

## URGENT RESPONSE

Asia Bibi a Roman Catholic woman on death row in Pakistan has made a direct appeal to Christians in the UK, urging them to pray for her. This message was conveyed by her husband, Ashiq Bibi, who has travelled to the UK to highlight the plight of his wife. He emphasised that his wife had been imprisoned since 2009, but she has always said that Jesus is her life and despite the pressures will never deny her faith.

She was sentenced to death for blasphemy in 2010 after being accused by two women of insulting the prophet Mohammed. The accusation was made five days after the women rowed with Asia because she had taken water from a common water supply which they said was for Muslims alone. Asia Bibi is just one example of how blasphemy laws in Pakistan have been misused to settle personal vendettas.

The subsequent legal battle has led to protests and to the assassination of two politicians who publicly defended her.

The Supreme Court in Pakistan is due to rule on an appeal against Asia's death sentence. An announcement planned for last Monday has been postponed without a reason being given. Please remember to pray for Asia and her family and consider writing to Imran Khan, the new Prime Minister of Pakistan to plead for her life and her freedom.

The text below may help you to write a letter to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, but please do not simply rip this page off and send it to him, that would be totally counter productive and preferably you should use your own words.

Prime Minister Imran Khan, P.M Secretariat, Constitution Avenue, G-5/2,  
Islamabad, Pakistan

Dear Prime Minister

I am writing to express my concern for a Asia Bibi, a citizen of Pakistan who is in jail in your country for alleged blasphemy. She has now been in jail for some 9 years with the death penalty hanging over her for an action which, even if true, surely does not merit the death penalty. In any case, a long imprisonment is more than sufficient punishment. Furthermore, the evidence that she committed this crime is questioned by very many.

We are all encouraged to show our belief in the mercy of God in our actions. I would humbly ask that mercy is shown to Asia Bibi, and that you use your best efforts to secure her release from prison  
Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

# 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

## 29th Sunday in Ordinary time - 21st October 2018

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

#### Sunday

Mass at 9.30am followed by Coffee

#### Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Eucharistic Service 9am

#### Tuesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

#### Saturday (27th October)

Eucharistic Service at 10.45am

Reconciliation 11—11.45am

Exposition 11—11.55am

First Mass of Sunday—5pm



*The Pope's official charity for overseas mission*

## 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

Bill Foulker, Ethelreda Baines, Joseph Wright, Paul Mooney, Marie Joyce McDonald,  
Gina Bellusci, Alban & Agnes Marsden 65th Wedding Anniversary x 3,  
Doreen Marsh. Special Intention

#### LATELY DEAD

Doreen Marsh, Gina Bellusci,

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Bill Foulker, Ethelreda Baines, Joseph Wright, Paul Mooney, Marie Joyce McDonald,

There will be a retiring collection at all masses this weekend for Missio

**PARISH—CLITHEROE, DUNSOP AND SABDEN**

**OFFERTORY** Clitheroe £647.27 Sabden £279.00 Dunsop £167.00  
Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £272

This year the Retired Clergy Fund Collection was due to take place on Sunday 11th November. As this is Armistice Day and the 100th Anniversary of WW1 a decision has been made to move the collection back one week to 18th November.

**CAFOD** Some members of our Parish CAFOD Group are going to the Cafod Retreat on 24th November at St Patrick's Church Hall, Livesey St, Manchester M4 5HF, Please bring a shared vegetarian lunch. If you would like to join us please register via the CAFOD website (<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Salford-retreat>). We are thinking of hiring a minibus for the day, so if you need transport, please contact Grace Fellows (01200 425928). Registering needs to be done asap as this event is usually fully booked by the end of September. The topic is very apt in the run-up to Christmas—COUNTERING CONSUMERISM: Lessons from Gaudete et Exsultate

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2019** with Salford Diocese. We are seeking volunteers of all ages and abilities, medical and non-medical to assist sick pilgrims. To find out more come along to one of our volunteer meetings. Sunday 14 October 2-3pm, and Wednesday 28 November 7.30-8.30pm at Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford M3 6DP

**ST OSCAR ROMERO** Celebrate the canonisation Tuesday 23 October Mass at 12.10pm with Bishop John in Salford Cathedral. Refreshments afterwards followed by short talk at 1.30pm on his legacy. [Info@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:Info@caritassalford.org.uk) To book ☎ 0161 705 0605 or 0161 817 2263 or email: [annwilson@cafod.org.uk](mailto:annwilson@cafod.org.uk) [Info@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:Info@caritassalford.org.uk)

**SALFORD DIOCESE** we are recruiting parish members for our 2018-2020 CCRS—Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies course which ensures that governors, teachers and the church community has a basic understanding of the central beliefs of the Catholic Faith for those involved in Education, RE Curriculum and Parish Catechesis

**YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME** led by Bishop John 16—23rd February 2019 Over 18's only cost per person £690 which includes flights, full board and insurance. Info email: [tracey.ward@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:tracey.ward@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or 0161 817 2222

**CAFOD** Not returned your Harvest Family Fast Day Envelope? These can be placed in the offertory baskets during Mass at each of our churches. Your donation will help provide clean water and so reduce sickness and transform lives in remote villages in East Africa

*For those who wish to donate money for the Tsunami victims in Indonesia there is a collection box at the back of church*

**CLITHEROE**

**ROTAS** Sat **Welcoming** A.Harkin **Reader** C.McGuire **Euch Min** B.Worden & A.Ward **Sunday—Welcoming** M.Rogers & C.Willman **Reader** K.Downes **Euch Min** G.Lambert, P.Lambert, P.Sutcliffe **Tea & Coffee** S.V.P. **Little Church—D & C Carr**

**CCP-CLITHEROE CHRISTIANS IN PARTNERSHIP** are to organise a Carol service on the 1st December, on the day of the Town's Christmas Market. It will take place on the castle Bandstand at 4.30pm. I need a parishioner or two to represent the parish on the planning committee. Volunteer/s, please contact me.

**LADIES GROUP MEETING** Wednesday 24th October 7.30pm in The Old Assembly Hall (Parish Hall). A short A.G.M. followed by a very interesting talk by Sue Allonby—Traditional tales for Halloween. Only £2 including light refreshments. Come along—you are most welcome.

**JUMBLE** A heartfelt thanks to all who helped in any way with the Jumble Sale, especially the loyal team of helpers. On the day it raised £1212. I am sorry but that is the last Jumble Sale I can organize, but hope someone will take up the challenge and help the less fortunate. May God bless you all. Arnold

**DUNSOP**

**A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Everyone is invited to attend a special '100th Anniversary of the end World War One' event at the Cenotaph in Dunsop Bridge on Sunday 11th November. More details nearer the time.

**BAPTISM** We welcome Wilfred Jack Wells who was baptised last Saturday

**SABDEN**

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

**BONUS BALL** This week's winning number is number 38 Jennifer Mead. Congratulations

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR** will be on Saturday 1st December 11am—3pm. It will comprise of craft stalls plus some of our own. The Grand Draw will take place at 3pm. This years first prize will be Afternoon Tea in Blackpool Tower Ballroom, plus lots of other splendid prizes. Look out for tickets which will be available soon.

**BAPTISM** We welcome Florence Ava Bibby who was baptised Sunday 7th October

**KNIT, STITCH & NATTER** The Ladies of the Knit, Stitch and Natter group at St Mary's would like to thank all parishioners who donated items and supported their Coffee Morning. It raised the magnificent sum of £575 which has been donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

***On Tuesday 23rd October Diana Johnson MP is seeking to introduce a Bill to radically change the Abortion Act. You are asked to write to your MP to attend the debate and vote against this Bill. The Address is Nigel Evans MP, House of Commons, LONDON SW1A 0AA***