

Dear Parishioners,

Lent begins this Wednesday and Pope Francis has asked: 'Don't let this season of grace pass in vain.' So, what have you decided to do during Lent this year?

Here are a few suggestions.

✠ Buy (£1) the 'Walk with me' booklet which will help you pray and reflect for a few minutes on each day of Lent.

✠ Join the Stations for the Cross in Clitheroe at 7.30pm on Fridays and in Sabden at 7.30pm on Tuesdays

✠ Spend a little time each day reading the Bible in the quiet of your home.

✠ Attend weekday morning Mass (details weekly in the newsletter)

✠ Come to Exposition on Saturday mornings between 11am and 11.45

✠ Pay a visit to the church which is open during daylight hours.

✠ Encourage someone who has been away from mass to return to practice and if possible accompany them to church.

✠ Recite the Rosary at home or join the weekday recitation in church at 9.30am.

✠ Is there someone you know in need of help or friendship or maybe an elderly relative you haven't visited for a while?

✠ Make up a longstanding quarrel

✠ For one hour, help to clean the church on Monday mornings at 9.30

✠ Give up a favourite treat like sweets, drink, watching too much TV or cigarettes.

✠ Keep 'Family Fast day' on Friday

✠ Every Friday give up eating meat for your spiritual good and that of the planet!

✠ Make a clean sweep. How long is it since you made use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)? Confession is available every Saturday in Clitheroe from 11—11.45 and during the Stations of the cross on Fridays

✠ Attend the series of Lenten talks on Saturday mornings at 11am (Coffee from 10.30)

✠ Reflect on Bishop John's pastoral letter. What might you do to help safeguard the environment, to save planet Earth.

Wishing you a fruitful Lent, *Fr John*

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

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3rd March 2019 - 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St Michael & St John's, Clitheroe



Monday —Eucharistic Service at 9am

Tuesday & Thursday—Mass at 9am

Friday—Mass at 9am **Funeral Service 10am**—Catherine Byrne

7pm—Stations of the Cross (Ladies Group)

Saturday (9th March)

Eucharistic Service 10.45am Reconciliation 11am—11.45am

Exposition 11am—11.55am First Mass of Sunday 5pm

St Hubert's, Dunsop Bridge

Ash Wednesday—Mass at 6pm **Thursday**—No Mass

Saturday - Mass at 6.30pm

St Mary's Church, Sabden

Sunday—Mass at 11am **Ash Wednesday**—Mass at 9.15 am

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Antonucci Crocifissa, Paul Waghorn, Helen Cronin, Robert Dewhurst, Catherine Wells, Catherine Byrne, Roy Kimberley x 2, Terry Bithell, Josephine Reid, Luke Makinson,

LATELY DEAD

Antonucci Crocifissa, Paul Waghorn, Helen Cronin, Robert Dewhurst, Catherine Wells, Catherine Byrne, Roy Kimberley, Terry Bithell

ANNIVERSARIES

Josephine Reid, Luke Makinson

PARISH—CLITHEROE, DUNSOP AND SABDEN

OFFERTORY Clitheroe £768.03 Sabden £153.58 Dunsop £256.00

Clitheroe/Sabden Standing Orders £272

S.V.P. Clitheroe £845.39 + £100 cheque sent direct. £62.15 Dunsop £51.00

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.

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.

PARENTALK—THE TEENAGE YEARS A great new course that covers vital topics for parents of teenagers. Six free sessions from Friday 1st March 6-7.45pm at Clitheroe Community Church, Millthorne Ave, BB7 2LE. Open to everyone. For more details telephone 01200 444148 or www.clitheroecommunitychurch.co.uk

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. With simple shopping choices you can get farmers a better deal. There are leaflets and petition cards available in the porch at each end of our churches.

PRO-LIFE MEETING March 7th in the presbytery at 7.30pm. Please come if you want to learn how we are supporting the Caritas Mother and Baby Homes, or how we can promote pro-life issues. All welcome.

SALFORD DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES Booking forms now available for the 2019 Pilgrimage. Anyone who is interested in joining a Parish group please contact Margaret Donnelly 01200 441081 or 079687103618 donnelmarg@aol.com

HOPE IN THE FUTURE In the recent skills survey, several parishioners expressed interest in a Bible Group, a Prayer Group and House Groups. We are meeting to discuss the way forward for these new groups on 13th March (Wednesday) at 7.30pm in The Presbytery. If you are interested please come along.

OAKHILL SCHOOL & NURSERY Open day for pupils and parents interested on Thursday 14th March—see poster in porch.

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.

CLITHEROE

ROTAS Sat Welc—A.Harkin **Reader** V.Murray **Euch Min** M.Preedy **Sunday—Welc** —A & J.Marsden **Reader** S.Smith **Euch Min** J.Hall, S.Hall, K.Downes **Tea & Coffee** Fellows family **Little Church** D & V Harvey Higgins

BAPTISM We welcome Hattie Haythornthwaite and Holly May Haythornthwaite who were baptised last Saturday

ST MICHAEL & ST JOHN SCOUT GROUP This is a great opportunity for someone wanting to develop their leadership skills and who enjoys working with other adults. This position will allow you to help develop an existing Scout Group and help it to provide wider Scouting opportunities to more young people. A scouting background is not essential as training will be given.

Fairtrade goods will be on sale during our coffee morning after mass on Sunday. Please come along and see what we have.

CHURCH CLEANERS There is an urgent need for more volunteers, men and women to come on to the rota for church cleaning. This takes place on Monday mornings, followed by coffee and a chat. A good way to meet other members of the parish in an informal setting. Please contact either Fr John 423307, Toni O'Donnell 423019 or Margaret Spencer 425204

TEA DANCE Our very popular Tea Dances are back after the repairs to the stage in our Parish Hall. Our next one is on Wednesday 20th March 2—5pm—Come along and join us only £4 which includes Afternoon Tea.

LADIES GROUP invite you to join them at the Stations of the Cross on Friday 8th March at 7pm.

CHRISTIAN AID open meeting for all potential supporters 7.30pm Monday 11 March at St James' Church

SIDE PORCH Please note this porch is open before and after mass/Service Monday to Friday and weekends. There is a large selection of items for sale including Easter Cards and very soon Holy Communion gifts and cards will be available. Mothers Day cards are now for sale on the card racks at the back of church

LENT TALKS 2019 taking place on the five Saturdays during Lent. At the first of these talks Saturday 16th March Nigel Rix will speak on The Ribble Valley Gateway Trust. The venue St Michael & St John's Parish Hall, Lowergate starting at 11am. Coffee/Tea served from 10.30am. Come along everyone welcome. Please note two of these talks are at St James' this year—please see poster in porch for more details.

LADIES GROUP Committee meeting Thursday 7th March 7pm in the Presbytery.

The Parish Office will be closed next Thursday 7th March

DUNSOP

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

ALADDIN Some of the pupils from Thorneyholme School are appearing in Aladdin the Pantomime being staged in Slaidburn Village Hall 7th, 8th & 9th March.

SABDEN

BONUS BALL This week's winning no 57. 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.

Fairtrade goods will be on sale during our coffee morning after mass on Sunday. Please come along and see what we have.

EASTER BONNET PARADE Saturday 6th April 10am—12noon. Judging of Bonnets 11.30am. Tickets £2 (children free) including refreshments are now on sale. Raffle—Cake Stall—Card Stall, Goldilocks (hats, gloves, accessories)