

**Welcome:** to meet and speak to someone in a friendly way when they arrive; to show someone that you are pleased they are with you.

We do this naturally in all our churches, but last week Fr John called a meeting to find ways we can do this even better. Conscious that new housing developments are springing up, and that a local church has closed, we are already seeing, and will continue to see, many new faces entering our churches, and they are bringing their children to us for baptism and the sacraments. We need to make everyone who comes feel so welcome they will want to come regularly and feel at home with a real sense of belonging.

But how? The group discussed many ideas and suggestions, and at the end of this first meeting resolved that

Some willing parishioners will wear a badge that will make them easily approachable, just saying "Welcome to the Parish of Our Lady of the Valley (followed by a space to write the wearers Christian name). Some of these people will already be Welcomers but we hope that more will volunteer. We shall need a possible 4 in the general area of SMSJ's church entrance before Saturday evening and Sunday masses, fewer in Dunsop and Sabden. We will keep you informed when the badges have been made.

All parishioners should be on the look-out for people they haven't seen before and be prepared to initiate conversation with them. We should invite people to join us for coffee after Mass, preferably accompanying them to the hall and introducing them to others. If they can't stay for coffee, they will at least know that they are invited and welcome.

When a family brings a child for baptism and is introduced to the congregation, we should do more than just clap that welcome, but be ready to congratulate the family at the end of Mass and show a genuine interest in them.

These are simple, first steps that each of us should endeavour to adopt. There will be a second meeting of the Welcoming Group on Tuesday 19th June at 7.30pm in the Presbytery, and Fr John very much hopes that more of you will come along. After all, if we love our parish we have an interest in securing its future, it's part of our calling to bring people to Christ. Stay with us, Lord, on our journey, and help us to extend Your welcome to all.

**Carol Hartley**

# 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

## Fifth Sunday of Easter - 29th April 2018

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



**Sunday**  
Mass at 9.30am  
followed by Coffee

**Monday, Tuesday  
Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday**  
Eucharistic Service at 9am

**Saturday (5th May)**  
Eucharistic Service 10.45am Reconciliation 11-11.45am  
Exposition 11-11.55am First Mass of Sunday—5pm

### St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

**Thursday**—Eucharistic Service at 9.15am **Saturday** Mass at 6.30pm

### St Mary's Church, Sabden

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

#### **MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK**

In thanksgiving, James McKnight, Holy Souls, Norman Berry, Special intentions, David Stanley, Silvano Gatti,

**SICK** Jonathan Taylor, Maria Middleton, Agnes Marsden, Louise Craven, David Connearn, Peter Youlton, Marie Hughes

**LATELY DEAD** Silvano Gatti, James McKnight, Rocco Wright

**ANNIVERSARIES** Norman Berry, Moira Robinson

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

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £816.90 Sabden £145.58 Dunsop £208.40

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £272

**ECC EDUCATION FUND** Clitheroe £556.89 Sabden £69.56 Dunsop £50.00

**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.

information from John Griffin 0161 817 2222 or john.griffin@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

**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

**BECOME A CONFIDENT CATECHIST** Mondays 7.30-9.15pm 14 May to 25 June with Fr Chris 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.

**REFUGEE DAY FUNDRAISE** a big thankyou to everyone for your response to the fundraising night—in total £1,571 was raised (including donations beforehand and on the night, tickets, raffle and auction)

**ORDINATION** Callum Brown will be ordained in Salford Cathedral on Saturday 21 July. We are arranging a coach there and back. If interested please put your name on the list at the back of church. Cost approx £10. **ALSO a Spiritual Bouquet** will be presented to Callum at the parish reception and presentation. There is a list at the back of church for contributions of Masses, Holy Communion and Rosaries that have been offered for Callum.

**A PHILIPINO MASS** will be celebrated at St Mary's, Bamber Bridge on Saturday 19th May at 4pm. Details: Alaine Polentino 07305 799979

**MASS OF HEALING** Sunday 27 May at 2pm. If you would like to attend or know someone who would like to please complete one of the forms at the back of church and place in the box by Monday 21 May. Numbers needed for transport arrangements.

**LAUDATO SI' TALK:** The Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership. In the second of our Laudato Si' talks, Jayne Ashe of the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty will talk about our Laudato Si' Live Simply Award. 7.30pm Wednesday 2 May in the Old School Rooms

**VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR YOUNG WOMEN** 20's and 30's Theme: Discerning God's Call in my life 25-27 May in Liverpool organised by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). An opportunity to live community life for a weekend. More information Sr Lynne FCJ lynnefci@hotmail.com or website www.fcjsisters.org

**WADDOW LODGE GARDEN** will be open for National Gardens Scheme Sunday 27 May 1-5pm in the garden of Peter & Liz Foley in Waddington. Admission £4 children free. The nationwide opening supports several major charities such as Marie Curie and MacMillan Nurses. Between 200 and 400 visitors can be anticipated so help with serving teas and car parking are essential For those helping at the start of the afternoon please arrive at 12noon where we will have a picnic ready for you. Then after helping you can always have a look around the garden.

**LADIES GROUP MYSTERY TOUR** this year will be on Wednesday June 13th (please note the change of date). Cost approx same as last year and includes the coach, tips, two course meal with tea or coffee and afterwards an evening of mystery and suspense with a 'spider included'. Leaves Clitheroe Interchange mid/late afternoon. More details next week when we have finalised arrangements. Open to all—men included!

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Jumble Sale—Sat 13 October in aid of Mary's Meals  
**DEFIBULATOR REFRESHER SESSION** Wed 16 May—more details next week.

### **CLITHEROE**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** cards and gifts are now on sale in the side porch which is open each day before and after masses/services

**ROTAS** Sat—Welcoming—J.Luciani Reader—C.Riley Euch Min B.Worden/A.Ward Sunday—Welcoming—J.Clegg/E.Dvies Reader Martha Barrett Euch Min J.Hall, S.Hall, K.Downes Tea & Coffee—P.D'Souza & family Little Church—D.&V.Harvey Higgins New Rotas delayed until mid-week—Sorry

**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. Next meeting for this event will be on Wed 9th May 11am & 7.30pm in the presbytery. If unable to attend email: jane\_ann\_brown@hotmail.com tel: 01200 441949

**EAST AFRICAN PLAYGROUNDS** Trevor and Louise thank you for supporting at their cake sale last Sunday. They raised £163.26 and are very grateful to the parish.

**QUIZ NIGHT** Wednesday 6 June organised by Peter and Geryl Lambert at 7.30pm in SMSJ The Assembly Hall to raise money for East African Playgrounds Tickets £2.50 each on sale from the Assembly Hall, or contact Trevor Lord 07931 798697 or Geryl Lambert 07483 811358

**PARISH DRAW WINNERS APRIL** £100 79—P.Jones £20 125—Ann Manhold, 84—J.Trattles £10 13 - P.Lambert, 11—G.Ellis, 35—A.Thornber, 19—M.Donnelly

### **DUNSOP**

**TROUGH TEAS** we will be hosting the Teas on Sunday 13th May in Dunsop Bridge Village Hall. Refreshments served and cakes and produce will be on sale. Proceeds to St Hubert's church.

**SPRING HAPPENING** The ladies of St Hubert's have been asked to run the cake stall at the Spring Happening on May 20th. Please let Ann Cooke know if you can provide cakes and help out on the day.

**REBUILDING WORKS** to progress the rebuilding works the contents of the sacristy have been moved into the body of the church and so the church will be locked. Thursday and evening Masses will continue as usual.

### **SABDEN**

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

**BONUS BALL** Winning Bonus Ball Number 38

**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.

**WIGGLE & GIGGLE** Fun, Fitness and Dance sessions in St Mary's Hall every Tuesday for an hour 7.30pm—fun and informal and suitable for all ages you exercise at your own pace. £3.50. Proceeds from these sessions we have been able to refurbish the stage.

**UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES** from Easter Coffee Morning. 56-60 Blue, 101-105 Blue, 86-90 Blue

**AFTERNOON TEA** Thursday 17th May, St Mary's Hall to celebrate the Royal Wedding. Tickets £5 from Margaret Waling 01282 773913 or Margaret Parsons 01282 778652