

## Dear Parishioners

Every year the church cleaning team is joined by volunteers for the annual pre-Christmas big clean. It will begin a week tomorrow, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am. We have plenty of dusters, brushes and vacuum cleaners so please do consider whether you can spare an hour anytime between 9.15 and 11.45 to join in the fun, followed by tea, biscuits and natter. Please do come along – volunteers are people like you! If you don't come, then maybe no one will arrive! A similar appeal has gone out with the school newsletter.

You may remember two weeks ago we began to look at the Bishop's letter outlining what he considers to be the requirements of a good and adequate preparation for infant baptism. It includes the request that parish members welcome parents and godparents to our parish community by accompanying them to Mass, to coffee and encouraging their growth in faith to ensure a well-founded hope that their child will be brought up as a practising member of our Catholic community.

Bishop John stresses that this is not the responsibility of the few parishioners who help organise the baptismal preparation instruction but of the whole parish community. Baptism should then be followed up by these or other parishioners willing to maintain a friendly link with the family to encourage them to live their baptismal promises.

Why? Well, I'm sure you are aware that the majority of parents never come to the parish after their child has been baptised until they need a copy of the baptismal certificate to help ensure a place in a Catholic school.

I have no idea how we as a parish may best organise this and would be grateful if you would share with me any ideas you may have. Could this be best achieved at the next Forum meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February? Or would it be better to arrange a special meeting to discuss this one issue?

One thought that I have and am certain of, is that grandparents are key. Pope Francis time and again speaks of the important role of grandparents in inculcating a love of the faith in their grandchildren and in developing their awareness of who they are and of their heritage, which will stand them in good stead as they navigate their way through life and encourage them in their turn to share their faith and heritage with their grandchildren.

Let's start a parish conversation on these vital issues! *Fr John*

# Our Lady of the Valley Parish

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

## Second Sunday of Advent - December 4th 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  
Mass at 7.30pm followed by  
Advent Prayer & Praise

#### Saturday (10th December)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am      Reconciliation 11am—11.45am  
Exposition—11am—11.55am      First Mass of Sunday 6pm

## St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

#### Sunday—Mass at 10am

Parish Mass book p.85 Eucharistic Prayer III p.28 Preface I of Advent p.65

#### Tuesday Mass at 9.15am

## St Mary's Church, Sabden

#### Sunday—Mass at 11am

Tuesday Advent Reflection 7.30pm      Wednesday—Mass at 9.15am

#### MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Phillipa Mahon, Fr Joseph Wareing SJ, Harry Slater, Kathleen Degg, Anthony Green, Special Intentions, Brian Atkinson, Alice & Patrick Emerson, Joan & Hugh Kelly, Mary Cushion, Jayne Crombleholme, Private intention, In thanksgiving.

**SICK** Joseph Kitching, Bert Bradley, Jane Crowther, Jean Schofield, Ian Chew, Fr Joseph Wareing SJ, Sean Bennett, Olive Bromley, John Dixon  
**LATELY DEAD** Phillipa Mahon, Harry Slater, Kathleen Degg, Anthony Green  
**ANNIVERSARIES** Fr Francis Hannan SJ, Janet Barlow, Kenneth Barlow, Brian Atkinson, Alice & Patrick Emerson, Joan & Hugh Kelly, Mary Cushion, Jayne Crombleholme

### **PARISH—Clitheroe, Dunsop and Sabden**

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £759.33 Dunsop £270.10 Sabden £165.37

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £265

**S.V.P. COLLECTION** Clitheroe £618.90 Sabden £66.09 Dunsop £49.40

**LADIES GROUP ANNUAL MEAL** Friday January 27th at the Newdrop and the cost is £27 for a three course meal including transport and tips. Menu's are available from the porch. **Please note there are only eight places left.**

**REFUGEE** Christmas Cards on sale—see Katherine Clay ( 07857 808984

**COME DINE WITH ME** If you would like to host a meal for a refugee household, please collect the leaflet/form from back of church this and return it to the Parish office or Tom Clay in an envelope marked "Refugee meal FAO Tom Clay" by 4th December.

**COURSE** The five Northern Dioceses are running joint courses for Aspiring Deputies and Headteachers in Catholic Primary schools. A two day residential for those aspiring to deputy headship will take place on 19-20 January 2017 and for those aspiring to headship, a two day residential will take place 2-3 February. Interested in either course please contact one of the priests.

**CAFOD** Looking for Christmas presents with a difference—CAFOD World Gifts could be the answer! Delight your friends and family and make a huge difference to people around the world. See the new Christmas catalogues in all three of our church porches.

**WALK WITH ME** Advent booklets now on sale at back of church £1

**THANKYOU** to the three ladies who donated sewing machines in response to the request in the newsletter last weekend.

**CARITAS** Diocese of Salford and Salford Loaves and Fishes—Music and readings for Advent and Christmas in St John's Cathedral Sunday 11 December at 7.30pm. featuring the esteemed Notability Choir. Everyone welcome. Please help us to support the homeless this Christmas don't let's leave them out in the cold. Tickets £5 available by tel 0161 737 8775/0161 817 2250 or [www.tinyurl.com/caritaschristmas](http://www.tinyurl.com/caritaschristmas)

**ST AUGUSTINE'S CAROL SERVICE** Wednesday 7th December at 7.30pm. Please see Fr John if you want a ticket.

**LADIES GROUP** Programme of events for 2017 is available from the porches

### **CLITHEROE**

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** Christmas Cards/Advent Calendars/gifts on sale in side porch (to the left of the door into the sacristy). Open before and after all masses/service.

**DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING OFFICER** The diocese is to recruit a suitable experienced and qualified practitioner to support the Safeguarding Co-ordinator. Please see the notice board for further details.

**HELP!** We ask once again for volunteers to help deliver Christmas Cards around our Parish. If you are willing to help then please contact Janet in the Parish Office. PLEASE NOTE if you have delivered cards in previous years **YOU STILL NEED TO LET JANET KNOW.**

**FR WAREING** Please continue your prayers for Fr Wareing, he is quite exhausted and should not be visited for the moment.



### **THANKYOU**

*"A big thankyou to all at St Michael & John's Church who visited or sent cards for my 100th birthday. Thankyou to the children who sang so beautifully. It was lovely to see you all and Fr John. A special thankyou to Fr Kevin for saying Mass for me in Manor House, with friends and family around me."* Mrs Alice Wells

**LADIES GROUP** Committee meeting Monday 5 December 7.30pm in the presbytery

**ROTA'S NEXT WEEKEND Sat** Welcoming—A.Harkin Reader—C.Carr Euch Ministers—M.Preedy & M.Smith **Sun**—Welc—B.Barker & C.Riley Reader—P.Anwyl Euch Min— G.Lambert, P.Lambert, P.Sutcliffe Tea & Coffee—P.Byrne & Family

**ADVENT LUNCH** and short service followed by lunch will be held each Tuesday during Advent at the United Reformed Church 12.30pm . All welcome

**JOY TO THE WORLD** a special Christmas service celebrated in music, drama, dance and poetry with Ribble Valley Choir and Orchestra. An offering will be taken to support the work of Christian Aid with Syrian refugees. Sunday 11 December 6.30pm at Trinity Methodist Church.

**MAYORS CHRISTMAS PARCELS** Anyone over 80 years of age, living alone, who would like a parcel and hasn't previously had one, please contact Ann on 01200 422890

**CHRISTMAS FAIR** Thankyou to all who supported and helped in any way with this annual event last Sunday. On the day we raised £1615.50 The raffle made £791 and we received donations of £165 and £180 in unclaimed Bucket Raffle prizes in 2014 & 2015.

We still have 3 Raffle prizes to be claimed together with £75 (Bucket Raffle) won by ticket 115—G.Harkin. Prizes may be collected from the presbytery. Name the Teddy (Francis) was won by Kevin Downes, and guess the weight of the cake 6lb 8oz by Jean Marsden.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL** open today Sun noon-4pm Christ Church Chatburn

**LADIES GROUP TRIP TO YORK** Next Wednesday 7 December leaves Clitheroe Interchange at 8.15am prompt. We have had a cancellation, so there is 1 vacant seat. Ring Janet 01200 424657 or Daphne 01200 427912

**RAFFLE TICKETS** Arnold will be selling Dunsop Bridge Raffle tickets this weekend.

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Wednesday 28th December K.S.C. Annual Quiz Night in our Parish Hall at 7.30pm

**NEW ROTA'S** for early 2017 will be available shortly. Should you wish to come off the rota please let Janet know by next weekend (December 11th)

### **DUNSOP BRIDGE**

**CHRISTMAS DRAW** Tickets are available for the Christmas Draw—please support by taking tickets to sell to your friends and family. The draw will take place at the Bingo on Monday 12th December in Newton Village Hall.

**A.P.F.MISSIONS** total collected amounted to £187.24. Many thanks

### **SABDEN**

**BONUS BALL** Congratulations to winning number 17. Two numbers have unexpectedly become available—if interested please see Donna Wharton.

**FOODBANK DONATIONS** can be left at the back of church. Donations at this time of year are so important to help others have food in their cupboards at Christmas.

**ADVENT REFLECTION** Tuesday 6th December 7.30pm—all welcome