

Dear Parishioners

Early last year Pope Francis released an Apostolic Exhortation known by its opening words *Gaudete Exsultate* (*Rejoice and be Glad*) It is a call to holiness in today's world. It is an important letter but as with all papal documents it is not always easy to read. So, the diocese has offered bite size portions which will be printed periodically of the back page of the newsletter for your personal reflection and prayer.

The first instalment follows below. The numerals refer to the paragraph numbers in the original document but do not necessarily quote the whole paragraph. It would be advantageous to refer to the biblical quotations.

1 Rejoice and be glad (Mt 5:12), Jesus tells those persecuted or humiliated for his sake. The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created. He wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence. The call to holiness is present in various ways from the very first pages of the Bible. We see it expressed in the Lord's words to Abraham: "Walk before me, and be blameless" (Gen 17:1).

2 The Letter to the Hebrews presents a number of testimonies that encourage us to "run with perseverance the race that is set before us" (12:1). It speaks of Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Gideon and others (cf. 11:1-12:3). Above all, it invites us to realize that "a great cloud of witnesses" (12:1) impels us to advance constantly towards the goal. These witnesses may include our own mothers, grandmothers or other loved ones (cf. 2 Tim 1:5). Their lives may not always have been perfect, yet even amid their faults and failings they kept moving forward and proved pleasing to the Lord.

Points to ponder or discuss: Who are the witnesses among our own family and friends who inspire us? What is it about them?

Fr John

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge
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10th February 2019 - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Sunday

Mass at 9.30am
followed by Coffee

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Friday

Mass at 9am

Saturday (17th February)

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

*There will be a retiring collection after all masses
next weekend for Racial Justice*

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Rosa Ditri, Ann Wharton, Monique Groszewski, Carol Finley, Alice Wells, Leo Wells,
Peter Shoemith x 2, Agnes Marsden, Stella Mason, George & Eileen Fletcher,

LATELY DEAD Monique Groszewski, Agnes Marsten, Peter Shoosmith, Carol Finley,

ANNIVERSARIES Ann Wharton, Stella Mason, George & Eileen Fletcher, Alice Wells, Rosa Ditri.

PARISH—CLITHEROE, DUNSOP AND SABDEN

On Friday 1st March Fr John will celebrate 50 years as a priest of Salford Diocese. He will be joined by Bishop John and a number of his fellow clergy, Ecumenical representatives, family and friends for a Mass of Thanksgiving which will be followed by a buffet meal and convivial evening in The Assembly Rooms (Parish Hall). Parishioners from our three communities are cordially invited to both the Mass at 7pm, and celebration. Please feel welcome to join him in thanking God for 50 years service to the Church, both at home and abroad.

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £870.08 Sabden £142.70 Dunsop £103.00

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £272

SALFORD DIOCESE NOT 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

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.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PFTA QUIZ NIGHT March 8th starting at 7.30pm. Tickets £3 per person and teams are limited to a maximum of 8. Cash prizes on offer as well as a bar. Your support is greatly appreciated.

GLOBAL HEALING Wednesday February 13 at 7.30pm in St Mary's Community Centre, Sabden. An evening of film and cultural food to learn about the environment and how we can protect it. Admission free by ticket available from Anthony Brown 01200 422811. Bishop John was very pleased to hear that our plans in the Parish include Global healing and has asked for any feedback on how our 'Live Simply Plan' is developing in relation to Hope in the Future.

FR JOHN'S JUBILEE Volunteers required to make HOME MADE desserts as part of Father's celebration. If you would like to contribute please put your name against the side of the dessert including your telephone no on the list at the back of church. Please bring your contribution to the Parish Assembly Rooms from 6pm on 1st March.

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

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY Wednesday 3rd April 7.30pm in the Assembly Hall (Parish Hall, SMSJ) a talk by Mr Michael and Mrs Margaret Cronin on their experiences at the World meeting of Families in Dublin last year.

INTRODUCTION TO IGNATIAN SPIRITUALITY led by Donna Worthington, Saturday February 23rd 10.30am—4pm, Coffee from 10am. Xaverian Mission Spirituality Centre (Tabor), 169 Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston PR2 8HE. £20 Explore Ignatian prayer, discernment and learn about Ignatius himself, a remarkable human being. Please bring a packed lunch.

AFTERNOON VARIETY SHOW the return of this event with Glen South in The Assembly Hall (Parish Hall) on Thursday 14th March 2-4.30pm. 6 inc light refreshments. Tickets available from Patsy 01200 441792 or Carol 01200 426769.

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

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE CHOIR We are looking for new members to enhance the liturgy. Any sopranos, altos, tenors or bass who would like to join us please contact Fr Philip Brady 061 740 2071 or email philip.brady@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Further info from Cathedral Parish Office deborah.holmes@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or tel 0161 817 2210. The ability to read music is preferable but not essential.

PARISH FORUM The next meeting will be on Wednesday 20th February at 7.30pm in the Old School Rooms. Agenda items should be sent to Peter Donnelly 01200 441081 or email donnelmarg@aol.com

CLITHEROE

TEA DANCE Next Tea Dance Wednesday 20th March.

ROTAS Sat Welcoming—J.Bentley **Reader** C.Riley **Euch Min** F.Ellis & M.Fox **Sunday—Welcoming** R & F Holgate **Reader** Marina Barrett **Euch Min** G.Lambert, P.Lambert, P.Sutcliffe **Tea & Coffee** P.Geldard & T.O'Donnell **Little Church** S.Fellows & C.Mashiter

K.S.C.DANCE Friday 22nd February from 7.30pm. Dancing to John Lancaster £7 inc Supper. Tickets from Arnold 01200 427096 or Betty 01200 427029

A.P.F.MISSIONS (RED BOX) The total this quarter is £735.00. Many thanks to collectors and for donations.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT Each Friday evening during Lent various Church organisations lead the Stations of the Cross. There is a list in the porch if you would like to take part, please enter your name and telephone number.

DUNSOP

FOODBANK DONATIONS Can be left at the back of church.

DUNSOP BRIDGE PLAY GROUP Wednesday mornings 9.30-11.30am in Dunsop Bridge Village Hall. Further details on Facebook or call Laura on 01200 448304

THORNEYHOLME SCHOOL are raising money for Cancer Research by having a 28 day Fitness February when pupils will keep a wellness diary over the month. If you wish to support the school the link to donate to the charity can be found on the latest news on the school's website.

SABDEN

FOODBANK DONATIONS can be left at the back of church.

BONUS BALL This week's winning no 20 Joan Thompson. Congratulations

KNIT STITCH & NATTER Monday's 10.15am—noon top room of the hall. All welcome for a chat, tea and biscuits and knit or stitch if you want.

WINTER WARMER Thanks to all who supported the social on Saturday. It was a lovely community event and raised more than £655 for St Mary's and Village groups. Special thanks to Mark and Annie Woodward for providing the entertainment.

EASTER BONNET PARADE The annual Coffee morning and Easter Bonnet Parade is on Saturday April 6th in the Hall from 10am—noon. More details to follow.