

We continue to explore the symbols of the Icon of the Christ of San Damiano, now hanging in our three churches

The figure on the right in the red cloak is the centurion whose son was cured by Jesus. It is from his act of faith that we take the words before receiving Holy Communion, "Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof... On his left shoulder we can see his son's face and if we look attentively behind the boy there are what is thought to be the foreheads of three persons. These three persons represent the centurion's family who had all been brought to the faith. The painter did not place a halo around the centurion's head, probably because he felt it more important to have space to include the centurion's son. However, the faith of this man is expressed in two ways. First of all, his eyes are focused intently on Jesus; the three extended fingers of his right hand symbolise his belief in the Trinity, while the two fingers that remain closed show his adherence to the two natures of Christ. The centurion represents the multitude of people who coming to faith in later life have responded faithfully to the constant inspiration of the Holy Spirit in their hearts.

Near the left leg of Jesus, the artist has painted a rooster. This is not the cock that crowed as Peter denied Christ three times, because the icon shows Christ glorified with his chosen ones; the time of denials is past. Rather in past ages, when we lived close to nature, the rooster became a symbol of the rising sun. The cock is a symbol of what St Peter wrote in his letter that Jesus is the true light now and forever rising on the world. Clouds may obscure this Sun, but they are only clouds. We walk in his light in order not to stumble on obstacles along the way.

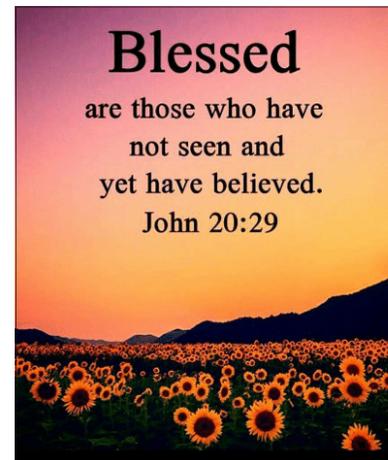
At the very base of the icon there appears to be a stone or rock. There are a number of options here. It could refer to the altar on which the sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated to mystically and seamlessly connect us to the one sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary. It may also recall the words of Jesus to Peter "You are Peter and, on this rock, I will build my Church". Or it may be a personal message for each of us, reminding us of Jesus' advice: "Everyone who comes to me and listens to my words and acts on them is like the man who, when he built a house, dug, and dug deep, and laid the foundations on rock; when the river was in flood it bore down on that house but could not shake it, it was so well built. But someone who listens and does nothing is like the man who built a house on soil, with no foundations; as soon as the river bore down on it, it collapsed and how great was the ruin of that house."

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge
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Parish Priest: Mgr John Corcoran RD. Presbytery, Lowergate, Clitheroe BB7 1AG
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Second Sunday of Easter - 8th April 2018

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Blessed
are those who have
not seen and
yet have believed.
John 20:29

Sunday
Mass at 9.30am
followed by Coffee

Monday & Thursday
Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Friday
Mass at 9am

Wednesday
Eucharistic Service at 9am
Funeral Service 10.45am
Esther Clark

Saturday (14th April)
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** Mass at 6.30pm

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday—Mass at 11am **Wednesday**—Mass at 9.15am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Davud Connearn, Veronica Connelly, Joyce Kwasniewski, Perrin family,
William Buggie, John Willman x 2,

SICK Jonathan Taylor, Bill Wilson, Maria Middleton, Agnes Marsden, Louise Craven, David Connearn

LATELY DEAD John Willman, Canon Tony Dorran, Joyce Kwasniewski,
ANNIVERSARIES Veronica Connelly, William Buggie, Deacon Bill Gornall

PARISH—CLITHEROE, DUNSOP AND SABDEN

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £1290.78 Sabden £284.28 Dunsop £350.50
Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £272

LIVERPOOL & DUBLIN anyone considering attending either the Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool or the World Wide gathering of families in Dublin needs to contact Fr John. Pope Francis will attend the world meeting of families in Dublin.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Friday 20 April. Fundraising party for Refugee Day; “Wonderful Tonight”. Delicious curry and entertainment at the Old School Rooms, Lowergate. Tickets £10 from Tom or Kathryn Clay 07962 136749

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE Saturday 5 May led by Bishop John. Pilgrimage includes, Procession, Reconciliation, Mass £20 return. See poster in porch. More information from John Griffin 0161 817 2222 or john.griffin@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

LOURDES The Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage this year led by Bishop John Arnold, takes place on 27 July-2 August. Cost for flight, 6 nights hotel accommodation and meals is £729 (single supplement £186). If you would like to join a group from the Parish please put your name and details on the list at the back of church by March 18th. Volunteers of Doctors, Registered Nurses, Healthcare assistants to help and support sick and disabled pilgrims. tel 0161 817 2209 or email: pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

REFUGEE FUNDRAISING Silverwoods Clitheroe are to Auction a selection of quality items at the Wonderful Tonight Refugee Fundraising event. If you have any items to help this auction we would be delighted. Our target is £1200 to pay for transport for the day. Thankyou for your unerring support.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY DEVOTIONS Today Sunday 8th April St Joseph’s Church, Audley Range, Blackburn, starting 2pm with Mass at 3pm. Details on poster

CLITHEROE TALK ENGLISH Want to learn English and get involved in the wider community, then join us every Monday at The United Reformed Church, Castle Gate, Clitheroe 1pm—3pm. See poster in porch

CAFOD for those who have not yet returned their Lent Family Fast Day envelopes, these can be put in the collection baskets at each church Mass. Donations to Cafod will be matched £ for £ by our Government until 12th May 2018. This means that twice the number of children will be helped to grow up healthy and strong. Our CAFOD group are holding a meeting in the presbytery on Tuesday 10th April at 10am. Please come and join us—find out how we can all help CAFOD.

PARISH FORUM the next meeting is on Wednesday 11th April at 7.30pm—refreshments from 7.15pm. Agenda items include a review of Lent and Easter services, Hope in the Future, Spring Happening & Refugee Day. Everyone is welcome.

MEDAILLE TRUST Easter edition of newsletter available from porch.

BECOME A CONFIDENT CATECHIST Join people from around the Diocese on Mondays 7.30-9.15pm 14 May to 25 June with Fr Christ Lough and team at The Becket Suite, St Thomas of Canterbury Bolton. More details on poster in porch. See Fr John if you are interested.

ST MARY’S BAMBER BRIDGE Festival 5—11 May see poster and flyers in porch.

JESUITS & FRIENDS Spring edition of magazine now available from porch.

CLITHEROE

ROTAS Saturday Welcoming—J.Luciani, **Reader**—C.McGuire, **EuchMinisters** M.Preedy & M.Smith **Sunday Welcoming** B.Barker & C.Riley **Reader** C.James
Euch Min G.Lambert, P.Lambert, P.Sutcliffe **Tea & Coffee**—C.James & A.Pritchard
Little church S.Fellows & C.Mashiter

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Love Clitheroe BBQ and Family Fun Day Saturday 16 June.

SPRING HAPPENING Sunday May 20th 11am—3pm in our Parish Centre and garden—Craft stalls, Cream Teas, Slaidburn Silver Band, Army Cadets, Hudsons Ice Cream, Childrens activities. A fun filled day for all the family in aid of church decoration. The next meeting for this event will be on Wednesday 9th May 11am & 7.30pm in the presbytery. If unable to attend but would like to contribute jane_Ann_brown@hotmail.com tel: 01200 441949

CIVIC SOCIETY Monday 9th April in Ribble Valley Council Chamber—John Lambert presents Arthur Langshaw’s Images of Clitheroe—not to be missed

ROSARY OF THE UNBORN will be said each morning next week after Mass/Service for all Pro-Life intentions. Our Lady of Guadalupe pray for us.

K.S.C. COUNCIL meeting Tuesday 10th April 7.30pm in the presbytery

LADIES GROUP COMMITTEE MTG Monday 9 April 7pm in Old School rooms

COFFEE MORNING Saturday 14th April 10-12noon in the Mayors Parlour, Church Brow. Tickets £1 on sale this weekend. There will be a Cake stall/Tombola/Raffle or just come along and enjoy a chat. Proceeds to Sea Shell Trust supporting children and young adults with complex learning disabilities. If you can support in any way by donating Cakes, Tombola and Raffle prizes we would be very grateful

LADIES GROUP TRIP to Terracotta Warriors exhibition in Liverpool is now fully booked. At last they have come back to us to confirm the booking. Thursday 26th April leaving Interchange 8.30am. Names and money please S.A.P. to either Janet or Daphne
GIFT AID/OFFERTORY ENVELOPES there are still a few sets for people to collect. They can be found on the shelf on the left hand side as you enter the Sacristy.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION cards and gifts are now on sale in the side porch which is open before and after weekend masses and before and after weekday masses/services.

DUNSOP

GIFT OF BOOKS Thorneyholme Primary School is a collection point for ‘Gift of Books’, a unique campaign in Greater Manchester. The aim is to reduce book poverty for the region’s most disadvantaged children. The campaign is calling on your spirit of generosity and asking you to donate a favourite childhood book—complete with a printed note explaining why you want to share it (available from school or online)

<https://www.cartridgesave.co.uk/printwhatmatters/gift-of-books/> In turn it will be gifted to one of the 40,000 children in Greater Manchester who have no books of their own. Drop a book off at the collection point at school, from now until 31st May.

SAVE THIS DATE Sunday 13th May we will be hosting the Trough Teas in Dunsop Village Hall—refreshments served from 10am-4pm. More details nearer the time.

SABDEN

FOODBANK DONATIONS can be left at the back of church.

BONUS BALL Winning Bonus Ball Number 39

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to go on the cleaning rota for the Church and Hall. Please help if you can it only involves a couple of hours every few weeks. Please see Jennifer, Suzanne or Damien after Mass.

KNIT, STITCH & NATTER every Monday morning 10.15am in the Hall. Very informal, all welcome. Come along for a chat and a cuppa.