

*Dear Parishioners,*

*Pope Francis speaking to a large crowd on the place of the Commandments in our relationship with God said:*

“Christian life is first and foremost a freely given response to a generous Father. For Christians who follow only their “duties” something is missing! What is the foundation of this duty? The foundation of this duty is the love of God the Father, who first gives, then commands. To place the law before the relationship does not help the path of faith. How can a young person wish to be Christian, if we start out from obligations, commitments, consistency and not from liberation? But to be Christian is a journey of liberation! The commandments free you from your selfishness and they free you because there is the love of God that carries you forward. Christian formation is not based on the strength of will, but on the acceptance of salvation, of allowing oneself to be loved: first the Red Sea, then Mount Sinai. First salvation: God saves His people in the Red Sea; then on Sinai tells them what they must do. But the people know that they must do these things because they have been saved by a Father Who loves them.

“Gratitude is a characteristic trait of the heart visited by the Holy Spirit; to obey God one must first remember the benefits. As Saint Basil says, “Those who do not let those benefits fall into oblivion, are oriented towards good virtue and towards every work of justice”. Where does all this lead us? To perform a memory test: how many beautiful things has God done for each one of us! How generous is our heavenly Father? I would now like to propose a little exercise to you, in silence: each person answer in his or her own heart. How many beautiful things has God done for me? This is the question. In silence, each one of us, answers. How many beautiful things has God done for me? And this is God’s liberation. God does many beautiful things and frees us.

*Quoting Pope Benedict, he continued;* “The love-story between God and us consists in the very fact that this communion of will increases in a communion of thought and sentiment, and thus our will and God’s will increasingly coincide: God’s will is no longer for me an alien will, something imposed on me from without by the commandments, but it is now my own will, based on the realization that God is in fact more deeply present to me than I am to myself. Then Self-abandonment to God increases and God becomes our joy”

*Fr John*

# Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge  
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## 16th Sunday in Ordinary time - 22nd July 2018

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



**Sunday**

Mass at 9.30am  
followed by Coffee

**Monday, Wednesday  
& Thursday**

Eucharistic Service at 9am

**Tuesday**

Mass at 9am  
Funeral Service 11am  
Ruth Edwardson

**Friday**

Mass at 9am

**Saturday (28th July)**

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

## Happy Holidays and the church remains open

## **MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK**

Special intention, Fr Leon Morris, Bill Bramsell, Ruth Edwardson,  
Bert Shore, Patrick Emerson

### **LATELY DEAD**

Margaret Shaw, Ruth Edwardson, Bert Shore

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Fr Leon Morris, Bill Bramwell

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

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £703.84 Sabden £189.25 Dunsop £150.00  
Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £272

**NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS** in Liverpool 7—9 September.  
Anyone interested in attending should contact Fr John for information as soon as possible.

**WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES** with Pope Francis 21-27 Aug in Dublin. Still some places available to accompany Bishop John to Dublin. See poster in porch.

**CALLUM'S GIFT/SPIRITUAL BOUQUET** In addition to a spiritual bouquet we would like to present him with a generous gift to help him as he starts off on his journey in the priesthood. Envelopes available at the back of churches. Return these in the weekend collections or at the presbytery.

**YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME** in February 2019 will be led by Bishop John and will run from 16—23rd February. It is for over 18's and cost per person £690 which includes flights, full board and insurance. More info email: tracey.ward@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or 0161 817 2222

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 27 JULY** Anyone who wishes a petition to be taken and placed at the grotto, please use the marked boxes at the back of our churches in Clitheroe, Sabden and Dunsop which will be available until TODAY Sunday 22 July. Also, we are collecting for a candle to be placed at the grotto for all the people of the parish. If you would like to contribute to this, please put your donation in an envelope marked 'Lourdes Candle' and put it in the offertory basket at Mass or post it through the Clitheroe letterbox.

**FOODBANK** We are in need of tinned fruit, tinned potatoes, mashed potatoes, sponge puddings, ketchup, brown sauce, laundry liquid/powder. We have good supplies of beans, pasta, soup, meat and cereal. As always, thank you for your generosity and support

**DAY BY DAY** each month we purchase a number of copies of this booklet which include the readings and gospel for each day during the month. These booklets have proved very popular. If you would like one then please see Arnold Marsden

**MEDAILLE TRUST** Summer edition of the newsletter is in the porch. The Medaille trust is the catholic charity providing safe houses for victims of human trafficking.

**WALSINGHAM** Members of the Blackburn branch of the Walsingham Association will visit our parish on Tues Aug 14th to join us for Rosary at 7pm followed by mass at 7.30pm. If you are interested in Walsingham you are welcome to join us after in the presbytery for light refreshments and a chat.

## **CLITHEROE**

**ROTAS Sat—Welcoming—J.Luciani Reader -A.McGuire Euch Min—M.Preedy Sunday—Welcoming M.Rogers & C.Willman Reader D.Carr Euch Min J.Hall, S.Hall, K.Downes Tea & Coffee—E.Davies & M.Valovin Little Church—D & V.Harvey Higgins**

**JESUITS & FRIENDS** Summer 2018 edition now available FREE from porch

**RIGHT TO LIFE WALK** Anyone with outstanding sponsor money for the walk please place on the offertory plate in an envelope clearly marked.

Thankyou

**BAPTISM** We welcome Darcey Martha Keighley who was baptised last week.

**LADIES GROUP MEETING** Wednesday 25th July 7.30pm in The Old School Rooms. Only £2. Speaker Harold Hoggarth (Experiences while researching his family history). Snuff, Spinning & Spiritual Houses. Sounds interesting, have a change and come along and join us—you are most welcome. We will be presenting a cheque for £1,300 to The Seashell Trust at this meeting.

**SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY** Thursday 27th September Afternoon Variety Concert, Friday 5th Oct—Rossendale Scout Band. Both events in The Assembly Hall.

## **DUNSOP**

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Duck Race Monday 27th August 2pm

**WADDOW OPEN GARDENS** Many thanks to all those who helped in any way last Sunday. £200 was raised for St Hubert's.

## **SABDEN**

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

**BONUS BALL** Winning Bonus Ball Number 58. Bonus ball numbers are available to purchase its only £1 a week to play. Please contact Donna on 01254 823422 if you are interested. Thankyou

**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.