

Dear Parishioners

Lent is flying by with only a month to go before we celebrate the great Easter feast.

If you haven't yet made a Lenten resolution or if you have already broken one, don't worry. With a month to go it isn't too late to start afresh. Don't let time slip you by; do something for Lent, no matter how small it may be.

The final parish meetings to study and discuss Pope Francis' important letter [Evangelii Gaudium \(The Joy of the Gospel\)](#) are on Wednesday of this week, 2nd March, and Wednesday of next week, the 9th. Tea and cake is available from 7.15pm, the meeting begins at 7.30 and lasts only one hour until 8.30pm, though some then take the opportunity of an extra cuppa and further chat. These last two sessions will hopefully generate ideas of how best we may become the Missionary Parish that both Pope Francis and Bishop John are urging us to be. Why not do something positive for lent by coming along?

Last week I was able to send a cheque for £1,000.00 to *Oliveaid*, the charity run by Bethlehem's Catholic University which provides olive tree saplings to Palestinian families whose trees and therefore their livelihoods have been taken by that infamous security wall. £258.00 was raised by Christmas Crib donations and £430.00 by donations from parishioners. Thank you all. The charity supports Muslim as well as Christian families and particularly has helped Christian families remain in the Holy Land.

This weekend the [Easter Lily Remembrance Book](#) opens at the back of St Michael and St John's. For paying the cost of an Easter Lily, £3, donors may write the name of a deceased member of their family or a friend or indeed for anyone for whom they may be praying in the Easter Lily Book which will remain at the Altar during Eastertide. The resulting display of lilies magnificently decorates the sanctuary during this most important time of the Church's year.

The popular Family Paschal candles have arrived complete with stands and are still only £10 each. I have only 10, so first come first served.

St Michael and John's needs more volunteers to read at Mass. Please don't be afraid of stepping forward, particularly younger members of the congregation. It isn't as daunting as you may think and we will help with training. Please speak to either of the priests or to Teresa Mercer.

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 Kevin Murphy **Pastor Emeritus** Mgr John Chaloner

Third Sunday of Lent - 28th February 2016

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am
followed by Coffee

Monday,

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Wednesday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

Friday

Mass at 9am

Stations of the Cross—7.30pm followed by Adoration for 1 hour

Saturday (5th March)

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

Tuesday—Stations of the Cross 7.30pm

Wednesday—Mass at 9.15am

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Sunday—Mass at 10am Parish Mass book, page 160,

Eucharistic Prayer of Reconciliation II page 39

Tuesday —Mass at 9.30am

The S.V.P. Quarterly Collection will be taken next weekend 5/6 March and will be for the SVP work in Sudan and South Sudan. Please take a leaflet this weekend explaining how the money will be used. Every penny you give will be sent to give life and hope to the people of this war torn country. Please give generously.

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK Jim Carrol, Vivian Lully, Michael Jackson, Rosa Ditri, George & Eileen Fletcher, Helen Addy

SICK Norman Dudman, Andrew Bowes, Vivian Lully, Helen Addy

LATELY DEAD Rosa Ditri

ANNIVERSARIES Hugh Hutchinson, George & Eileen Fletcher, Michael Jackson, Jim Carrol

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £764.25 Sabden £171.83 Dunsop £256.00

CAFOD Clitheroe & Sabden £882.44 Dunsop £118.00 S/O £170.48. If you haven't returned your CAFOD envelope yet you can put it on the collection basket or through the presbytery letterbox.

LECTIO DIVINA during Lent incorporated in the Thursday night 8.10pm service

BOLLYWOOD CHARITY NIGHT 3 course meal, Bollywood entertainment, Raffle and Disco on Sat 2 April in St Michael & John's Parish Hall 7pm. Cost £15 per ticket (no concessions sorry). Tickets—Meriel Woodward 07989 9222666, Tom Clay 07962 136749 Sabden, Grace/Susan Fellows Clitheroe, and Ann Cooke 01200 446607 Dunsop

JOB VACANCY Director of Education, Salford Diocese—see poster in porch

PARISH DINNER Saturday 9th April 7pm for 7.30pm in our Parish Centre. Price is £21.50 for 3 course meal, coffee and disco. Please complete the menu choices form (at the back of your church) and return in a sealed envelope marked 'Parish Dinner'. Please put these onto the collection plate at Mass and these will be returned to the organiser. Receipt slips will be sent to confirm your booking. Donations of raffle prizes for the night will be gratefully received.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION as part of the Ribble Valley Mayor's charity appeal 'Drop the Floor' a traditional Irish band will play at the Mellor Brook Community Centre, Mellor Brook, Blackburn BB2 7PR on Friday 18th March at 7.30pm. The evening will include a Dance Display and there will be an Irish Stew Supper. Tickets £15 from Janet: 07791 558 554 or buy online at mellorbrook.org. See poster

JOY OF THE GOSPEL Session 5 of these meetings will take place on Wednesday 2 March at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Refreshments are served from 7.15pm. All parishioners are welcome. Also see back page.

24 HOURS WITH THE LORD at Salford Cathedral Friday 4th March through to Sat 5th March Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation **ALSO** Bridging the Hours, a Vigil with the Lord (night watching requested by our young people) begins with Mass 10am Friday 4th March and ends with Mass on Saturday morning 5th at 7am. See postes

CLITHEROE

PARISH CENTRE Subscriptions Adults £10 Senior Citizens & Students £5 now due—renew at the Centre. Sunday Evening Quiz & Play your Cards Right (Jackpot now £170) starts 8.30pm.

LOVE CLITHEROE The 'Love Clitheroe' meeting takes place on Monday 7 March 7.30pm at the Clitheroe Community Church. An opportunity for local Christians to meet together in prayer and praise. Everyone is welcome.

PARISH DRAW Sorry no room for names again—please see poster in porch for winners
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

BAPTISM We welcome Rafferty Drew Holliday who was baptised last Saturday.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE this years ecumenical service is at St Mary Magdalene's at 10am followed by our Walk of Witness to a short open air service at Castle Gate

LENT TALKS 11am next Saturday 5th March in St Michael & St John's Parish Hall. This weeks talk 'Supporting children and families' with Nick Shelly of Blackburn with Darwen Children's Services. Coffee served from 10.30am

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER **NEXT** Friday 4th March at 7.30pm in St James' Church. The speaker will be Mrs Ruth Haldene. Everyone welcome

ROTA'S NEXT WEEKEND **Sat**—Welcoming—M.Valovin Reader - A.Harkin

Sun—Welcoming—J.Clegg & E.Davies Reader M.Donnolly Eucharistic Ministers—C.Leeming, T.Mercer, A.Marsden Tea & Coffee—C.James & A.Pritchard Little Church—D & V Harvey Higgins & D & C Carr

'MELT IN HIS MERCY' Prayer and Praise in Lent on Thursday Evenings. Following the four sessions in Advent, there will be an hour of prayer and praise after each Thursday evening mass from 8.10-9.10pm, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a time for singing God's praises. Musicians and singers especially welcome to join the band! Please contact Fr Kevin for further details or to offer help.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS this week led by our St Augustines. Friday at 7.30pm and then followed by Adoration for one hour

EASTER REMEMBRANCE BOOK see back page. Money and names will be collected after mass at the table near the greetings cards by Jane Brown (Saturday) and Teresa Mercer (Sunday) starting 27th February. **List closes on Palm Sunday.**

SAINSBURY'S Our Primary School are collecting Active Kids vouchers. Please pop into the Parish Communications Box in porch or hand into school.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY K.S.C. Jumble Sale Saturday 2nd April

K.S.C. DANCE Friday 18th March at 7.30pm. Dance to John Lancaster. Tickets £7 including supper.

LOURDES Still time to put your name down 29 July-4 August £659 (£180 single room). Please contact Fr Kevin or Grace Fellows 01200 425928 this week.

Easter Cards and First Holy Communion cards and gifts are now on sale in the side porch. Place money in the box situated on the inside wall

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 42 Pauline Stansfield. There is just one bonus ball left—only £1 a week. Please see Harry Waterworth. tel 01254 823748.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS this Tuesday 1st March at 7.30pm will be led by the S.V.P. Please come along and join in this Lenten devotion.

CHARITY BINGO & FAMILY SOCIAL NIGHT Friday March 11th in aid of 'Kises' Meriel Woodward (07989 922666) who committed to raise £40,000 by the end of March to help children living on a rubbish dump in India. Tickets £5 on sale. Please leave Bingo or Raffle prizes with Pauline Hindle, Damien Buggie, Margaret Parsons, Pat Whitwell, Margaret Waling.

FURTHER EVENTS Easter Bonnet Parade—Sat March 26th—more details later.

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER this year will be hosted by the Baptist church on Friday 4th March at 2pm. All welcome

DUNSOP BRIDGE

ANNIVERSARY This year it is the 150th anniversary of Thorneyholme RC Primary School in Dunsop Bridge. The school is asking past pupils to share their memories with the children on a form which is available on the school website. Should you know of anyone who attended the school, then please can you pass this message on. If anyone does not have access to the internet, then you can contact the school on 01200 448276 to receive a hard copy.