

Remember the people fleeing Afghanistan and those left behind

A Message from Pope Francis

Pope Francis has urged Christians to intensify their prayer, penance, and fasting for the situation in Afghanistan. "In historical moments like this we cannot remain indifferent. As Christians, this situation commits us. I entrust the dead to the mercy of Almighty God and I thank those who are working to help that people so tested, especially the women and children. I ask everyone to continue to assist the needy and to pray that dialogue and solidarity will lead to the establishment of a peaceful and fraternal coexistence and offer hope for the future of the country.

An Afghan's Prayer 'Great God On High I know you are there, somewhere, but I need to see you now, right by my side, to hold and guide me and wipe away my desolation. I have lost everything but You and those that I love, and some can only be a memory now. So many hearts ceased to beat, so many hearts torn apart! So many with terror hanging over them! No home, no possessions, no job, no money, no future, entrapped without hope. Many have escaped but it doesn't feel like freedom, we are shocked and broken with our children looking at us for food, shelter and happiness we can't provide, we are so very far from home in body mind and spirit.

Blessed Lord we have been taught by those that have suffered for you before us over so many generations and shown us so much of You. Help us to grasp their vision and feel you closer as we strive to rebuild and make new neighbours, new friends.

We pray for the mercy of those in power over us, for all councils and all people to give of themselves in our plight that we might recover and repay a society that cares. We believe in good things and worked against tyranny in our own ways, please Lord, grant us a welcome, a safe home and a peace that lasts.'

MESSAGE FROM "GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE"

Last year copies of 'Hope' magazine were distributed to a number of households in Clitheroe. Hope magazine contains St John's gospel and some Psalms. Following a relaxation of COVID restrictions, Good News for Everyone (GNE) will be distributing the magazine again. Clitheroe Christians in Partnership, which represents churches in our community, is endorsing the distribution with a sticker on the front of the magazine. At the end of the magazine readers are invited to make a commitment or response and the magazine provides contact details for GNE for anyone seeking further help. GNE will seek to connect enquirers with a local church.



Many hands make light work (!) and GNE would really appreciate help with this distribution which will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 6th October. If you are interested in helping please contact Andrew Piercy on 01200 429095 or email piercyfamily1987@hotmail.co.uk Andrew will give you further details. The distribution is being financed wholly by GNE but if you would like to support this work you can send a gift to GNE at <https://goodnewsuk.com/donate>

CHEQUES: Just a gentle reminder that cheques must be made payable to "Our Lady of the Valley" otherwise they will not be accepted

Parish of Our Lady of the Valley

Catholic Communities of Clitheroe, Sabden & Dunsop Bridge

Tel 01200 423307 website: olotv.org.uk

Parish Priest: Canon Paul Brindle, Presbytery, Lowergate, Clitheroe BB7 1AG

Parish Priest email: paul.brindle@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Parish Secretary email: smsj@btinternet.com or janegg@hotmail.co.uk

St Michael & St John's Primary School Tel: 01200 422560 Head: Mrs Zoe Mabbott

St Mary's Primary School, Sabden: Tel: 01282 771009 Head: Ms Claire Halstead

Thornayholme Catholic Primary, Dunsop Bridge Tel: 01200 448276 Head: Mrs Olga Jackson

19th September 2021 - 25th Week in Ordinary Time

Mass Times

12 noon (Saturday) Dunsop Bridge

5pm (Saturday) Clitheroe

9.30am (Sunday) Clitheroe

11am (Sunday) Sabden

Monday 10am Clitheroe

Tuesday 10am Clitheroe (St Matthew)

Wednesday 10am Clitheroe



Thursday 10am Clitheroe (St Pius Pietrelcina)

Friday 10am Clitheroe (Our Lady of Walsingham)

Sunday 25/26th September

12noon (Saturday) Dunsop Bridge

5pm (Saturday) Clitheroe

9.30am (Sunday) Clitheroe

11am (Sunday) Sabden

Baptisms by appointment with Fr Paul

MASSES RECEIVED THIS WEEK

Rita & Frank Donbavand, Sr Geraldine (Margaret) Doherty, Ron Haslam

LATELY DEAD

Ronald Haslam, Rosaleen Thompson, Sr Geraldine (Margaret Doherty)

Finance: Thank you for your continued financial support towards the parish, Until we resume with the offertory collection at the usual place in the Mass, you can continue to leave your collection in the boxes at the back of the church near the sanitizers, or in the basket at the side door as you leave church.

Last weekends collection was £853.80

BAPTISMS: We welcome to God's family Thomas Lee Nott who was baptised last Sunday at St Mary's, Sabden.

THANKS: Our continued thanks go to all our Stewards who have worked so hard, and continue to do so, to make our 3 churches safe places to worship in, and where everyone is made to feel safe and welcome. Without their generosity and hard work our churches would be closed. Thanks to all who came to Mass in Our Lady of the Valley parish for your continued understanding and patience in what has not been an easy time for anyone. Things will gradually get back to 'normal'.

CAFOD The Season of Creation runs from 1 Sept (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 Oct (the feast of St Francis of Assisi) each year. This year's theme: A Home For All? Renewing God's Oikos. "We hope that this Season of Creation strengthens the ecumenical unity to care for creation in a way that ensures all creatures have a home to flourish and participate in renewing the oikos of God <https://seasonofcreation.org/2021/05/10/season-of-creation-2021-celebration-guide-en-news>

[.org/2021/05/10/season-of-creation-2021-celebration-guide-en-news](https://seasonofcreation.org/2021/05/10/season-of-creation-2021-celebration-guide-en-news)

ONLINE CHRISTIAN RETREATS VIA ZOOM For bookings, please see the website or contact Donna Worthington: drworthington@live.co.uk <https://christianretreats.live>

The Parables Nice little stories or subversive arrows that turn things upside-down? Mon 20th September 10am-1pm The Fire, the Well & the Cloak— Explore the spirituality of St Brigid and her compelling symbolism Wed 29th September 6.30—9pm

PARISH FORUM The next Parish Forum will be held on Wed 22nd Sept in the Assembly room/Parish Hall at 7.30pm. Please be assured that, if you attend, you will not be sat 'cheek by jowl' but seating will be spread out in the hall. If you have an item for the Agenda please let me know, Carol Riley 01200 426769 or email cariley.t21@btinternet.com by 19th September. Tea and biscuits served from 7pm.

Find out more about the Caminotocop and rebuilding our parish. Everyone Welcome

PAUSE FOR HOPE The Pause for Hope service will now be held on Sunday 24th October at 3pm here at St Michael & St John's. Please tell relations, friends and neighbours this is an ecumenical event open to all, especially those dealing with cancer.

Help – the Need is as great as ever.

The Parish SVP Group is appealing to all parishioners for help. The St Vincent de Paul Society or SVP for short, is a group of volunteer parishioners who set out to help those in need. They need your assistance now more than ever as people suffer terrible hardship because of the Covid – 19 pandemic. There are families short of food, lonely people who need company, homeless individuals and families, people in financial hardship and those facing illness. Join us and work with them to help in whatever way you can – whether it's packing up food parcels, phoning someone for a chat or giving someone a lift to an appointment. In addition, you might like to make a donation to enable the work to continue. The Bank Account Number is 46085858, the sort code is 60-60-04. For more information, please contact our President, Mr Andy McGuire on 07980 599 013. Thank you for your support.

More repository items e.g. Rosary Beads, Crucifixes etc are now on sale from the side porch. Please put any money for purchases in the box on the wall or in the CTS box at the back of church.

Congratulations: Our prayers and best wishes to go Rev Andy Froud, from St Mary's, Clitheroe, who will be made an Honorary Canon of Blackburn Cathedral today

LADIES GROUP Wednesday 29th September at 7.30pm The Speaker will be Shirley Penman, a local lady, whose talk is entitled A Lost generation of local heroes in the two world wars.

CAMINO TO COP Camino to COP (26th Annual UN Summit on Climate Change

Hopefully some of you may have already read in The Tablet about the 500 mile Pilgrimage which has set off from London to Glasgow where the UN's 26th Annual Summit on Climate Change is taking place. 40 walkers from all denominations are walking to the Summit to lobby our World Leaders on the need for action to tackle the effects of Climate Change. Pope Francis will be addressing the Conference and will say Mass and Her Majesty the Queen will also be attending. The 40 walkers or caministas as they are called are hoping to engage with individuals and communities along their route with the aim of spreading the word about how we can all help tackle climate change. Excitingly the Walkers have chosen to stay overnight in both Clitheroe and Slaidburn on route to Glasgow. A group of us have agreed to provide a Jacob's Join style lunch for the walkers on Monday 4th October. Lunch will be served at St. Mary's Hall. We could really do with some help. Any offers of help would be appreciated. We will need hot and cold food for approx. 50 people. We will also need help with serving tea and coffee and assistance to clear up afterwards. It will be a wonderful opportunity to express your own thoughts and concerns about the effects of Climate Change and there will be lots of activities to get involved in on the day. If interested in helping or simply finding out more then please contact Anne Peplow on 07792637005 anne.peplow50@gmail.com or Gaye McCrum gaveparis@yahoo.co.uk 07817878310. Please come to Parish Forum to find out more.

The funeral for the late Fr Joe Duggan SJ took place on Wednesday of this week in St Francis Xavier's Church Liverpool. His Requiem is still available to watch on Desmond Bannon & Sons Family Funeral Directors, Liverpool facebook page.

CLITHEROE ENGLISH CLUB held at The United Reformed Church, Castlegate, Clitheroe BB7 1AZ on Monday afternoons 1pm—3pm. These classes are started up again last Monday 13th September at 1pm. You will need to have had two Covid vaccinations. Please text 07977458470 Yes Please or No Thank you followed by your name. Looking forward to seeing you again. If you are still interested contact Jean Holmes Secretary.

ASSISTED DYING BILL This October, an 'Assisted Dying' Bill will be debated in the House of Lords. If successful it will allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live, assistance to commit suicide. The Bishops therefore urge you to pray this Bill is defeated, write to Peers and MPs expressing concern about this proposed legislation. Guidance on how to write to politicians can be found at parliament.uk/get-involved/contact-an-mp-or-lord/ Resources, which will be updated in the weeks ahead, can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/life-issues/>

WANTED Do any of you know of anyone who might be interested in teaching simple plain cookery at Clitheroe Cookery Club. It would involve working from recipe cards and being on a rota about one Thursday per month for 4 hours at Trinity Methodist, Clitheroe. No fancy cooking. Contact Rita if you are interested on 01200 539569 for more info.

