

Dear Parishioners

This week I include important comments from Pope Francis' address to the World Methodist Council, the Methodist Council of Europe and the Methodist Church in Britain meeting in Rome on 7th April.

I offer warm greetings to you in this Easter season, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord who enlightens the whole world. I wish to thank you for the kind words addressed to me. We come together united in the faith that Jesus is Lord and that God has raised him from the dead. This baptismal faith makes us truly brothers and sisters.

I was pleased to learn of the opening of the Methodist Ecumenical Office in Rome. It is a sign of our growing closeness, and particularly of our shared desire to overcome all that stands in the way of our full communion. May the Lord bless the work of the office and make it a place where Catholics and Methodists can encounter one another and grow in appreciation of one another's faith, whether they be groups of pilgrims, those training for ministry, or those who guide their communities. May it also be a place where the progress achieved through our theological dialogue is made known, celebrated, and advanced.

John Wesley, in a letter to a Roman Catholic, wrote that Catholics and Methodists are called to "help each other on in whatever ... leads to the Kingdom". May the new common statement encourage Methodists and Catholics to help one another in our lives of prayer and devotion. In the same letter, Wesley also wrote, "if we cannot as yet think alike in all things, at least we may love alike". It is true that we do not as yet think alike in all things, and that on issues regarding ordained ministries and ethics, much work remains to be done. However, none of these differences constitute such an obstacle as to prevent us from loving in the same way and offering a common witness to the world. Our lives of holiness must always include a loving service to the world; Catholics and Methodists together are bound to work in different ways in order to give concrete witness to the love of Christ. When we serve those in need, our communion grows.

In today's world, afflicted by so much evil, it is more than ever vital that as Christians we offer a joint witness inspired by the light of Easter, becoming a sign of the love of God, which in the resurrection of Jesus is victorious. May this love, also through our humble and courageous service, reach the hearts and lives of our many brothers and sisters who are looking for such love even without knowing it.

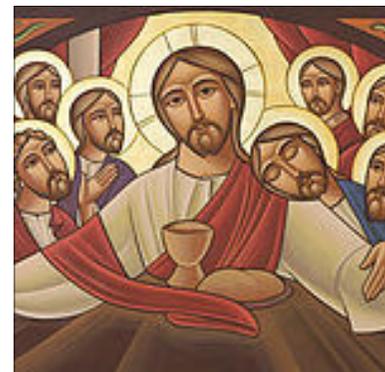
Ecumenism is a high priority for Pope Francis, Fr John

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

5th Sunday of Easter - 24th April 2016 St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

Saturday (30th April)

Pro-life Day of Prayer—see notice
6pm First Mass of Sunday

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 271. Eucharistic Prayer III p28
Preface II of Easter p.74 **Tuesday** —Mass at 9.30am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Roy Fox, Helen Addy, Birthday intentions, Mary Shepherd

SICK

Bert Bradley, Helen Addy, Norman Dudman, Joan Simpson, Veronica Hollis

LATELY DEAD

Roy Fox, Betty Holgate,

Pope Francis has asked that a special collection be taken in all Catholic Churches in Europe this weekend to aid the people of the Ukraine

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £810.69 Sabden £158.61 Dunsop £246.00

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £265

RETIRED PRIESTS FUND Clitheroe £685.82 Sabden £65.60 Dunsop £114.23

JESUIT MISSIONS QUARTERLEY COLLECTION £168.74 Many thanks

WALSINGHAM DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE Saturday 7th May—see poster in porch

MASS OF HEALING The next Mass of Healing is today Sunday April 24th at 2pm in our Parish Centre.

HELP FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES Pete & Rosie Simpson (Anti-Trafficking Network) have a home in Turkey where 50 Syrian refugee families live. They need unwanted balls of wool, knitting needles or crochet hooks. Contact Anthony Brown 01200 422811 or a.brown@caritassalford.org.uk

PRO-LIFE DAY Saturday 30th April in St Michael & St John's. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 9am. Special Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon during which the names of children who have died at an early age or before birth will be processed in the offertory procession—slips of paper provided at the back of the church for the names of any children, then place in the basket inside the War Memorial rail. Exposition will close at 5.45pm. Watchers required throughout the day for half an hour at a time also volunteers to take up the gifts at the Offertory. Lists at the back of church for you to sign.

SALFORD CATHOLIC SAFEGUARDING COMMISSION is looking to recruit a professional volunteer with experience of child welfare to join the commission. It involves six meetings per year. Further details contact Dawn Lundergan on 0161 817 2206 or dawn.lundergan@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

PARISH SAFEGUARDING UPDATE Since the last update well over 20 people have been successfully processed. Any new 'starters' out there or those who managed to avoid us last time around? Contact Ann Harkin or Bridget Hilton (Dunsop Bridge) ASAP.

LECTIO DIVINA (reading and praying Holy Scripture) on Wednesdays 7.30-8.30pm in presbytery. A great opportunity to deepen prayer life through scripture. Do come along.

PRAYER AND PRAISE ON THURSDAYS The sessions that ran well in Advent and Lent will now continue on the last Thursday of each month, after the evening Mass. The next one will be on Thursday 28 April 8.10-9.10pm. Come and praise God in song, silence, prayer and praise. Fr Kevin

RETREAT AT CRAIG LODGE DALMALLY, SCOTLAND 12-16 SEPTEMBER Fr Kevin will be leading a retreat called 'Prayer, Parable, Poetry and Praise!' at this wonderful retreat centre in Scotland, where Mary's Meals is based. The five days will be centred in reading and writing that reflect the Catholic faith. You will get a chance to pray, relax, worship and be creative with words. See Fr Kevin if interested.

SALFORD CATECHIST'S ADULT FORMATION GROUP Day of Catechesis for all. Amazing Grace: an exploration of the Corporal works of Mercy, including presentations by the Gorton Parish advisory group and Our Lady's Catechists. Venue—Sacred Heart & St Francis of Assisi, Gorton M18 7WJ from 10am—3pm. Mass at 12noon followed by Jacobs Join lunch. Details Barbara Delafield, Barbara.delafield@gmail.com 07855 887958

99 GROUP Meet in the presbytery this coming Wednesday 27th April

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION a schedule of dates for Exposition and Divine Mercy Meditations at St Joseph's, Audley Range, Blackburn is on the notice board in the porch.

MEDAILLE TRUST Anthony Brown will speak at Tabor Retreat House, Preston on Human Trafficking on Saturday 30th April 10am-4pm £15—see poster in porch

BOSAZ TRUST are holding a Refugee Awareness evening—St Bernadette's Social Centre in Whitefield Friday 29th April.

EVENINGS FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS Fr Kevin will lead two evening sessions for Eucharistic Ministers. The first will be for those people who are shortly to begin serving in this role and will be on Thursday 2 June at 8.10-9.10pm after the evening mass and it is asked that you attend the mass as well. The second will be for those people who are currently serving in the role and will be a kind of "refresher course" and take place on Friday 3 June at 7.30—8.30pm. Please be sure to attend the evening that applies to you.

CLITHEROE

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

BAPTISM We welcome Laurence Paul Seedle who was baptised recently

Please collect your Gift Aid envelopes from the table near the Sacristy Door if you have not already done so.

LADIES GROUP Next Wednesday 27th April 7.30pm in Parish Hall 'All that Glitters is not Gold—how we came into farming' - speaker Rose Donkin. £2 inc Tea and Biscuits
CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 15-21 Once again we appeal for helpers giving out and collecting envelopes. Please see Janet if you are willing to help ALSO if you have helped in previous years and are willing to do so again we would be most appreciative—please let Janet know. Thankyou

Next Sunday the 9.30am Mass will be in thanksgiving for the splendid year during which parishioner Bridget Hilton has served as Mayor of the Ribble Valley. The Mass will be attended by a number of Civic dignitaries and officials and will be followed by a reception in the Social Centre hosted by the Ribble Valley Borough Council to which all are invited.

ROTA'S NEXT WEEKEND Sat Welcoming A.Harkin - Reader—J.Byrne Eucharistic Ministers B.Worden & M.Preedy **Sunday**—Welcoming—M.Swales & T.O'Donnell Reader P.Lambert Eucharistic Ministers— J.Hall, S.Hall, P.Donnely Little Church—Geraldine Hennigan & Jude Golding Tea & Coffee—Civic Reception RVBC

JUMBLE SALE at our recent Jumble a Kenwood Major Mincer attachment was sold—if you bought it could you please telephone Margaret on 422076—its important

ROTAS now available for May, June, July & August

SABDEN

BONUS BALL this weeks winner No 54—Rollover There is just one bonus ball left—only £1 a week. Please see Harry Waterworth. tel 01254 823748.

CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING in St Mary's Hall 10am Sturday May 7th. All village churches involved with St Mary's providing refreshments. Tombola—Cake Stall—Good as New—Bric a Brac—Book stall—Raffle. We are appealing for items for all the stalls and if you can help please leave them at the back of church or with Betty Clarkson, Ann Barker, Margaret Parsons or Damien Buggie who are St Mary's representatives on Sabden Christian Council.

PARISH DIRECTORY we are updating the Parish Directory, copies of which will be in the hall after Mass—please check your details are correct and if so tick against your name, if they are incorrect please amend or complete a new slip

DUNSOP BRIDGE

SUNDAY TEAS Teas are available each Sunday until the end of August. Open from 10.30am—4pm in Dunsop Bridge Village Hall. To help telephone Julie Bennett 01200 448630