

Dear Parishioners

The following brief report appeared in last week's Tablet.

The number of British adults who identify as Christian has risen for the second year while the number who say they have no religion has declined.

Figures from NatCen's British Social Attitudes survey showed that the number of Catholics rose from 8 per cent to 9 per cent last year, the level it was last at in 2002.

This caused the figure for Christians to rise from 43 per cent of the population to 44 per cent. This coincides with a slight fall in the number of those who identify themselves as having no religion, from 49 to 48 per cent. This is the second year it has fallen. The decline of these so-called "nones" is most pronounced among the under 45's.

The percentage of adult members of religions other than Christian has remained at 8 per cent.

Ian Simpson, senior researcher at NatCen said: "It appears that the steady decline of religion in Britain has come to a halt, at least for the moment."

But my quote of the week is from Pope Francis who when addressing two million youth in Poland advised them to speak to their grandparents to cultivate a 'memory' of their identity, of who they really are. How true! Up until a generation or so ago, Lancashire Catholics had a clear identity of who they were. Today most of our kids have little idea of who they are, their history and the faith their forebears suffered to preserve against all the odds.

This year's RCIA course will begin after the holidays, next month. The RCIA is an introduction to Catholicism and is of interest to those wishing to learn more about the faith, or who may have missed making their First Communion, or those who wish to join the Church or are simply curious about what makes Catholic tick! If you have a friend who may be interested but possibly shy to come along, then do please consider inviting them and accompanying them to at least the initial session.

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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 21st 2016

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am - followed by Coffee

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Thursday

Mass at 7.30pm

Friday

Mass at 9am

Saturday (27th August)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am Reconciliation 11am - 11.45am

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

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday—Mass at 11am

Wednesday—Mass at 9.15am

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Sunday—Mass at 10am Parish Mass book p 127. Eucharistic Prayer III p27

Preface VIII p 68 Tuesday —Mass at 9.30am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Jane Crowther, Bridget McKenna, Holy Souls, Thomas Davies, Special Intention,

Les Collinson x 4, Mary Filbin, Matthew Perrin, Brian Ashton x 2,

SICK

Joseph Kitching, Bert Bradley, Joseph Wright, Bill Dewhurst, Joan Simpson, Jane Crowther

LATELY DEAD

Fr Tony Grimshaw, Les Collinson, Brian Ashton,

ANNIVERSARIES

Bridget McKenna, Thomas Davies, Mary Filbin, Mary Agnes Clegg

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £801.94 Sabden £114.57 Dunsop £319.80

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £265

JESUIT MISSIONS Quarterly collection £114.00 Many thanks

TRAFFICKING AWARENESS LEAFLETS AND PRAYER CARDS The Police are investing heavily in raising awareness of human trafficking in East Lancs and the signs to look out for. Prayer cards available from porch.

ASYLUM SEEKERS please pray for two families of asylum seekers who are now living in the Ribble Valley. May they experience love and peace despite continuing uncertainty. May we be generous neighbours.

LADIES GROUP TREASURE HUNT on Wednesday August 31st. Once again it will be in the town followed by supper (menu's available from the porch or from Daphne 427912 or Janet 423307 ext 3) at the Swan and Royal—cost £12 for a two course meal followed by Tea or Coffee. The Treasure Hunt will begin at 6pm from the Lowergate Car Park. Should you wish to come for supper only then you are most welcome to do so, just be outside the Swan and Royal at 7.15pm, but don't forget to complete a menu form! We need the menu's and money by Sunday 21st August.

THE FAMILY IS SACRED is an Enrichment Programme for Marriage and Family Life that is designed to support couples and families at parish level. It will be run on a deanery basis and we are looking for at least two couples from this deanery to assist delivering it. Couples should be willing to undertake the formation needed (maybe four evenings), willing to deliver the programme in their parish (maybe one evening a month over a year) and be willing to promote the Church's vision of marriage and family life. Volunteers may be of any age. If you are interested, or need more details please have a word with Fr John

GAMES NIGHT WITH A DIFFERENCE at Low Moor Club Friday 9 September 7.15pm suitable for young gamers and families, from 8.45 for 16+ players. See poster

CRAIG LODGE RETREAT 12-16 September. Still some places left on the retreat at Craig Lodge, Dalmally, Scotland. Nearly fully booked but if you still want to go then ring Craid Lodge directly on 01838 200216 or website www.craiglodge.org

REFUGEE RESPONSE Keep up to date with what our Parish is doing about refugees. Visit the Refugee Response webpage under Groups on the Parish website <http://www.olotv.org.uk/parish-groups/refugee-response>

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER wanted at Salford Diocese—see poster

CONQUERORS need a lift to 'Conquerors' the youth 2000 Walsingham event? on Thursday 25th—Monday 29th August. Coach available from Manchester and Leeds £30 return (non profit). Reserve your place—contact Mary Hall Mobile 0747 8765010 Or email madrecasita@yahoo.co.uk

CAFOD is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to work with children and young people in local schools, promoting global justice and equipping them to make a real difference. All training and resources are provided for you to deliver assemblies and workshops in schools on behalf of CAFOD. If you enjoy working with children and young people and have time to visit a few schools each year please get in touch with Ann Hayes at CAFOD Salford by calling 0161 705 0605 or email ahayes@cafod.org.uk

Rotas for September—December (Clitheroe) have been emailed. Those not on email can collect their copy from the table to the left of Sacristy door

ANNUAL CEMETERY MASS

Bank Holiday Monday, 29th August.

Our annual Mass for all deceased parishioners, family and friends will be held in the old Catholic cemetery on Waddington Road a week tomorrow Bank Holiday Monday at 11am

CLITHEROE

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

ROTA'S NEXT WEEKEND Sat Welcoming M.Valovin Reader—A.McGuire Eucharistic Ministers— M.Preedy & N.Dixon **Sun**—Welcoming— J.Clegg & E.Davies Reader—Martha Barrett Euch Min— G.Lambert, P.Lambert, P.Sutcliffe. Coffee— Fellows family.

APF RED MISSION BOXES Still looking for a volunteer to collect two boxes from Milton Avenue, one from King Street and one from Radecliff Street. Please ring Sion or Janet Hall 01200 428949

KNITATHON The blanket created by the Knitathon project is on display in front of the War memorial at the back of the church and one of the volunteers will be on hand to answer any of your questions.

SABDEN

BONUS BALL The Bonus Ball can't continue without **YOU!** Given the summer holiday and this transition period, the Bonus Ball will be suspended until September when new numbers and envelopes will be provided. If you already have a Bonus Ball and wish to continue please let me know if you haven't already. If you don't have a Bonus Ball **WHY NOT?** It's only £1 a week with the chance to win £25 and more importantly support the church. Please consider joining the draw, there are still plenty of numbers available and your participation is required for it to continue. Application forms are at the back or please contact Donna Wharton 07970 398288 or dmaa1@hotmail.com

COFFEE AFTER MASS—volunteers needed for this, please put your name on the list in the porch for any week you are able. Thankyou

DUNSOP BRIDGE

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

ANNUAL DUCK RACE August Bank Holiday—Monday 29th August 2pm. Tickets are available from the back of church. Please support this event by selling ducks @ £1 each. Also donation of prizes would be greatly appreciated. All proceeds to Our Lady of the Valley, St Hubert's Dunsop Bridge. Please come and support your ducks as they make their way down the River Dunsop into the village centre. Further details from Julie Bennett 01200 448630. please see also under Clitheroe**

From the beginning of September the Tuesday morning mass will be a little earlier at 9.15am.

HELP WANTED!

To tidy St Joseph's Cemetery prior to our Annual Mass on Bank Holiday Monday (29th August). Please come along starting at 6.30pm next Wednesday 24th or if it is wet Thursday 25th. Thankyou

