

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

11th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

14th June 2015



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
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Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood
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Tel: 01942 673517 or 731280
Email: stjosephs@live.com

Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson & Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Readings Week 3
Sunday - 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Weekdays - Ordinary Time, Year 1, Wk 11

Today 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Tuesday St Richard of Chichester
Thursday St John Rigby, Martyr
Next Sunday 12th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the first parable of today's Gospel, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to what happens when seed is sown by a farmer. Once the seed is sown, the farmer waits for harvest time. The cycle of growth follows its own secret rhythm. Even though nothing much seems to be happening, the miracle of growth is taking place. The farmer cannot improve the crop by staying awake at night and worrying. The seed is nurtured in its own silence. The harvest will not be rushed, just as the Kingdom of God will not be rushed, especially by those restless for instant results. Just as the harvest arrives in its own time, so the Kingdom will reach its completion in God's appointed time. It is God's Kingdom, not ours.

In the second parable, Jesus compares God's Kingdom to a mustard seed that grows into the largest shrub of all, so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade. In the ancient world, the size of a mustard seed was a byword for the smallest and most insignificant thing anyone could imagine. In Jesus' parable, the contrast is made between the smallness of the seed and the exuberance of its growth. Unremarkable beginnings can make for mighty achievements. In Jesus' teaching, the Kingdom of God is open to all people. The greatness of the Kingdom, which grows from such a small beginning, is for the benefit of everyone and is not exclusive to a certain few.

When we think of the small beginnings of Jesus' ministry in Galilee to the spreading of his message throughout the world, we can appreciate the amazing growth that has taken place in history. The seed which Jesus planted has indeed grown. From small beginnings – Jesus' preaching, his care for the afflicted, his quiet transformations, his unusual company of followers – there did indeed arise the greatness of the Kingdom of God.

God's work still continues today, not only in the Christian churches but in people and in places unknown and unrecognised by us. At the heart of the familiar God works in so many ways. His Kingdom grows of its own accord. How, we do not know. But we are part of this task of spreading the Good News about God's Kingdom, a Kingdom we will share in one day because of the faith we hold onto together.

Psalm Response It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;
whoever finds the seed will remain forever.

***God is always waiting for us, he always understands us,
he always forgives us.***
(Pope Francis)

LEIGH PASTORAL AREA

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

St Ambrose Barlow
Astley
St Gabriel's
Higher Folds
Holy Family
Boothstown
Sacred Heart
Hindsford
St Richard's
Atherton

Parish of St Edmund Arrowsmith

Our Lady of the Rosary
Sacred Heart
St Joseph's
Twelve Apostles
Leigh

Archdiocesan Mission Statement



Taking to heart the last words of the Lord Jesus, we will go into the world to proclaim the Good News to the whole of creation.

PARISH NEWS

This Week

Diploma in Pastoral Ministry & Leadership

Information evenings: Monday 15th June, 7.30 - 9.00 pm at St Marie's, Standish WN6 0TB; Wednesday 1st July, 7.30 - 9.00 pm at Liverpool Hope University L16 9JD. Further information from: www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/Diploma

Justice & Peace Assembly

The Archdiocesan Justice & Peace Commission are holding their annual assembly next Saturday, 20th June, at LACE, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, between 10.00 am - 4.00 pm. This year's assembly is entitled "Who Is My Neighbour?" and features guest speakers along with prayers and reflections led by Archbishop Malcolm and Fr Tom Cullinan. There is no charge for the day - which includes lunch - but a suggested donation of £10 would be greatly appreciated. For more information, contact 0151-5221080 or email s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk

You're Invited to a



St Margaret Clitherow Parish Barbecue

This year's barbecue will now take place next Saturday, 20th June (weather permitting) in the grounds at St Ambrose Barlow. Everyone welcome. Fires will be lit at 4.00 pm. Family games on the lawn, bouncy castle and raffle. Come along with your own food to cook and drinks. Bread, salads, sauces, etc., will be provided. Tickets: Adults £4.00, Children £2.00, Family Ticket £10.00. Please contact Des (876050) or Steve (876487) for more details and tickets.



Strawberry Tea

To help the Sacred Heart Sisters run the Redeemer Children's Home for orphans in Moyo, Northern Uganda (a project of the International Refugee Trust), you are invited to a Strawberry Cream Tea on Saturday 20th June, 2.00 to 5.00 pm, at Bedford Methodist Church, Breaston Avenue, Leigh WN7 3DJ.

Old Green River Band

Martin Bennett's Old Green River Band will be playing at St Stephen's Church, Manchester Road, Astley, on 20th June from 7.00 pm. Described as "one of the best on the UK Jazz scene", the band will play a programme of accessible, fun, traditional blues and jazz. Tickets are £10 per adult or £5 for a child. Refreshments will be available. Tickets from Phil Dand (01942 879608) or pay on the door.

Thank You

Terence and Bernadette Flanagan would like to thank Fr. Paul Seddon for a lovely Nuptial Mass; Steve Cooper, our altar server; Mary Barton, the Registrar; Cath Lees, the organist; Pat Roach for the church flowers; Thirza for the flower arrangements; James and Eileen, the readers; Janet and Andrea for the Irish Dancers, which we all enjoyed; family and friends for their good wishes and gifts, and special thanks to Eileen Farrimond.

Church Cleaners

We need more volunteers for church cleaning at St Richard's along with one or two people who could help to clean the brass work every now and then. If you could help in any way, please contact Fr Paul or Win Connor at St Richard's.

Parish Trip to Stratford Upon Avon

Many thanks to all those who have signed up for the day trip to Stratford Upon Avon on **22nd October 2015**. There are still about 12 tickets left. The trip to Stratford would begin with an early morning departure (approximately 9.00 am), arriving back at approximately 8.30 pm. If you would like to book a ticket and/or reserve a place on the coach, please contact Fr Paul - leaving your **full name and contact number AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**. Tickets will be allocated strictly on a first come first served basis.



On 17th June 2015, CAFOD invites you to Parliament for a day of action, solidarity and celebration of all the things we love which are affected by climate change.

It's the first chance to talk with our newly-elected MPs after May's general election and before December's crucial international climate talks.

Together we can show our new government how much we care that climate change is pushing people deeper into poverty. Please join us - and the whole of [The Climate Coalition](http://TheClimateCoalition.org.uk) - for a day to remember. The day starts with an ecumenical service at 12.00 pm, followed by meeting your MP from 1.00 pm. The finale will be a rally with speakers at 4.30 pm. For more information: www.cafod.org.uk

PARISH NOTES

Newsletter

Please ensure items for the newsletter are sent in by Wednesday evening. Thank you.

Clergy Addresses

Fr Paul Seddon

St Richard's Presbytery, Mayfield Street, Atherton, Manchester M46 0AQ

Fr Dave Heywood

Holy Family Presbytery, 208 Chaddock Lane, Boothstown, Worsley, Manchester M28 1DN

Finance

The monies for the five church communities of the Parish of St Margaret Clitherow are held in one account. So please make all cheques payable to **St Margaret Clitherow** (Please note the spelling of 'Clitherow'). Thank you.

Pastoral Area Website

www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk

Catholic School Websites

www.st-maryshigh.wigan.sch.uk

www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk

www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk

www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk

www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

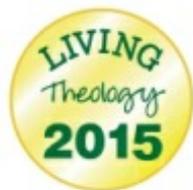


"Celebrate the Child"

Annual Celebration Mass for Children at St Mary's Lowe House, Crab Street, St Helens WA10 2BE, on Sunday 5th July at 3.00 pm. Celebrant: Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP. Please bring a picnic to enjoy in the garden after Mass. For more information, please contact the Safeguarding Office on 0151 522 1043 or by email: celebratethechild@tesco.net

Bereavements Teams

An afternoon for members of Bereavements Teams throughout the Archdiocese will be held at LACE on Wednesday 8th July between 2.00 - 4.30pm. The afternoon will include a talk by Rev David Williams, Chaplain to Alder Hey Hospital, and will also involve discussion groups and a time of prayer. You will also be able to enjoy afternoon tea. If any of the members of our local Bereavement Teams would like to go, please contact Fr Paul, leaving your full name and contact number so that he can book you in.



Living Theology 2015

Understanding your everyday beliefs

A summer school on the Christian faith, 10th to 12th July at Hope University Creative Campus L3 8DR. See brochure at the back of churches for programme & courses, or contact SFX Parish on 0151 298 1911 or email d.reynolds@sfxchurchliverpool.com

Parish Forum

The next meeting of the Parish Forum will take place in St. Richard's Parish House on Tuesday July 14th at 7.30 pm.



Lourdes 'At Home' Day

This year's Lourdes 'At Home' Day will take place on Friday 24th July at St Ambrose Barlow. More details soon.

Cineworld Live Screenings

There are a number of good looking Live Screenings coming up at Cineworld in Leigh. It has been great in the past to meet up with other parishioners to watch the screenings and perhaps have a drink together beforehand. The Live Screenings are usually live performances of theatre or opera or ballet. Here are a few taking place over the next few months: RSC's Merchant Of Venice – 22nd July, RSC's Othello – 26th August, National Theatre's Hamlet – 15th October, and RSC's Henry V – 21st October.



Pope Francis is to open a hostel for the homeless, in his latest initiative to help those sleeping rough on Rome's streets. The Pope, who has made concern for the poor a pillar of his papacy, is to open a dormitory for 30 people near St Peter's. The gesture follows the opening of a barber and showers for the homeless under the colonnades of the square.

One of the world's top Muslim clerics has urged the United Nations to defeat Islamic State (ISIS), warning that they pose a threat to the whole world, not just the Middle East. The Cairo-based Grand Imam of al-Azhar, Mohamed Ahmed el-Tayeb, was speaking at Lambeth Palace alongside the Archbishop of Canterbury on Wednesday.

Prime Minister David Cameron has told MP's he does not support euthanasia after a Labour MP promised to introduce a bill to legislate for assisted dying this year. At Prime Minister's Questions on Wednesday, Mr Cameron told MPs that he was concerned that legalising euthanasia would put pressure on elderly and frail people "to take a decision that acutally they might not want to go ahead with". He explained: "I know there are imperfections and problems with the current law, but I think these can be dealt with sensitively and sensibly without having a new law that actually brings in euthanasia."

An Encyclical on Climate Change is due out this week. Pope Francis is not the first pope to address environmental issues, but he is the first to devote an encyclical to them. Republican politician, Rick Santorum, put his foot in it this week...



LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory Collection	£2292.22
Priests in Retirement	£ 809.76

Thank you so much for your generosity

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	Monthly SVP Collection
Next week	Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Second Collection next weekend will go to support those pilgrims who are sick who may not be able to afford to travel to Lourdes with the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage in July. The collection will also help to make their journey and stay in Lourdes more comfortable.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 14th June	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Lois O'Neill 11.00 am Special Intention 12.30 pm Baptisms	(Sat) 6.00 pm Pat Sales 11.00 am Thomas Laing	(Sat) 6.00 pm Dorothy Hunt Tony McKiernan 9.30 am John Myatt 6.30 pm Barbara Brookes
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Shelagh Welsby 7.00 pm Prayer Group	9.15 am John Pearson
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Paul Goggins		9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition
THURSDAY	10.00 am Fr Terry McCann		<i>Mass at Holy Family</i>
FRIDAY	<i>St Gabriel's RC Primary School</i> 10.00 am Special Intention		9.15 am Lilian Connolly & Sean Pendlebury
SATURDAY	10.00 am Peter Berry	6.00 pm Andrew Hustwit	6.00 pm Helen Bennett
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Daniel & Nellie Conneely Margaret Kelly 11.00 am John Dulhanty 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Brian Lloyd	9.30 am Jim Baxter 6.30 pm James O'Brien

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

St Richard's & Sacred Heart

James O'Brien **William Flavel**
Kathleen Byrne

Those who are sick, especially:

Holy Family & St Gabriel's

Connie Crilly **Emma Oldham**
Kathy Kenyon **Rev Jim Melia**
Pat O'Neill **Barbara Cress**
Guy Ryan **Tony Dermody**
John Seddon **Anne Broad**
Pat Waring **Vida Raines**
Mary Littlewood **Christine Welch**

Sacred Heart & St Richard's

Fred Lyth **Margaret Hurley**
Agnes Pilkington **Phil Tomkins**
Peter Mannion **Thomas McLoughlin**
Irene McIntyre **Leslie Warren**
Neil Hurley

St Ambrose Barlow

Norah Atkinson **Alan West**
Margaret Ross **Shelagh Welsby**

*If you wish to add (or remove) someone from the prayer list,
please contact Fr Dave by phone or email.*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

This Saturday

10.30 - 11.00 am at Holy Family
After 6.00 pm Mass at St Richard's
(or by appointment with one of the priests)

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of the Church
through the celebration of Baptism:

Aaron William Sanderson

May God bless Aaron and his family

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

12th Sunday of the Year (B)



First Reading

Job 38:1,8-11

God alone has control over all he has created.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

Christ Jesus showed his love for us by dying for us on the cross.

Gospel Reading

Mark 4:35-41

By calming a storm, Jesus shows his divine power and his care for his disciples.