburn, Bishop of Salford John Arnold, and Methodist District chair all taking part—starts at 10.30am with prayers, followed by a bring and share lunch in the Churches Together tent.

RIBBLE VALLEY MAYORAL FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2015 for details please see poster in porch. The next event will be a Ladies Luncheon at La Vespa the Italian Restaurant in Whalley Road, Clitheroe next Wednesday 5th August—£17 which includes a flower arranging demonstration by Joanne Ormerod. Tickets available from Olwen Heap 01200 414408. All proceeds of the events in aid of Macmillan and Dementia for the benefit Ribble Valley residents.

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.

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!

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

As you know 30 of our parishioners left for Lourdes on Friday. Why not visit our Parish Website—OLOTV- to view the official Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage daily blog!!!

ALSO you can watch the Salford Diocese Grotto Mass as it takes place—just 'Google' Lourdes Live 24/24 where you get live coverage of events. This Mass will take place on Tuesday morning at 8.30am local time, 7.30am here in England. Your petitions will be placed in the grotto this afternoon, Sunday at 3pm local time, 2pm English time



CLITHEROE

COOKERY CLASSES in a bid to start classes in Clitheroe, we need more volunteers for the following—cooks—washers up—collecting food—to name but a few. Interested then why not come along to our next meeting on Monday 17th August at 7.30pm at The United Reformed Church.

Aug 8 & 9	Saturday	Sunday
Welcomers	A.Harkin	M.Rogers & C.Willman
Readers	A.McGuire	Martha Barrett
Eucharistic Ministers	F.Ellis & R.Embery	P.Sutcliffe, A.Marsden, G.Lambert
Tea and Coffee		L & B Collinson

CHILDREN OF CHERNOBYL As part of the Food Festival next Saturday 8th August Friends of Chernobyl's Children are holding their fund raising 'Pudding Fest' from 11.30am—3.30pm at St Mary Magdalene's Lower Hall. Please support this by cooking a pudding for us (or eating pudding). Volunteers to help on the day are also needed. See poster in porch and sign up for pudding donations.

MISSIO (Red Boxes) Thank you for the extra donations. We were able to send an extra fifty pounds in donations this week. The next box collection will be late August. If you do not have a box and would like one, please contact Sion or Janet Hall on 428949, We would also be delighted to accept donations around the time of the quarterly collections by envelope left at the sacristy. Thanks to all contributors for their generosity.

LADIES GROUP TREASURE HUNT Wednesday 26th August—Cost £11 including two course supper. 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 from the church porch—please complete and return to either Daphne 427912 or Janet 423307 ext 3 by Sunday 23rd August. This event is open to all.

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). We now have 159 names—but still need another 21 people. You can check if your name is on by looking at the list on the notice board at the back of church (next to the Ladies Group display). If you are not on the list and want a ticket then please complete one of the blue slips on the shelf at the back of church and place it in the box provided.

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 37—R.Waling. 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 to St Mary's Community Hall on the last Wednesday of each month 10am—12noon. 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

