

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

18th January 2015



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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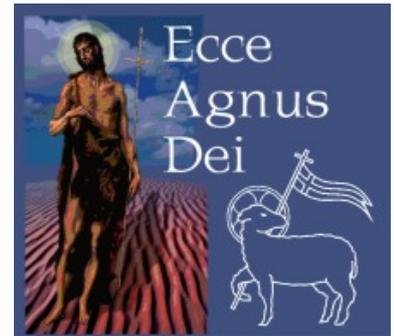
Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson & Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Readings Week 2
Sunday - 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Weekdays - Year 1, Week 2

Today **Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)**
Day of Prayer for Peace
Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Wednesday St Agnes
Saturday St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor
Sunday **Third Sunday if Ordinary Time (B)**



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.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, we see John the Baptist introducing two of his disciples to Jesus. In doing this he introduces them to a new future. The disciples follow Jesus and stay with him. John points away from himself to Christ. This is his role. In the fourth Gospel, this man sent by God runs the first introduction agency for those on the lookout for the Messiah. Andrew is one of these two disciples. He leaves his master, John the Baptist, to follow in the footsteps of his new master, Jesus. He needs John to point him in the right direction, to make a new start. And what John the Baptist did for Andrew, Andrew does for his brother, Simon. He shares his experience of meeting the new Messiah with him - he tells him he has met the Christ and introduces him to Jesus.

In the other three Gospels, Andrew is known simply as "the brother of Peter", but in the fourth Gospel, Andrew has a special function of introducing people to Jesus. Before the feeding of the 5000, Andrew discovers a small boy who has five loaves and two fish. The disciple introduces the boy to Jesus, who takes the little food, blesses it and offers it for distribution. The last appearance of Andrew is just before the Passover festivities in Jerusalem. Some Greeks speak to the apostle Philip and express their desire to meet Jesus. Philip tells Andrew, and together they introduce everyone to Jesus. Like Eli the priest in the First Reading and John the Baptist, Andrew's role is to bring others into the presence of the Lord.

When we reflect on the beginnings of our own Christian faith, we recall the people who first told us about Jesus, and therefore first introduced us to him. Most of us can, perhaps, think of a particular person who enabled us to begin our own journey of faith, and we can think of others who introduced us to the person of Jesus. Many of us have come to believe in Jesus through the faith of other people, especially those we have grown up with in our younger days.

As we begin a New Year, we are reminded that we too are called to be like Andrew and John the Baptist in introducing others to the Lord. We must never think that our faith will simply continue to exist unless we share it with others. It will die away if we don't witness to our faith and share our faith with the next generation, whoever they may be. Let us always be aware of our discipleship and therefore our calling to share our faith with others. In this way, like Andrew and John, we will keep our faith in Jesus alive and help spread this faith in the world today.

Psalms Response

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

Gospel Acclamation

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.



PARISH NEWS

This Week



Churches Together in Boothstown

To mark this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, you are warmly invited to a short Unity Service at 4.00 pm today (Sunday) at Holy Family. There will be refreshments in church from 3.30 pm. In addition, there will be a short service of Compline (Night Prayer) at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 20th January at St John's, Mosley Common. If you've never joined other Christians in prayer before, why not dip your toe in and come along to one of the services? We all need to do a little if Christian Unity is ever going to come about.

St Gabriel's, Higher Folds

Now that a planning application has been made to demolish the church building, there are a number of things we need to do in preparation for the closure of the church towards the end of February. So those who regularly come to Mass at St Gabriel's are invited to a meeting in church this Tuesday, 20th January, at 7.00 pm. At this meeting, we will need to talk about a final Mass in the church, future provision of the sacraments, transport to other churches for those who need it, etc. For those who cannot make the meeting on Tuesday, it will be repeated after the 6.00 pm Mass next Saturday, 24th January.

Youth SVP

The Youth SVP meets each Wednesday during term time, 6.00 - 7.00 pm, at Holy Family. The group is for young people in Years 8-13 at High School. New members are always welcome. Contact Fr Dave for more information or just turn up on Wednesday.

St Joseph's Players

St Joseph's Players present 'The Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor' at St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St, Leigh, 21st to 25th & 28th to 31st January at 7.15 pm. Matinéés at 2.00 pm on 24th, 25th & 31st January. Tickets: Adult £8 evening performances, £10 matinées, under 16yrs £4. Concessions: 21st & 22nd January all tickets £4. Ticket office: Ratcliffe's, Bradshawgate, Leigh.

Keep Calm and Sing

A Charity Concert in aid of Bolton Hospice will take place on Saturday January 24th in the Bolton Library Recital Theatre, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton. The concert will start at 7.30 pm. Tickets, priced at £15 each, are available from Antonia on 07976 031562 or Lorna on 07770 422044.

CAFOD & Traidcraft

CAFOD & Traidcraft will be open in Holy Family Church Hall after the 9.00 & 11.00 am Masses next Sunday. Tea, coffee, soft drinks, toast, etc. and delicious homemade cakes will be available. The proceeds from these refreshments will go to our CAFOD project 'Connect2Ethiopia'. Please come along if you can - you will be very welcome.

St Richard's 500 Club Winners

£100	194	L. Tomkinson
£ 50	452	J. Wintle
£ 25	101	D. Mitchel
£ 15	285	T. Stanley
£ 15	25	G. Sandelands

St. Richard's 500 Club members: £12 per number subscription is now due from those members who pay an annual lump sum. New members are welcome: please phone 01942 874928.

A reminder that the next sessions of the "With You Always" preparation take place on the following dates:

- **St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School**
Tuesday 20th January at 3.30 pm
- **Holy Family Catholic Primary School**
Thursday 22nd January at 3.45 or 6.30 pm
- **St Richard's Parish Centre**
Tuesday 27th January at 5.30 pm
- **St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall**
Thursday 29th January at 6.00 pm

Lenten Talks with Fr Chris Thomas

An early notice that a series of Lenten Talks will take place in the Pastoral Area during Lent this year. Many of you may remember Archbishop Patrick who gave a series of talks a few years ago. A number of people have asked for this to take place again. This year, Fr Chris Thomas, who leads the Irenaus Group in the Archdiocese, will lead the talks every Tuesday evening from 24th February to 24th March at St Ambrose Barlow. Fr Chris has written a number of books on prayer and spirituality. He is a fabulous speaker. Please come along and join us for these very special evenings.

TODAY IS PEACE SUNDAY

This year's theme is "Slaves no more, but brothers and sisters" and comes from Pope Francis' World Peace Message for 2015. Pax Christi has lots of information, prayers and resources for all ages on its website: www.paxchristi.org.uk (look under 'News and Events').



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



Justice & Peace

The next meeting of the Justice & Peace Group will take place in the Parish House at St. Richard's, Atherton, on Tuesday January 27th at 7.00 pm. All are welcome.

Bingo Bring and Buy

This will be held on Wednesday 28th January at 7.45 pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Proceeds will go towards the Pensioners party in March. Come along and test your skill and luck!

A New Pentecost Musical!

We are looking forward to starting rehearsals again for a new musical written by Darren (Minister at Boothstown Methodist Church), based on Pentecost. We would love as many of you as possible to come and join us in the choir. The musical will take place on **14th, 15th and 17th May** in the circuit. We will be having rehearsals on Wednesdays, 7.00 pm at Trinity Methodist Church, Market Street, Farnworth, starting on **28th January**. We look forward to seeing you there and then! Angela and Darren.

Ambrosians

The AGM for the Ambrosians Group takes place at 2.00 pm on Thursday 29th January in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. New members always welcome.

St Margaret Clitherow St Vincent de Paul Society

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, 29th January, at 7.30 pm in St Gabriel's Church, Higher Folds. All members are invited, so please come along if you can.

Coffee Morning

In Aid of the British Heart Foundation on Thursday February 5th in St Richard's Parish Centre. Tickets £2 including refreshments.

Vocation Discernment Group

To support those exploring Vocations to the Priesthood in our diocese, a monthly day of recollection has been organised for the first Saturday of each month. These days will help men who feel called to ordained ministry to discover more about diocesan priesthood and meet others discerning a call to priesthood. There will be an opportunity to talk with and hear from priests who minister in the diocese, and also a time for prayer and discussion. The first day of recollection will take place on **Saturday 7th February** at St. Charles' Presbytery, 224 Aigburth Road, Liverpool. For further information, please contact Fr James Preston at frjamespreston@gmail.com or 0151 727 2493.

Cineworld in Leigh

There are a number of good looking productions that are being screened live at Cineworld, Leigh. It has been good meeting up with fellow parishioners to watch them together. If you would like to join us please book your ticket(s) and just turn up in the foyer.

- **RSC's "Love's Labours Lost"**
Wednesday February 11th at 7.00 pm
- **RSC's "Much Ado About Nothing"**
(renamed "Love's Labours Won")
Wednesday March 4th at 7.00 pm
- **ENO's "La Traviata"**
Wednesday March 11th at 7.30 pm

"Sunday is the Lord's Day. Let us find time to be with him."

Pope Francis

HCPT Help a Helper

A Family Ceilidh Night will take place on Saturday 7th February at 7.30 pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Inspired by an HCPT talk at Mass last year, two young parishioners, Eleanor Callaghan and Katie Lowe, will be travelling to Lourdes at Easter as volunteer helpers. They are fundraising to help offset the cost of the trip by having a Ceilidh Night. Please support them by coming along for a great social night with great music, Irish Dancing, Bingo. Refreshments including a Hot Pot Supper will also be on sale. Tickets £3 from Andrea (07765 272070) or Caroline (07944 942509).

Eye Ball Gala Charity Dinner Dance

Due to last year's amazing success, I will be hosting another Eye Ball Gala Charity Dinner Dance to raise money for the Manchester Eye Hospital. It will be on Saturday March 21st at Buile Hill Banqueting Suite in Buile Hill Park Salford. 3 course set menu with live entertainment throughout the night £32 per person. Please contact Deborah Kane for more information and tickets on 07833 737567.

Catholic Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships

Now in its twelfth year, this scheme will provide eight recently graduated Catholics with an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. Four interns will be placed with Christian MPs at Westminster, one in a parliamentary support role within the Secretariat, two in public policy with CAFOD and CSAN, one in a media internship in Archbishop's House Westminster. In addition to educational work experience, all internships also involve individually guided retreats and spiritual guidance throughout the year, studying Christian ethics and Catholic social teaching at Heythrop College as well as exploring the political landscape and the Church's involvement in social action through a series of events. Full details and application pack from www.cbcew.org.uk/interns Closing date 4th March.



LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory Collection	£2061.28
SVP Collection	£ 339.38
Crib Offerings	£ 282.61

Thank you so much for your generosity

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	Pax Christi
Next Weekend	Survive-Miva

Pax Christi is an international Catholic peace organisation providing support and resources for the Christian community in the UK. Website: www.paxchristi.org.uk

Survive-Miva is a Catholic lay association based in Liverpool which exists to provide one vital element for the success of the Church's health and pastoral work in areas of great need - a means of transport. Check out their website: www.survive-miva.org

