

Dear Parishioners Fr John

The Forum met a week last Wednesday in Sabden.

With Dunsop Bridge a part of the family it was decided that all future meetings would convene in Clitheroe to save Dunsop parishioners travelling 15 miles to Sabden and vice versa. So we shall next meet in Clitheroe after Easter on Wednesday 6th April.

Forum also voted in favour of the proposal to celebrate a Children's Mass on Christmas Eve at 4pm in Sts Michael and John's. Hopefully this will prove to be a more suitable time for young families and also reduce the pressure on the 6pm Mass. The 8pm Mass will be celebrated in Sabden and on Christmas Day morning Mass will be celebrated in St Hubert's at 9am and in Clitheroe at 10am.

Also discussed was the irritation of some parishioners at the frequency of retiring collections (so named because these are taken as you leave church). 18 of the collections are compulsory and taken in every Catholic Church in England & Wales. Occasionally another collection may be added in response to a particular need or emergency. What is important to bear in mind is that you are not obliged to give to retiring collections. These collections are not compulsory but an opportunity to support some charities important to the church.

In this Year of Mercy there will be a Reconciliation service in St Michael and St John's on Tuesday 15th March at 6.30pm during which children from St Hubert's will join Sts Michael & John's pupils to make what most of us remember as their First Confession. Children at St Mary's will make their First Reconciliation in Sabden the following evening, 16th March, at 6pm.

Just look at what we found while planning the refurbishment of the Confessional: two stained glass windows. These will be opened up when work begins.

The Church runs an excellent internship scheme that provides recently graduated Catholics with an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. This year it is offering up to eight internships, including placements with Christian MPs at Westminster; a parliamentary support role within the Bishops' Conference Secretariat; with the Catholic Agencies CAFOD and CSAN in social action and public policy roles; and a media and communications internship in Archbishop's House, Westminster.

Applications close soon but there is still time to apply. To learn more: <http://faithinpolitics.org.uk>

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge
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Tel 01200 423307 website: olov.org.uk

Email: smsj@btinternet.com Parish Priest: Mgr John Corcoran RD
Assistant Priest: Fr Kevin Murphy Pastor Emeritus Mgr John Chaloner

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31st January 2016

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe

Caritas



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

Sunday

Mass at 9.30am
followed by Coffee

Monday

Mass at 9am

Tuesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

Wednesday—St Blaise

Mass at 9am
Blessing of throats after Mass

Thursday

Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

Saturday (6th February)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am
11am—11.45am Reconciliation

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

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am followed by Coffee

Wednesday—Mass at 9.15am—St Blaise—blessing of throats after Mass

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Sunday—Mass at 10am Parish Mass book, page 132,
Eucharistic Prayer IV, page 31 with own Preface **Tuesday** —Mass at 9.30am

There will be a retiring collection at all masses this weekend for Caritas Diocese of Salford.

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Intentions of Breda Powell, Helen Addy,

Lucy Wrigley x 2, Harriet Foulker, Murray family intentions, Ann Wharton

SICK

Helen Addy, Veronica Hollis, Vivienne Tingle, Rosa Ditri

LATELY DEAD

Lucy Wrigley, Harry Hargreaves, Marie Lund

ANNIVERSARIES

John Herbert Chaloner, Ann Wharton, Harriet Foulker

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £831.51 Sabden £213.40 Dunsop £371.90 S/O £170.48

LECTIO DIVINA You are invited on Wednesday evening at 8pm to learn and experience Lectio Divina, a traditional form of prayer dating back to the early years of the church. Please bring a bible with you.

JOY OF THE GOSPEL Session 3 is on Wed 3rd February starting at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served from 7.15pm. All parishioners welcome.

WELCOMING COMMUNITIES How can parishes respond to refugees and asylum seekers conference on Wednesday 10th February 10am–4pm at Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP. £10 booking fee covers the costs of the conference and a buffet lunch. For details contact Katy Flowers at the Cathedral Centre 0161 817 2267 or k.flowers@caritassalford.org.uk or www.caritassalford.org.uk

PARISH DINNER A suggestion has been made to hold joint Parish Dinner- St Michael & John's, St Mary's Sabden and St Hubert's Dunsop Bridge. A provisional date has been booked - Sat April 9th with a 3 course meal, to be held in St Michael & St John's Parish Hall. To get some indication of how many people are interested could you please add your name to the list at the back of church up by February 7th.

LOURDES The Annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop John Arnold, 29th July and 4th August 2016. If you are a doctor, nurse or health care assistant and are interested in the possibility of volunteering your skills to help support those sick and disabled pilgrims who need particular care during the pilgrimage, the Diocesan pilgrimage organisers are eager to hear from you. Financial support obtained through a special bursary fund, is available for those involved in healthcare, to assist with the cost of travel and accommodation. If you are interested and would like further information please contact the Pilgrimage Medical and Nursing Co-ordinator Veronica Hall on veronica@salfordlourdes.co.uk or telephone the pilgrimage office on 0161 817 2209

PACT Prison Advice & Care Trust a Catholic prison charity is seeking two new trustees. PACT is a growing award-winning independent Catholic national charity working in prisons and communities across England & Wales. Its aim to offer realistic hope of a fresh start to tens of thousands of prisoners, ex-prisoners, offenders, children and families. For further information anyone who might be interested please visit www.prisonadvice.org.uk/get-involved or call Chris Dunne 020 7735 9535

FOOD BANK volunteers recently reviewed the past 12 months and discussed ways we can move forward to improve our service to the community. During 2015, 29,682 meals were given out and 133 Christmas parcels distributed in the weeks before Christmas. Without everyone's generosity in every way—the ladies group raised and donated £1,400—people would go without food. During the recent floods in Whalley, food bank were able to give significant help. Thank you so much for your on going support. At present we are short of sugar, baby wipes and fish (other than tuna). We are well stocked with beans and pasta. Thankyou

PRO-LIFE There will be a meeting on Monday evening 7.30pm in the presbytery.

VACANCIES FOR SCHOOL GOVERNANCE There are vacancies for Foundation Governors at St Augustine's RC High School, Billington. Foundation Governors take a full part in school governance and are appointed by the Bishop to preserve the religious character of the school. Both the Diocese and OFSTED have judged the school to be "outstanding". If you are 18 or over and can obtain a recommendation from your Parish Priest, this is an excellent opportunity to devote some time to Catholic education. For further details please speak to your Parish Priest, pick up a leaflet or look on the school website, www.sarchs.com

CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY Join us on 6th Feb at Cathedral Centre for our Annual Supporters Day. Come and learn more about Pope Francis' message in Laudato Si' and how we can put it into action.

OLOTV CAFOD MEETING in the presbytery at St Michael & St John's on Tuesday 2nd February at 10am. All welcome

40 DAYS FOR LIFE MANCHESTER—LENT CAMPAIGN help to end abortion. Launch meeting 7.30pm Sunday 31st January St Kentigern's Social Club, Hart Road, Fallowfield M14 7DW. All welcome

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES July 29th—August 4th Cost £659 (single supplement £180). Please put your name on the list at the back of church or contact Fr Kevin or Grace Fellows grace_fellows@hotmail.com 01200 425928

CARITAS—Vacancy for Social Worker—see poster in porch

CLITHEROE

| February 6/7 | Saturday | Sunday |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Welcomers | M.Valovin | B.Barker & C.Riley |
| Reader | C.McGuire | K.Downes |
| Eucharistic Ministers | A.Harkin & A.Southworth | E.Thomson, I.Parkes, H.Addy |
| Tea & Coffee | | Embery family |
| Little Church | | Allyson Watson |

CLITHEROE COOKERY CLASSES Volunteers of all kinds, but particularly cooks, are needed to help at these classes from 11am–1.30pm at Trinity Methodist Church, Parson Lane. More info 07851 210773 or 07818 854155

WANTED a young practicing parishioner from the Czech Republic is looking for a person to share the rent of her terraced house on Victoria Street ☎07709 179586

PARISH DRAW draw winners are on poster in porch—no room to list in newsletter

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 24—J.Hindle. There is just one bonus ball left—only £1 a week. Please see Harry Waterworth. tel 01254 823748.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS each Tuesday through Lent at 7.30pm here in St Mary's. We welcome any parish groups who would like to lead.

PANTOMIME—SLEEPING BEAUTY presented by the New Village Folk, takes place in our Community Hall Wednesday Feb 24th to Sat Feb 27th at 7.15pm each evening plus a 2pm Saturday Matinee. Evening performances £10 adult and £8 OAP's and under 16, and includes a Potato pie supper. It is presented cabaret style so you sit at round tables—and bring your own drink along. Tickets for the Matinee (Sat) £5 and refreshments are available to buy. All the cast are local, so you will see a lot of familiar faces. Tickets on sale after mass Sundays at Sabden or from Margaret Parsons 01282 778652 or see Janet at Clitheroe. The last Panto was a sell out so buy your tickets early.