

## Dear Parishioners

In the early 1900's the Catholic population of sub-Saharan Africa was less than 2 million. Today it is estimated that Africa is home to 200 million Catholics. That is, by any estimation, a staggering growth rate.

However, by 2050, based on projections from the World Christian Database, Africa should have over 450 million Catholics, becoming by far the world's largest Catholic continent!

In 1975 when I began work in East Africa, my Bishop was a Dutch Mill Hill Missionary and the diocese was staffed by missionaries with only a handful of African priests. Within two years an African was appointed Bishop and the area of that single diocese is now covered by nine dioceses and all are staffed by local priests and bishops.

Following the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI made the training of African priests a priority and today vocations are plentiful. There is major seminary in Nigeria which began life in 1952 with 12 students, today it has over 1,000 and is only one of 8 Nigerian major seminaries.

Today, African leaders hold important posts in the Church, men such as Cardinals Francis Arinze and John Onaiyekan of Nigeria, Cardinal Laurent Monsengwo of the Democratic Republic of Congo (who's also a member of Pope Francis's council of cardinal advisers) Cardinal Peter Turkson of Ghana (who heads the Vatican's ministry for Promoting Integral Human Development and heads a great deal of Pope Francis's peace-and-justice initiatives) and Cardinals Robert Sarah and Wilfrid Napier.

Almost all dioceses in this country have African priests to help staff parishes. In our own diocese, four parishes are served by priests from Africa.

The traditional Missionary societies now overwhelmingly rely on candidates recruited from Africa and Asia while Africa has founded at least two Missionary societies of its own.

But success must not deceive us. Africa still needs missionaries to share the love, the mercy and knowledge of Jesus Christ, as also it still relies on our prayerful and financial Support.

Today we welcome to Our Lady of the Valley parish Fr Waslaw Krzempek of the Society of African Missions who will preach the annual mission appeal.

*Fr John*

# Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge

Tel 01200 423307 website: olov.org.uk Email: janet.clegg@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

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

Parish Priest email: john.corcoran@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 14 January 2018

### St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



#### Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

#### Monday, Tuesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

#### Wednesday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

#### Thursday

Mass at 7pm

#### Saturday (20th January)

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 9.15am

**There will be a mission appeal at all masses this weekend for The Society of African Missions**

### **MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK**

Robin Parker x 2. Pauline Dukes, Margaret O'Brien, Maureen Skelton, Jim Gray, Pema Murry, Winifred Temple, Henry Thornber, Annette Todd, George Todd, Deceased members of Todd family, Bernice Dachs, Helene Mayes, Dinah Hackett

### **SICK**

Canon Tony Dorran, Jonathan Taylor, Ruth Edwardson, Bernice Dachs, Margaret Cunningham, Bill and Barbara Dewhurst.

### **LATELY DEAD**

Robin Parker, Pema Murry, Maureen Skelton, Winifred Temple, Annette Todd, Helene Mayes

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Henry Thornber, Dinah Hackett, Jim Gray

### **PARISH—CLITHEROE, DUNSOP AND SABDEN**

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £789.73 Sabden £178.40 Dunsop £190.00

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £265

**RETIRING COLLECTIONS** a list of all the retiring collections for 2018 can be found in the porch.

**VACANCY** for a Health & Safety Co-ordinator in Salford Diocese—see poster

### **CLITHEROE**

**ROTAS** If you have not had your copy of the Rotas January—April please pick up your copy from the box on the table at the Sacristy door.

**ROTAS NEXT WEEKEND Saturday Evening—Welcoming—A.Harkin Reader C.Riley Eucharistic Ministers A.Harkin & N.Dixon Sunday morning—Welcoming J.Clegg & E.Davies Reader—P.Sutcliffe Eucharistic Ministers - A.Marsden, P.Donnely, E.Lambert Tea & Coffee—S.V.P. Little Church—A.McNulty & F.Garner**

**LADIES GROUP** Please pick up a copy of the 2018 Programme from the porch. **Annual Dinner at Ferraris.** The coach will leave King Lane next Friday evening at 6.15pm—please note revised time.

**TEA DANCE** Wednesday 17 January 2—5pm in our Parish Assembly Room with Afternoon Tea—only £4. Further information Daphne 01200 427912

**UKULELE BAND** Clitheroe Ukulele Orchestra will play at our fund raising evening in The Assembly Hall (Parish Hall) for The Sea Shell Trust on Friday 16 February from 7.30pm (doors open 7pm). Tickets £6 inc light refreshment. Bar will be open. There will be a raffle. Tickets will be on sale after masses on the weekend of 3/4 February or from now from Daphne 01200 427912, Carol 01200 426769, Patsy 01200 441792, or from the Parish Office.

**SPRING HAPPENING** All welcome to attend the next planning meeting for the Spring Happening Monday 5 February at 11am & 7.30pm. Let's join our talents and skills together for this new parish event. If you are unable to attend, but would like to contribute, do not hesitate to contact one of the below.

Jane Brown 01200 441949 jane\_ann\_brown@hotmail.com

Susan Fellows 07887 690402 susanfellows@hotmail.co.uk

Ann Harkin 07823 400278 anhark456@aol.com

**LOVE CLITHEROE** December 2017 edition—Pick up your copy from the porch

**CAFOD** Our CAFOD group are holding a meeting in the presbytery on Tuesday 16th January at 10am. Please come and join us—find out how we can all help CAFOD

**CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK** The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity began on Saturday 13th January with an Ecumenical Prayer and Praise meeting at 10am at Clitheroe Community Church which was led by Clitheroe Community Church and the Salvation Army. The week ends on Sunday 21 January with Ecumenical Worship at St Paul's Church, Low Moor at 6.30pm. Please try and come along, you will be most welcome

**CARITAS MOTHER AND BABY HOME** in Blackburn would like to thank you for your continued donations. See copy of letter in porch.

**WALSINGHAM** Two Association pilgrimages to Englands National Shrine of Our Lady. Blackburn Branch Tuesday 22nd—Thursday 24 May 2018. Cost approx £170. Non-returnable deposit of £50. Includes ½ day trip to coast. To book tel: Vincent Fleming 01254 209101. Mini-bus from Clitheroe to join the main coach in Blackburn—to book tel: Maureen 443499. Chorley Branch Monday 18th to Friday 22nd June 2018. Cost approx £305. Deposit £25 includes ½ day to coast and a full day trip out. Main coach starts in Clitheroe. To book tel: Jose Noblett 01257 265498

**HALF PRICE SALE** Just a few items left at the back of church. Please put money in the C.T.S. box on the wall.

**BAPTISM** We welcome Michael Philip Canavan baptised last Saturday.

### **DUNSOP**

**MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP** Wednesday afternoons in Dunsop Bridge Village Hall. Further details Laura Wells 01200 448304

**BABY SENSORY** specifically designed from birth to assist your baby's development. Thursday morning in Dunsop Bridge Village Hall again contact Laura Wells for more details.

### **SABDEN**

**FOODBANK DONATIONS** can be left at the back of church.

**BONUS BALL** Winning Bonus Ball number is 50

**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.

**COFFEE AFTER MASS** please volunteers, a rota is displayed on the notice board.

**HALF PRICE SALE** of Christmas cards—see Pat Whitwell after Mass

**MARYVALE COLLECTION** the target to raise money to redecorate Maryvale more than doubled. Many thanks from the four St Augustine's pupils for your kind donations when you bought their stickers and scones which raised £100 towards the total.

### **K.S.C. DANCE**

**Friday 26 January**

From 7.30pm.

Dancing to  
John Lancaster

£7 inc Hot Supper  
Tickets from

Arnold 01200 427096

or

Betty 01200 427029