

Our Lady of the Valley

Parish Newsletter

16th May 2021 – Seventh week of Easter



Today	Mass 12 (Saturday) Dunsop Bridge Mass 5pm (Saturday) Clitheroe Mass 9.30am Clitheroe Mass 11am Sabden
Monday	Mass 10am Clitheroe
Tuesday	Mass 10am Clitheroe
Wednesday	Mass 10am Clitheroe
Thursday	Mass 10am Clitheroe
Friday	Mass 10am Clitheroe
Pentecost Sunday	Mass 12 noon (Saturday) Dunsop Bridge Mass 5pm (Saturday) Clitheroe Mass 9.30am Clitheroe Mass 11am Sabden

Pope Francis writes:

Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds I have recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary. It expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph: “Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph, whose power makes the impossible possible, come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty. Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome. My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.”

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Holy Souls, Special Intentions x 2, Rita & Frank Donbavand,
Mary Cushion, Golden Wedding

LIVE SIMPLY THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

When possible try to include seasonal produce from your local farm shop or greengrocer in your diet. As well as supporting your local economy, you might get to know local producers and get tips on how to prepare seasonal foods.

LAUDATO SI WEEK 2021

“for we know that things can change”(LS 13)

(to be held May 16-24), will be the crowning event of the Special Laudato Si’ Anniversary Year and a celebration of the great progress the whole Church has made on its journey to ecological conversion. Laudato Si’ Week 2021 will also be a time to reflect on what the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us and prepare for the future with hope.

PARISH BUDDY SYSTEM

It has been hard for many people during the Covid restrictions to keep in touch with what is happening in the Parish and I’m sure that some people are feeling isolated. The Communications and Media Group has been discussing ways of

reaching out to people and we came up with the idea of a Buddy System which we agreed at the last Parish Forum.

Please let us know of anybody (with their permission of course) who would welcome the odd 'phone call to talk about Parish matters and have someone to contact for information.

We are also seeking names and contact details for people who would be prepared to act as the "Buddy".

Please contact Anthony Brown on abrown.boggarts@googlemail.com or Janet Clegg on smsj@btinternet.com with your name and contact details if you would like to be part of this scheme and we will get back to you.

ONLINE CHRISTIAN RETREATS VIA ZOOM

Offering a space for Christians to explore and deepen faith...

Seek 'life in all its fullness'

CREATED & LED BY DONNA WORTHINGTON, all retreats are on invitation to be rejuvenated and affirmed in faith, to know Christ better and to open up sacred space in order to listen to the Holy Spirit and experience a living spirituality that consoles, challenges and inspires. Varied methods enable Christians to deepen their own discipleship and travel on in their faith journeys (presentation, theological discussion, stillness, prayer, creative sessions, images, music etc).

Courses and training are also offered so individuals and groups can explore Scripture, prayer and faith's themes and feel equipped to become prayer leaders in their own communities.

All retreats cost £20, unless otherwise stated. For bookings, please see the website or contact Donna Worthington: drworthington@live.co.uk

<https://christianretreats.live>

2021 – May

PENTECOST: The divine fire and the call to go forth into a life based on freedom and hope Sun 23rd May 2-5pm

2021 – June – July

PETER, A DEEPLY HUMAN CHARACTER : We became alert to the spiritual dynamic in his journey in order to explore this path

Sat 12th June 2-5pm OR Mon 14th June 10am – 1pm

If people wish to, they may attend Part 2 of this retreat on Peter on Sunday 27th June 2 – 5pm

(REPEAT) THE PROBLEM OF EVIL: This issue has caused many to question their faith. We explore this from various angles in order to think the whole subject through, understand various approaches and see how this does not need to be an obstacle to faith.

Sat 23rd June 6.30pm – 9pm

THE HANDLESS WOMAN : Through the depths of an ancient story ‘The Handless Woman’, we will explore the wisdom which speaks to our heroic journeying.

Sat 24th July 10am – 1pm

C.C.P. CLITHEROE CHRISTIANS IN PARTNERSHIP

PRAYER

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."

Colossians 4:3

From Clitheroe Christians in Partnership, this is the latest theme for our prayer as a town and, we are praying for those in chains.

"Blessed and merciful Lord, some have lost their freedom and access to justice and we pray for all such, for their restoration and journey into faith through Christ.

Others have lost their freedom through injustice and persecution as they stand for the rights of common people - we lift up their plight to You.

We pray for the all those in unchecked power who oppress and silence the voices of those that seek freedom for all people; that their deeds will be made visible and they will be convicted of the cruelty of their abuse and find a pathway to God."

Pray for the Light of Our Lord to shine in nations where freedom is currently restricted: MYANMAR, YEMEN, CHINA/HONG KONG, EGYPT, COLOMBIA, RUSSIA, ZIMBABWE, The PHILIPPINES, AFGHANISTAN and LIBYA.

For the victims of oppression, we pray this month for:

Nonoy Espina, chair of the national union of Journalists of the Philippines as he represents a free press and campaigns following the murders of 191 journalists since 1986. The mission of the NUoJ is to continue upholding press freedom; to protect journalists from attacks, threats, and harassment; and to organise media workers for better working conditions.

In 2010 a young Tunisian man Mohamed Bouazizi set himself on fire in the town of Sidi Bouazizi in protest at mistreatment by the authorities. Pray for the work of the Truth and Dignity Commission, established in response to this tragedy, as it works to ensure justice against human rights violations in Tunisia.

For Ibrahim Ezz el-Din in Egypt, labelled as a terrorist in his campaign as a housing rights activist for the poor and homeless and kept in pre trial detention for thirteen months, tortured and suffering from ill health and depression. For Yu Wensheng an imprisoned Chinese Human Rights lawyer convicted at a secret trial to serve four years for inciting subversion of state power.

For the singer Yahaya Sharif-Aminu sentenced to death by the Upper Sharia Court in northern Nigeria for placing a song on WhatsApp that is allegedly

blasphemous. Not permitted a lawyer at his trial, he has been able to lodge an appeal with help from the international human rights community.

For Tran Huynh Duy Thuc a Vietnamese business person imprisoned for sixteen years to be followed by five years house arrest for advocating social, educational, economic and democratic reform via the media of blogging.

Lord of all that is right, may they not become forgotten prisoners, may they be protected from torture, may they be sustained in captivity until their chains are broken and they are free at last.

Soul of Christ, sanctify them

Body of Christ, save them

Blood of Christ, inebriate them

Water from the side of Christ, wash over them

Passion of Christ, strengthen them

O good Jesus, hear us

Within thy wounds hide them

From the wicked foe defend them.

CCP – CLITHEROE CHRISTIANS IN PARTNERSHIP

MAY PRAYER THEME

This month we will be joining with Christians in over 170 countries, and from within 80 different traditions, in the Thy Kingdom Come prayer movement. We are invited to pray during the eleven days from Ascension to Pentecost i.e. between Thursday 13th - Sunday 23rd May. We are inviting all Christians in our community to enter into Thy Kingdom Come in the hope that friends, family, neighbours and colleagues may come to faith in Jesus Christ.

During the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come, the focus will be on:

- *Deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ*
- *Praying for five friends or family to come to, or be restored to, faith in Jesus*

- *Praying for the empowerment of the Spirit that we would be effective in our witness.*

Further information, including prayer helps can be found in the links within the attached documents.

THY KINGDOM COME



Through the centuries Christians have gathered to pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Thy Kingdom Come is a prayer movement in which Christians around the world pray during the eleven days from Ascension to Pentecost. This year's Thy Kingdom Come takes place between Thursday 13th - Sunday 23rd May. We invite all Christians in our community to join in with this season of prayer. **Every person, household and church are encouraged to pray in their own way.** It may be that your own church is entering into Thy Kingdom Come this year.

Since its start in May 2016 Thy Kingdom Come has been continually growing. So far, Christians from 172 countries from over 80 different denominations and traditions have taken part in praying 'Come Holy Spirit'. All in the hope that friends, family, neighbours and colleagues may come to faith in Jesus Christ.

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- *Deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ*
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After the very first Ascension Day the disciples gathered with Mary, constantly devoting themselves to prayer while they waited for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Like them, our reliance on the gift of the Holy Spirit is total – on our own we can do nothing.

RIBBLE VALLEY YOUTH (RVY) EVENTS FOR MAY 2021

Monday May 17th - detached youth work/ youth social in the castle park, 6:30pm. Meet Lucy and Chris at the park for fun and a space to freely hang out and talk about things. This is an invitation for all young people in our churches.

Monday May 24th - next RVY Livestream, 7pm on the YouTube channel.

Please feel free to bring this information to the attention of your congregations as you wish.

Graphics in PDF and jpg form are attached if you would like to use them.

As always, if you have anything you would like to publicise on through RVY please get in touch with Chris or Lucy.

chrischrismeyer@gmail.com

lucyskelton@stjamesclitheroe.co.uk
