

Dear Parishioners,

This summer some eight priests, all aged 75 years or more, will retire. In addition the Benedictine Monks are leaving Bamber Bridge after 300 years. On Wednesday the Bishop met with the priests of the Deanery to discuss this situation and explore how best we may reconfigure our parishes to meet these challenges. We agreed positive proposals but since the Bishop still has to meet with other Deaneries he asked us not to discuss these until a recommended plan for the whole Diocese is released for consultation next month. We then agreed on the following statement.

As part of the ongoing diocesan consultation, the priests of the deanery met with Bishop John on Wednesday, to consider the best possible future sacramental and pastoral provision for the people of this deanery. The discussions were very positive and constructive - all were concerned that any changes should be considered as 'pruning for future growth'. A proposal about the way forward was submitted to Bishop John by the priests of the deanery.

Included in this was a discussion about the provision of Sunday Masses, with an agreement that there is a need to reduce the number of Masses across the deanery. And so, a proposed schedule of Masses will be submitted to the Bishop which will provide Masses at a variety of times across the whole deanery, allowing priests to supply for one another in case of illness or absence.

It was thought important that our deanery proposals should not be considered in isolation but rather should wait until a comprehensive diocesan plan is offered for consultation. When all the other deaneries have submitted their own proposals, Bishop John will present his plan for the whole Diocese, hopefully in June, which will be open to everyone for comment and suggestions, before a final decision is made by the Bishop, and then gradually implemented over time.

As the planning by the eight deaneries continues, the Bishop asks that we continue to pray for our openness to mission as we grow in that sense of Discipleship to which Pope Francis is calling us.

Stay with us, Lord, on our journey.

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

6th Sunday of Easter - 1st May 2016 St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday
Mass at 9.30am

Monday
Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
Mass at 9am

Thursday
Mass at 9am & 7.30pm

Saturday (7th May)
Eucharistic Service 10.45am
11-11.45am Reconciliation (Confessions)
11-11.55am Exposition
6pm—First Mass of Sunday

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday - Mass at 11am followed by Coffee **Wednesday**—Mass at 9.15am

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Sunday—Mass at 10am Parish mass book p 273. Eucharistic Prayer II p24
Preface III of Easter p.74 **Tuesday** —Mass at 9.30am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Mary Mercer, Betty Holgate x 4, Winifred Slater, John Joe McKenna

SICK

Bert Bradley, Helen Addy, Norman Dudman, Joan Simpson, Kath King

LATELY DEAD

Betty Holgate, Veronica Hollis

ANNIVERSARIES

Hubert Jackson, Winifred Slater, John Joe McKenna

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £644.05 Sabden £148.10 Dunsop £216.05

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £265

UKRAINE Clitheroe £334.22 Sabden £102.41 Dunsop £124.65

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

CAFOD meeting 10am Tuesday 3rd May in the presbytery. Steve Burrowes from CAFOD Salford is coming. Please come and join us

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 26th May 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. Saturday 14th May 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@gmail.com

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.

EVENINGS FOR EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS Fr Kevin will lead two evening sessions for Eucharistic Ministers. The first will be for those 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.

NORTHERN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE 17th, 18th, 19th June at Liverpool Hope University. See poster in porch

MARCH FOR LIFE UK—BIRMINGHAM 14th MAY The UK's biggest annual Pro-Life Rally. Coach from St Kentigern's Fallowfield 8am & St Margaret's Altrincham 8.30am. Contact Richard 07710 348860 richardju@gmail.com

CCRS –CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES from September will be offered at five venues—see poster in porch together with all details.

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.

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

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—again, please let Janet know. Thankyou . A Coffee Morning will be held in Trinity Church, Parson Lane on Saturday 14th May 10am—12 noon.

LADIES GROUP thank you all for your very generous support in numerous ways for our Coffee Morning last Saturday. As a parish we are very pleased to give £500 to Dementia Research.

PARISH DRAW WINNERS APRIL £100—57 J.Downes, £20—48 J.Byrne, £20—128 M.Sellers, £10—123 J.Leeming, 61—F.Ellis, 19—E.Worswick, 116—V.Bradley. Please collect your winnings from your agent.

THE TABLET is on sale at the back.—£3. These are not free copies.

Today 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 six mayors and other 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 M.Valovin - Reader—C.Riley Eucharistic Ministers A.Harkin & A.Southworth **Sunday**—Welcoming—J.Clebb & E.Davies Reader P.Sutcliffe Eucharistic Ministers— C.Morgan, S.Smith, B.Collinson Little Church—Allyson Watson Tea & Coffee—Embery family

ROTAS now available for May, June, July & August

SABDEN

BONUS BALL no winner this week. 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 NEXT Saturday 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. Tickets on sale after Mass today.

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

APF MISSIONS Boxes are now due.