

Our Lady of the Valley
Parish Newsletter 9th August 2020 – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass during the week at 10am Monday – Friday in Clitheroe.

Wednesday 7pm Sabden

Saturday 12 noon in Dunsop Bridge.

St. Michael and St. John's open for Private Prayer

Saturday 11 – 12

(No Sunday Masses for the time being)

Thankfully everything seemed to go well last week as we resumed weekday Mass. Thank you. Those who came appreciated being able to return to Mass and the sacraments. Thank you for adhering to the new rules and regulations we are now asked to observe, it is so important we continue to do so. Again, thank you to our stewards who through their generosity in volunteering make it possible for us to open our churches.

Everything is in place to help keep us all safe.

Stewards are in church from when we open the doors 30 mins before the start of Mass.

Please follow their instructions. They will take you to your place and then direct you out of your bench to come forward and receive Holy Communion at the end of Mass.

Immediately after Mass has ended the church doors will be locked so that the stewards can sanitize the church.

There is still No Sunday Obligation

If you are shielding or not well you should not attend church

Space in church is restricted to 60 people at Mass in Clitheroe

20 in Dunsop Bridge

24 in Sabden

No more than 30 can come into church for a funeral

Try and make Mass during the week your 'New Sunday Mass time'.

Face-coverings are now mandatory in indoor settings where people are likely to come into contact with others they do not know.

This obviously includes whenever you come into church.

So please remember to wear a face covering when in church

(unless you are exempt for whatever reason)

Feasts this week

Monday St. Lawrence, Martyr

Wednesday St. Clare

Friday St. Maximilian Kolbe

RIBBLE VALLEY FOODBANK would like to thank all those still managing to donate food at the moment – we are very busy and your generosity is much appreciated. We are currently short of the following items: washing up liquid, washing powder/liquid, shower gel, kitchen roll, sponge puddings, chocolate and sweets, and custard, and long-life fruit juice. Our warehouse is currently open to receive donations on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10am – 12 noon, and on Friday from 9am – 11am – please call us for directions. Thank you. info@ribblevalley.foodbank.org.uk 07849 534431

From the Archives

Further to last weeks article about of St Joseph's Cemetery this snippet has been found in The Preston Chronicle dated 5th February 1853 sixteen years prior to the opening of the cemetery in 1869. Looks as though they had applied initially to have the cemetery adjoining the Church.

INSPECTOR'S VISIT – The late application to the Local Board for permission to establish a new burial ground behind the Catholic church has resulted in a visit by Mr Ranger, an inspector of the general board, who, on Thursday last, arrived in Clitheroe to make an enquiry into the present burial accommodation. He was waited upon by Messrs. Councillors Hodgson and Heaton, the Rev. Horrocks Cock, and made an inspection of the premises adjoining the Catholic church, and also of the Parish Church yard. A report will of course be made to the general board, and the result will shortly be heard. In all probability a *public cemetery* will ere long be formed, the general feeling being much in favour of one.

ST MICHAEL'S PLAYERS

RELUCTANT HEROES OCTOBER 9th – 13th 1956

PRINCIPALS IN LAUGHTER-RAISING PLAY

BRILLIANT COMEDY OF ARMY LIFE

There was a sort of Rock 'n Roll atmosphere about The Hall, Lowergate, on Tuesday evening. The audience were rocked in their seats and rolled in the aisles with laughter at that brilliant comedy of Army life, "Reluctant Heroes."

The laughs come thick and fast in this glorious romp which has the audience chuckling and chortling right from the word go.

But the laughs rise to shrieks of almost uncontrollable dimensions as the plot gets under way and one crazy situation succeeds another with startling rapidity.

The success of the production by St Michael's Players was a triumph for their producer Mr John Cowman, who was making his first appearance in this difficult field.

Local audiences have seen him taking leading roles in many previous productions and playing them with superb skill.

This week they are seeing another facet of his theatrical talent and how royally they are appreciating it.

“Reluctant Heroes” is the story of three National Service recruits and the adventures that befall them in serving their Queen and country.

THE ENEMY

In the words of their mentor Sergeant “Tinker” Bell “they would be worth a couple of divisions to the enemy if the country were at war.”

Yes, they are the kind of soldier, Morgan, the quick witted Cockney, Tone, the polished and worldly-wise ex public school boy, and Gregory the gormless Lancashire lad.

The hit of the evening was undoubtedly Tom Cowman as Gregory. This was his first down-to-earth comedy role and he seized his opportunities with both hands.

To look at him was to burst into laughter and his drolleries and general air of puzzled bewilderment had the audience almost in hysterics.

Derek Rawcliffe has a wealth of facial expression reminiscent of Danny Kaye which he used to the fullest advantage to record his mingled emotions as he got out of one scrape and into another.

He never let up for a single moment and all the time positively breathed the spirit of the area around Bow Bells.

Edmond Cambien had an entirely different role as the smooth sophisticated Tone, to whom army life is a pain and a trial but for other reasons.

MAYFAIR ELEGANCE

His silks and satins and general Mayfair elegance cut no ice in the army of hairshirts “of finest Merino wool.”

As a comedy team the three of them are superb. Their antics when lights out interrupts their toilet during the first night at camp, their writhings at inoculations, their caperings when being kitted out are guaranteed to bring tears to the staidest of eyes.

And all the while they are being entreated, cajoled, bullied, bewitched and bewildered by the dear old sergeant determined to make soldiers out of them “If I have to sweat the last drop of your blood to do it.”

This was a perfect role for Norman Cawley. He plays it with all the stops out and with an unflagging zeal and eye for every possible laugh.

One could find no higher praise than to say that the legendary R.S.M. must have been meek as a lamb compared to Tinker Bell.

The supporting roles were all well portrayed. Ignatius Calvert, for instance turned in a delightful little cameo as the Captain Percy, whose somewhat incongruous appearances add to the general fun and games.

THE LADIES

Peter Fehrenbach as Sergeant Mackenzie assumes a splendid Scots accent as he shows the training battalion how things are done in the paratroopers – a process which involves no little pain and trouble to our three heroes.

He is ably supported by John Byrne who makes the most of a small role as a Scots soldier.

Derrick Hutchinson too extracts humour from another minor role as the medical orderly

responsible for inoculations.

And last, but not least, the three ladies: Margaret Brown as the W.R.A.C. officer, Gloria Dennis, Ruth Haslam as Penny Raymond, and Pat Hargreaves as Pat Thompson two W.R.A.C. privates.

All of them enter the spirit of the play with zest and gusto and add to the general fun and frolic.

Their roles are not very important to the main plot, but they provide the peg on which to hang one of the funniest scenes in the play.

The girls are in danger of being found in male quarters so that on the approach of Sergeant Bell they have to hide under the beds.

The consternation and opportunities for laughter can be imagined when Sergeant Bell arrives and orders the unhappy trio to strip ready for a medical inspection.

This is one of the highspots of the whole show.

Much hard work was done behind the scenes by Mr J Bowen as stage manager, who had the assistance of Mr J Mullen and P Embery.

Décor was by Mr H Baron and Mr H Sutcliffe was house manager.