

Dear Parishioners

“Our nationality is an accident of birth. We do not own this country: we are merely stewards of its resources...” Those words from the Guardian newspaper echo the words of Pope Francis. They were a response to the migrant “crisis” and a few desperate souls risking their lives to reach us across the English Channel.

In 2016 our Parish responded to a picture of little Alun Kurdi’s body washed up on the shores of Greece. For three years we have welcomed refugees from Manchester and Burnley, providing a day that lifted our hearts as well as theirs. Our Parish has done more: the “Refugee Come Dine with Me initiative” has provided a model for the rest of the Diocese, as also we have helped establish the Clitheroe English Club which helps refugees and asylum seekers learn basic English, and parishioner and friends knitted many hundreds of squares for blankets for Syrian refugees in Turkey.

We can never do enough. Pope Francis has repeatedly reminded us that caring for refugees lies at the heart of our Faith. Our Parish response to the “Hope in the Future” programme and the “Live Simply” initiative are based on the interconnected messages of Pope Francis’ two great letters – Evangelii Gaudium and Laudato Si. Both hinge on our response to the poor, the exploited, the marginalised and migrants.

“Refugee Day Out” for 2019 needs your support. Revive in Manchester, New Neighbours in Burnley, the Clitheroe Mosque and Stonyhurst College are all looking forward to this year’s event but we need a new chair and more volunteers. Three years is more than enough for two people to take on this task which Tom and Kathryn Clay have done so selflessly until now. So, we are looking for someone to take over the torch. But do not fear: the framework and contacts are now in place and with a few more volunteers the leadership can easily be shared. Could you consider volunteering? Please see me, Anthony Brown or Tom Clay.

This Wednesday, January 23rd, our Parish hosts Sean Ryan, charismatic speaker and accomplished musician who will speak on his work on the Diocesan Refugee Sponsorship Programme. Starting with St Monica’s in Flixton in 2016, parishes throughout the Diocese have sponsored refugee families. St Wilfrid’s Longridge and St Joseph’s Hurst Green will soon follow. It will be an interesting and entertaining evening but mostly we hope it will motivate our Parish and the wider Clitheroe community to support this year’s “Refugee Day Out”.

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

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20th January 2019 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe

Sunday

Mass at 9.30am
followed by Coffee

Monday & Wednesday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

Thursday

Requiem Mass 10.30am
Agnes Marsden

Saturday (26th January)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am
Reconciliation 11am—11.45am
Exposition 11am—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

In England and Wales Catholics, are invited to make today a day of prayer for peace and to reflect on the theme Pope Francis has chosen for the annual World Day of Peace with the challenging title ‘Good politics serves peace’.
Today also we begin the annual week of prayers for Christian Unity so that Christ’s prayer, “That they all may be One” becomes reality. It will conclude next Sunday with an ecumenical service in the United Reformed Church at 6pm.

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Denis Clarke, Verno Morris, Maria Ramskill, Lois Lamb, Horace Hudson, Steven Bawmer, Maureen Kinvig, Diane Slattery, Brian Ashton, Jeff Cowgill, John Haworth, Stephen Pryle, Agnes Marsden x 3, Molly Hartley

LATELY DEAD

Maria Ramskill, Lois Lamb, Steven Bawmer, Maureen Kinvig, Diane Slattery, Brian Ashton, Agnes Marsden

ANNIVERSARIES

Denis Clarke, Verno Morris, Horace Hudson, John Haworth, Stephen Pryle,

PARISH—CLITHEROE, DUNSOP AND SABDEN

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £790.74 Sabden £186.76 Dunsop £192.00

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £272

CRIB OFFERINGS this year amounted to £195.19 plus a cheque for £50.00 making a total of £245.19

SALFORD DIOCESE NQT Diocesan Primary Teaching Pool 2019 required for 1 Sept 2019. The Primary Pool will identify and recommend high quality candidates who will gain QTS in summer 2019. for interview to Catholic schools with vacancies for 1 September 2019. More details/contacts see porch

CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION Calling all Health Care Workers. Please join us at St Mary's, Levenshulme every third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm - (October—June) for Mass, mutual support and speaker-led discussion about medical and ethical issues. See poster in porch

WHALLEY & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB NAFAS Valentines flower demonstration by Mena Coulston & Jane Brown Thur 14 February 7.30pm St Michael & St Johns Assembly Hall. Visitors £6 inc Tea & Biscuits.

REACHING OUT TO REFUGEES 23rd January 7.30pm in the Old School Rooms & Assembly Hall. Sean Ryan will speak about his experience with refugees as the National Caritas Community Sponsorship coordinator making links with Hope in the Future and Live Simply. Sean is a charismatic speaker and accomplished musician who will build music into his presentation.

GOLDEN JUBILEE Lists at the back of all three churches for pledges towards a Spiritual Bouquet for Fr John's Jubilee on 1st March

CARITAS SUNDAY 27th JANUARY This year Caritas is asking all parishioners to use their gifts and talents to *BeTheChange* and to help House the Homeless, Build Stronger Families and Communities, and Welcome Refugees. The second collection after Mass and ongoing support will allow Caritas Diocese of Salford to *BeTheChange* in our parishes across the Diocese. The Caritas representative for our parish is Anthony Brown.

***There will be a retiring collection at all masses next weekend
for Caritas, Diocese of Salford***

CLITHEROE

LADIES GROUP The 2019 Programme is now available from the porch.

TEA DANCE Because of the repairs in the Hall there will be no Tea Dance in January or February 2019

ROTAS Sat Welcoming—A.Harkin **Reader** A.Southworth **Euch Min** A.Harkin & N.Dixon **Sunday—Welcoming** A & J Marsden **Reader** G.Lambert **Euch Min** A.Marsden, S.Smith, M.Smith **Tea & Coffee** B.Parkinson & B.Barker **Little Church** C.Naylor Preston

PARISH DRAW Names and money now being taken for the Parish Draw (the first draw will be at the end of January). Janet Clegg, Arnold Marsden, Peter Sutcliffe, Ann Harkin, or Bernard Mercer.

CLITHEROE CHRISTIANS IN PARTNERSHIP (CCP) an event to mark the week of prayer for Christian Unity—Eccumenical Worship at 6.30pm Sunday 27th January at Trinity Methodist Church led by Rev'd Michele Jarmany of the Clitheroe United Reformed Church.

APR MISSIONS-RED BOXES Could all of those parishioners who do not have a collector please bring their Red Boxes to church to be emptied by 26th January.

LADIES GROUP our next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday 30th January at 7.30pm in The Assembly Hall (Parish Hall) when Judith Byrne will speak on the history of D.Byrne & Co, Wine Merchants of Clitheroe, who have a long association with our parish. Cost is £2 which includes Tea and Biscuits. This meeting is open to ANYONE.

Also some dates for your diary: Thursday 14th March—Glen South Afternoon, Friday 5th April—Ukulele Band, Wednesday 22nd May—Colours Fashion Show.

DUNSOP

FOODBANK DONATIONS Can be left at the back of church.

DUNSOP BRIDGE PLAY GROUP would love to welcome you to join them on Wednesday mornings from 9.30—11.30am in Dunsop Bridge Village Hall. Search on facebook for further details or call Laura on 01200 448304

SABDEN

FOODBANK DONATIONS can be left at the back of church.

BONUS BALL This week's winning no 26 Sheila Shore. Congratulations

KNIT STITCH & NATTER every Monday 10.15am to noon in the Top room in the Hall. All welcome to pop along for tea/coffee and biscuits and a chat. Bring your own crafts if you wish to knit, stitch or just natter. Re-commences Monday 7th January.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ the winner of the Christmas Quiz was Betty Collinson who bags herself a bottle of bubbly. Runners up with equal scores were Sue Aspin, Ellie and Vi Robson and Louise Betka. Thanks to all who bought a quiz sheet and helped raise £48 for church funds, and sorry if it was too difficult, we'll make it easier next time.

WINTER WARMER The Knit, Stitch & Natter Group is holding a Social on Saturday 2nd February from noon in the Hall. Pie & Peas and Trifle lunch, stalls, music and entertainment, Raffle & Tombola. Adm by ticket £6 on sale from Carol Hartley, Margaret Waling, Margaret Parsons. Proceeds to church and charity.