

Dear Parishioners

At the recent Forum, in my report on the Parish Social Centre I mentioned the challenge faced by Clitheroe's local hospitality and catering businesses by the success of the gigantic Holmes Mill project. To meet this challenge we have to attract more custom and one way is by challenging the popular perception that the Centre is more or less for Catholics only! Yes, that attitude still persists. So, the Centre will be given the more modern title of "The Old Schoolroom", with St Michael and St John's appearing underneath in smaller letters. When I reported this, some parishioners were uncertain but the simple fact is that if the Centre is to remain open, warm, in good repair and decoration, and pay for itself then we simply must continue to adapt and fight for a share of the market! Consider that a decade ago there were well over a hundred parish social centres and clubs in the diocese but today there are less than twenty still functioning and most of these are fighting for survival. We have to adapt to survive or go the way of the Dodo. However, to assure parishioners that the Centre is and will remain a parish venture, I propose that we hold an Annual General Meeting open to all parishioners and other members, that will provide an annual report followed by opportunity to question, challenge and suggest ways to ensure its future viability.

Also at the Forum, I promised that a committee would be formed to ensure that Pope Francis' Laudato Si encyclical finds a place at the very heart of our parish. You may remember that last winter, as a parish we studied this document over six evening sessions. These meetings were well attended and produced a number of recommendations on how we should respond to Pope Francis as individuals and as a parish community.

These study sessions and those which previously examined Pope Francis' first encyclical Evangelii Nuntiandi were organised by a small steering team. I would like to invite a new group to carry forward the response to Laudato Si by considering the important environmental and ecological issues that the Pope has raised so that our parish grows to be not only environmentally friendly but also encourages us all to take responsibility for protecting and nurturing our tiny planet, God's gift to us all. Our children are born to inherit the earth, our common home. In what state shall we bequeath it to them?

If you are interested in this venture then please give or email me your name and contact details and we shall take it from there.

On Wednesday, as we hear today at Mass, Bishop John will unveil his 'Hope in the Future' vision for the Diocese More about that later!

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge

Tel 01200 423307 website: olotv.org.uk Email: smsj@btinternet.com

Parish Priest: Mgr John Corcoran RD. Presbytery, Lowergate, Clitheroe BB7 1AG

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 1st October 2017

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am
followed by Coffee

Monday & Thursday
Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday

Mass at 7pm followed
by Presentation Evening in Hall

Wednesday & Friday
Mass at 9am

Saturday (7th October)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am Reconciliation 11-11.45am
Exposition 11-11.55am First Mass of Sunday—5pm

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Thursday—Mass at 9.15am **Saturday**—First Mass of Sunday at 6.30pm

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday—Mass at 11am **Wednesday**—Mass at 10.30am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Birthday intentions, Teresa Preedy, Louise Whalley, Peter Reilly
Eileen & John Crumbleholme

SICK

Fr David Foster, John Dixon, Cliff Astin, Paul Mooney,
Canon Tony Dorran, Jonathan Taylor

LATELY DEAD Teresa Preedy (nee Wrigley), Louise Whalley, Peter Reilly
ANNIVERSARIES Rosa Barnowska

PARISH—CLITHEROE, DUNSOP AND SABDEN

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £660.50 Sabden £110.91 Dunsop £186.50

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £265

APF MISSIONS Thanking all collectors and people who donate. This quarter's total amounted to £553.55

FR KEVIN—PRESENTATION This weekend is the last chance to donate to Fr Kevin's gift and Spiritual Bouquet and get tickets for the Presentation Evening 3rd Oct

THE POPE VIDEO the latest 'Pope Video'- this month's theme is parishes at the service of the mission. <https://thepopevideo.org/>

REFORMATION 500! To mark the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, church leaders invite you to Blackburn Cathedral for a 'Commemoration of the Reformation' on Thursday 19 October at 2pm. See poster in porch

DIPLOMA IN PASTORAL MINISTRY (starts Feb 2018) two year online course, ten six week modules. Come and See information evening at Cathedral Centre Thursday 10 October 7.30pm—9pm Information Fr Paul Daly paul.daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or Christopher.lough@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

OAKHILL SCHOOL WHALLEY—Open evening Tuesday 6 October 6-8pm

MARIAN PROCESSION on Saturday 7th October 2017 at 10.30am starting at St Edward's Parish (13 Thurloe Street M145SG). Everyone is invited to this celebration of our faith! Info ☎0161 2242589 (Fraternas) or email marianprocession@gmail.com

REFUGEES Kathryn Clay would be grateful for any unwanted cosmetics, perfumes or toiletries to assist refugees. Tel: 0125 825948

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN LANCASHIRE events in partnership with MIND to explore mental health and how churches/faith groups can support see poster in porch

SPONSORED WALK Annual 8 mile Sponsored walk, led by Fr John Corcoran. Meet outside St Michael & St John's Church, Clitheroe 1.30pm Sunday 8 October. All funds will go to Caritas Young Parents Service (supported accommodation for young mums in Little Harwood, Blackburn and Bolton). For registration and sponsorship forms, please contact Meriel Woodward—m.woodward@caritassalford.org.uk or ☎07989 922666. If you can't make the event, but would still like to support the team please sponsor a participant from your church.

WANTED The Caritas Mother and Baby home in Blackburn would be very grateful for donations of Babies clothing (birth to 2 years), nappies, baby wipes, toiletries etc. Please take any donations to 44 Eshton Terrace, Clitheroe. If you would like any more information then ☎ Mary O'Reilly 01200 444473

PRESENTATION EVENING this coming Tuesday 3rd October for Fr Chaloner and Fr Kevin—Mass at 7pm followed by presentation and refreshments in Hall.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day is Friday 6 October and focuses on the work our partners are doing in El Salvador. By donating to CAFOD's Harvest Appeal you can plant the seeds for an abundant future for farmers who live and depend on their land to put food on their table and buy essential items. Fast Day envelopes will be distributed this weekend. See poster

CLITHEROE

ROSARY OF THE UNBORN will be said after Mass/Service each morning this week. Our Lady of Guadalupe Pray for us.

2018 Diaries are on sale in all three churches and are 50p

ROTAS NEXT WEEKEND Saturday Evening—Welcoming—A.Harkin Reader
A.Harkin Eucharistic Ministers N.Dixon & A.Harkin—**Sun morning Welcoming—**
J.Byrne & P.Dixon Reader—G.Lambert **Euch Ministers—**G.Lambert, P.Lambert,
P.Sutcliffe **Tea & Coffee** – E.Davies & M.Valovin **Little Church—**C.Naylor- Preston
AFTERNOON VARIETY SHOW Thursday 26 October 2-4pm in our Parish Hall.
Tickets £5 from Social Centre, Daphne 01200 427912 or Carol 01200 426769 including refreshments. Bar available. Please see poster in porch.

ROSSENDALE MALE VOICE CHOIR singing in our church Friday 13 October
Tickets £10. Proceeds to East Lancs Hospice. On sale after mass this weekend and after masses next weekend 7/8 October see poster

SEEDLINGS Baby & Toddler group every Wednesday in our Parish Hall 9.30am—11.30am £1.50 per family.

K.S.C.DANCE NEXT Friday October 6th from 7.30pm. Dancing to John Lancaster
Tickets £7 inc Hot Supper. Tickets from Arnold 01200 427096 or Betty 01200 427029

JUMBLE SALE—A Monster Jumble Sale s is planned for 'Mary's Meals' on 4th November. If you could help in any way or by collecting unwanted clothing Bric a Brac Betc please contact Arnold 01200 427096 More details nearer the time

BAPTISM We welcome Sofia Georgiana Saghin who was baptised recently

DUNSOP

LITTLE DUCKLINGS The Thorneyholme Playgroup meets in Dunsop Bridge Village Hall from 1.30-3.30 every Wednesday during term time. Special story telling and music activities led by the staff are included in the sessions. All children from birth to school age are welcome. Why not come along and enjoy a friendly welcome with great activities, all in a beautiful location.

HELP NEEDED Thorneyholme School is looking for green-fingered volunteers with an hour a week to spare! We have a successful after school gardening club (1st prize at Hodder Show for 2nd year running!) but we need new leaders if we are to continue. We meet after school for an hour a week March-October, growing a wide variety of vegetables and wild flowers. You don't need to be an expert, just enthusiastic! Please contact school 01200 448276 if you think you could help.

SABDEN

FOODBANK DONATIONS can be left at the back of church.

BONUS BALL Winning number 57 Please remember we pay one week in advance and you have to be in it to win it!!!!

TEA POTS We are in need of tea pots to display beautiful tea cosies being made by Carol Hartley. If you have an old teapot in your cupboard that you no longer want (preferably a four cup pot) please bring it along to church or leave with Carol or Margaret Parsons. Spare knitting needles and wool also welcome.

FLOWER FESTIVAL 20—22 October. This is promising to be a really special event, but to run it properly we will need a lot of help and support. There are some rotas on the notice board for helpers—please fill in any time you are available. We are hoping to have craft stalls in the hall throughout. If you would like a spot let Susan White know. This event will finish on Sunday evening with an all request 'Songs of Praise' You will be able to get your requests in over the festival weekend. Do join in this joyful event.

KNIT, STITCH & NATTER every Monday 10-15am—noon, top room in the hall. All welcome to pop along for tea/coffee and biscuits and chat. Bring your own crafts if you wish and knit, **STITCH** or just natter.

FUN FITNESS & DANCE Tuesday evenings 7.30-8.30pm. Suitable for all ages. Cost £3.50—proceeds go to hall and church funds.