

St Bakhita

Tomorrow is the feast of St Bakhita, taken by Arab slavers in 1877 at the age of 7, although thanks to people like William Wilberforce slavery was abolished in most of the British Empire in 1833. Nearly two hundred years later his great, great grandson, Fr Gerald Wilberforce has this to say: *What would he think about children as young as nine who are asked to steal and pickpocket; what would he say about young men who are enslaved in cannabis factories; what about people who are asked to work as domestic slaves in people's homes; and young girls brought to this country and sold for sex; and what about those people who do escape but nobody believes them. I think I know what he would have said had been alive today: "Haven't we abolished slavery? Why is it still going on?" The truth is that slavery still exists and to a large extent we are all complicit in this. We are all part of the same society and we are all personally responsible. It's time this stopped for good. Together we can end modern slavery.*

Tomorrow on St Bakhita's feast day and during this Year of Mercy let us remember that there are more slaves in the world today than at any time in human history and pray for its end.

- Pray for those forced into slavery to grow our food and make our clothes
- Pray that retail managers become aware of the slave issues in their supply chains and boldly make necessary changes
- Pray for the families who are searching for their lost daughters.
- Pray for the millions of families in India trapped in bonded slavery.
- Pray for the men and women who care for and restore those who have been rescued from slavery.
- Pray for those rescued from slavery that they may heal from years of abuse
- Pray for the church to respond to Pope Frances' call to rise up and lead in the fight against modern slavery
- Pray that we may become aware of modern day slavery and learn the signs to help the Police identify potential victims.
- Pray that we may come to understand our complicity in buying the goods produced by this evil trade
- Pray that together we can bring an end to modern slavery.

Anthony Brown, Medaille Trust

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Kevin Murphy Pastor Emeritus Mgr John Chaloner

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 7th February 2016

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

ASH WEDNESDAY—Mass and distribution of Ashes

Clitheroe: 9.15 am & 7.30pm Sabden: 11am Dunsop Bridge: 9.30am

Ash Wednesday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence

Saturday (13th February)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am

11am—11.55am Exposition

11am—11.45am Reconciliation

6pm First Mass of Sunday

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am followed by Coffee

Ash Wednesday—Mass and distribution of ashes at 11am

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Sunday—Mass at 10am Parish Mass book, page 135,

Eucharistic Prayer II, page 24 Preface V page 69 Tuesday —No Tuesday Mass

Ash Wednesday—Mass and distribution of ashes at 9.30am

Lent begins this week on Wednesday when there will be four masses celebrated in the parish during which ashes will be distributed. Please do try to attend one of these, the times of which are listed on the front page. Ash Wednesday is also a day of Fasting and Abstinence on which Catholics worldwide join in common penance by eating less and abstaining from meat. Fr John

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK Marjorie Lowe, Mary Cushion, Ivy Clarke, Joe Smith, Angela McKee, Monica & Harry Wiggans

SICK Helen Addy, Veronica Hollis, Vivienne Tingle, Rosa Ditri

LATELY DEAD Marjorie Lowe, Ivy Clarke, Angela McKee

ANNIVERSARIES Mary Cushion, Monica & Harry Wiggans

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £813.96 Sabden £212.98 Dunsop £364.43 S/O £170.48

CARITAS Clitheroe £511.48 Sabden £196.20 Dunsop £158.00

LECTIO DIVINA Wednesday evening at 8pm.

WELCOMING COMMUNITIES How can parishes respond to refugees and asylum seekers conference on Wed 10th Feb 10am—4pm Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP. £10 booking fee covers costs of the conference and a buffet lunch. Details Katy Flowers at the Cathedral Centre 0161 817 2267 or k.flowers@caritassalford.org.uk or www.caritassalford.org.uk one space available in a parishioners car.

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. More than 50 people have put their names on the list, but we now need some people to arrange the event. If you would be willing to help then please contact Fr John

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

LADIES GROUP Committee meeting Monday 8th February 7.30pm in the presbytery. ALSO they would like to thank all those who attended the Jimmy Cricket show, and those who generously gave donations and Raffle prizes, we are most grateful to you all. The total amount to be given to Leukaemia research is £2,025

40 DAYS FOR LIFE M'CS TER starts Ash Wednesday—take a stand for live www.40daysforlife.com/localcampaigns/manchester-2 or tel: Michael 07810 791032

CARITAS—Vacancy for Social Worker—see poster in porch

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

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

K.S.C. COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 9th February 7.30pm in the presbytery.

99 GROUP Meet on Tuesday at in the presbytery

JOY OF THE GOSPEL Session 4 is on Wed 17th February starting at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served from 7.15pm. All parishioners welcome.

FOOD BANK At present we are short of sugar, baby wipes and fish (other than tuna). We are well stocked with beans and pasta. Thankyou

CLITHEROE

ROTA'S NEXT WEEKEND **Sat—Welcoming**-J Bentley Reader A.McGuire Euch Ministers—F.Ellis& R.Embery. **Sunday—Welcoming**—M.Rogers/C.Willman Reader P.Lambert Eucharistic Ministers—P.Sutcliffe, A.Marsden, P.Donnely Tea & Coffee—P & A.Geldard/T.O'Donnell Little Church—S.Fellows/C.Mashiter

K.S.C. DANCE (modern sequence & ballroom Friday 12th February at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall. Tickets £7 including hot supper tel: 01200 427029 or 427096

'MELT IN HIS MERCY' Prayer and Praise in Lent on Thursday Evenings. Following the four sessions in Advent, we are starting up again in Lent with an hour of prayer and praise after each Thursday evening mass in Lent. The sessions will begin on Thursday 11th February and are timed at 8.10-9.10pm. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a time for singing God's praises. Musicians and singers are especially welcome to join the band! Please contact Fr Kevin for further details or to offer help.

ROSARY OF THE UNBORN will be said after all masses/services this coming week. Our Lady of Guadalupe pray for us

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

LENT TALKS start Sat 20th Feb for 5 weeks at 11am in our Parish Centre (except for 27 Feb—United Reformed Church). Coffee served from 10.30am Theme this year 'Christianity at work'. Details of full programme next week.

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 42 P.Stansfield. 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 Hurry up and get your tickets, the Friday and Saturday evening performances are sold out but still some for Saturday Matinee and Wednesday & Thursday evenings. 7.15pm start—Cost £10 (adults) £8 (OAP and under 16's). Evening performances inc potato pie supper but bring your own drinks.. Matinee tickets (2pm start) are £5, ice cream, drinks and refreshments on sale. Tickets Margaret Parsons 01282 778652 or see Janet at Clitheroe.

LITTLE CHURCH would like coloured pencils, ready mix paints, brushes, glue sticks and coloured paper. If any parishioners have any of these craft materials we would be most grateful to add to our supplies.