

Our Lady of the Valley
Parish Newsletter 15th November 2020
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Covid-19 Guidance – November 2020

On 4 November 2020, Parliament passed into law The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No. 4) Regulations 2020. These are in force from 5 November to 2 December 2020. As well as the Regulations, the Government has updated its Guidance for the safe use of places of worship to reflect current circumstances. The Regulations preclude gatherings for communal worship, including the celebration of Mass, baptisms and most weddings.

Funerals can take place following present guidelines and restrictions.

So in accordance with the above there will be no public celebration of Mass or any other form of Public Worship in any of our churches at present. Fr. Paul will continue to celebrate Mass each day in one of our three churches, without a congregation and behind locked doors.

You may be aware that earlier this week, the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) published its report into the Catholic Church.

In its response, the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales said: "We apologise to all victims and survivors who have not been properly listened to, or properly supported by us. By listening with humility to those who have suffered, we can contribute to the healing of the wounds of abuse, as well as learn from those most directly affected how we must improve the Church's safeguarding standards, policies and procedures."

We know that with the report comes an increased awareness of abuse, which may lead individuals to reflect on their own experiences. If you are aware of people in distress, the support on offer via our Healing Through Community project can be accessed by anyone living within the Diocese of Salford.

If you would like to access help, please call Survivors Manchester on 0161 236 2182 or Greater Manchester Rape Crisis on 0161 273 4500. The Safeguarding Office is also available for any safeguarding queries or referrals by all. Their number is 0161 817 2206.

Let us all join in prayer for the healing of those that have been hurt and abused by members of the Church.

You can read the full Bishops' Conference response

here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/statement-on-the-publication-of-the-iicsa-report/>

The Word This Week

We must be very careful that the real point of today's first reading is not washed away in genuine concerns over what one can and cannot say about the responsibilities of spouses. This is not, in fact, a recipe for the perfect wife, but an illustration, from one age, of the virtue of fully employing the talents God gives us. Some things are timeless, such as holding out a hand to the poor, while other talents shift and change. The point is that all of us are gifted in varying ways and degrees: none of us should begrudge anyone else their talents, for fear that we overlook our own. We work wisely and well, looking forward to the master's return, when we can hand over to him not just what he gave us, but also the fruits that our labours have gained.

Parish Forum

The next Parish Forum will be held "virtually" on Monday 30th November with 7pm start for a general "catch up" and the meeting starting at 7.30pm. Please send any agenda items to me on anhark456@aol.com and I will pass them to our Chair, Carol Riley.

It is simple to join the meeting and you do not need an invitation. If you have installed the Zoom App (recommended) on your computer, tablet or smartphone the ID is 865 074 9717. If you don't have the App installed, click on the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8650749717>.

The last meeting was really a great way to catch up with other parishioners who you may not have "seen" since this all started in March. Even if you don't normally attend, please consider doing so. This is definitely a case of, "the more, the merrier" and it's not likely that you will have other plans!

CLITHEROE CHURCHES IN PARTNERSHIP RIBBLE VALLEY YOUTH

Many of you will be aware of plans for a town-wide youth strategy. Part of this strategy is the launch of a new platform called "Ribble Valley Youth", or "RVY" for short. Our intention is that RVY should be a town-wide ministry for young people in the Ribble Valley. The goals are to reach our young people with the Gospel, to build a community of young believers and help disciple them.

Part of our plan includes providing an online presence via social media and other platforms. We have now launched RVY channels and accounts on most Social Media platforms, including Facebook & Youtube. We are very excited to be launching RVY with a Youtube live stream on **Friday 20th November at 7pm**. Can we ask you to encourage your young people to join us in the live stream? Youth volunteers are also very welcome.

We hope this town-wide youth strategy will be something every church can be part of and shape together.

See the link to the Youtube Channel, and the launch trailer below.

Every blessing, Chris Meyer, and the RVY Team.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCizk5dkOLhMGAYiF2c60DQA/featured>

FROM THE ARCHIVES

DECEMBER 1899 - ST MICHAEL AND JOHN

GRAND SOIREE

To swell the funds at the forthcoming Sale of Work which is ere long to be held, in connection with the above schools, a grand soiree was held in the Public Hall on Friday evening last. The event was exceedingly well patronised, there being over 200 present during the evening. The Hall itself presented a pleasing and artistic appearance, the windows being exquisitely draped, there also being seats placed in different parts of the room for the convenience and indulgence of those present. This being the case, one could, as it were, make himself "at home," and when not inclined to trip along to the music which was supplied by Mr Gudgeon's band - and also everyone knows the type of dances these gentlemen can supply - he could betake himself to some small group and there join in with some pleasant conversation; perhaps it would not be altogether pleasant to speck of the meteoric shower bringing the end of the world as pleasant conversation. Albeit it, this subject would at some length be debated upon. However, this by the way, this just shows that one could enjoy himself and that right heartily. The members of the Catholic Ball Committee, of which Mr R.Holden is at the head, were responsible for the decorations.

efficiency, and appears likely to make still further advances. The children of six are well, the younger ones fairly taught the rudiments of Reading, Writing and Number. The Gallery lessons are satisfactorily given. Sewing, Singing and Repitition are very fair.

Mary Bramley Geography

Catherine Chew Mistress

Mary Bramley 1st Year

William Lea Manager & Correspondent
