

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

10th September 2017



DEANERY TEAM

Priest:	Fr. Paul Seddon	Priest:	Fr. Paul Grady
Tel:	01942 883395	Tel:	0161 790 2390
Email:	paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk	Email:	frpaulmgrady@hotmail.com
Priest:	Fr. Kieran O'Grady	Priest:	Fr. Colin Fealey
Tel:	01942 673517	Tel:	01942 673517 or 731280
Email:	kjmogrady@hotmail.com	Email:	stjosephs@live.com

Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 3
Readings Sunday – 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 23

Sunday **23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**
(St. Ambrose Barlow) (*Education Day*)
Wednesday St. John Chrysostom
Thursday **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
Friday Our Lady of Sorrows
Saturday Ss. Cornelius & Cyprian
Next Sunday **24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**
(*Home Mission Day*)



LEIGH DEANERY

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

The Gospel today raises a very practical issue for us: how do we act when someone close to us is treating us badly? Obviously these kind of problems occurred in the early Church. Today's Gospel gives us a way of tackling a problem like this. Matthew gives a setting for addressing issues and problems like this which can arise in any community or family, especially in the early Church. He is writing at a time when Jesus is present, NOT in the flesh, but in the Spirit, wherever two or three are gathered in his name. The theme is the relationship of members of the Church, "sisters" and "brothers" to one another, in an offence that violates the bond of unity between them. Matthew writes this instruction in the setting of an address given by Jesus to his disciples. The advice is straightforward: "If your brother or sister does something wrong, go and have it out with them alone, between your two selves."

The Gospel says that the offended party, NOT the offending one, should first seek reconciliation. Matthew suggests personal intervention and honest confrontation. He encourages members of the Christian Community to straighten everything out with each other privately, if this is possible. Christians are to deal with each other gently but directly – no anonymous complaints to the authorities, no whispering campaigns. The purpose of confronting someone who has done wrong is not to humiliate them, but to be reconciled with them. If private reconciliation fails, another attempt must be made by asking the help of one or two others, who are to try to settle the matter before it goes public. Only when this fails should the offended party bring the matter to the attention of the whole community.

All the practical advice in the Gospel centres on Christians taking responsibility for each other. Belonging to a community implies being involved with the life of its members. It is a procedure for any caring community to grow. It is a way of handling wrongdoing and hurt. Sometimes confrontation is the only language of love. As St. Paul tells us in today's Second Reading, "Love is the only thing that cannot hurt your neighbour." If love faces the real, it cannot avoid facing conflict. Where silence would permit greater division in the community, love must do something. As one Edmund Burke once wrote, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good people do nothing." And doing nothing in the face of wrongdoing and hurt is precisely what the Gospel opposes. So let us pray for unity and peace in all our Church Communities. But let us pray too that we may always act out of love when division does occur, for, according to Jesus himself, love is the only thing that can bring us unity and peace.

Psalm Response O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.

PARISH NEWS This Week

Parish Forum

Many thanks to all those who came along to the Parish Forum meeting last Tuesday. We discussed a number of issues, including development of the Church buildings, social events and, of course, the Summer Mass rota. Most people felt that it went really well. What do you think? Please let us know. The next Parish Forum meeting will take place on November 7th at 7.30 pm in Holy Family Church. All welcome.

With You Always

For any children in Year 4 who wish to make their **First Holy Communion** this school year from the communities of Holy Family or St Gabriel's, application forms are now available from either school, the back of Holy Family church, or from Holy Family parish office. Please pass these back to school or to the office as soon as possible. Dates of meetings will be passed on to those who apply in the coming weeks.

Creation Time: 1st September – 4th October 2017

Pope Francis has asked us to mark this period with prayer, reflection and action in relation to the Earth and our place upon it and so the Liverpool Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Commission and CAFOD Liverpool have produced a resource for parishes called *Reflections During Creation Time: Praying with the Gospels, stories from our time and Laudato Si'*. Like the resource we used last year, this one can be used as a course or as a series of one-off sessions following each of the five Sundays and comprises the Sunday's Gospel, case studies, quotations from Laudato Si' as well as opportunities for reflection, prayers and an invitation to action.

This year there will be sessions running at:

- **St Ambrose Barlow Hall** on Tuesdays **September 12th**, 19th, 26th and October 3rd at 11.00am followed by a shared lunch
- **St Richard's House** on Wednesdays **September, 13th**, 20th, 27th and October 4th at 10.00am, following Exposition
- **St Joseph's Presbytery (Green Room)** on Fridays **September 15th**, 22nd and 29th at 12.30pm, following 12 noon Mass.

Please come along to whichever of the above is most convenient for you. You will be most welcome.

St Richard's 500 Club Results of the September Draw

£100.00	229	M. Higgins
£50.00	82	S. Travers
£25.00	319	K. Selfe
£15.00	294	S. Cooper
£15.00	386	M. McLoughlin

Leading the fight
against dementia

**Alzheimer's
Society**

Memory Walk for the Alzheimer's Society

Anna Davidson will be taking part in the Memory Walk for the Alzheimer's Society at Heaton Park on Saturday, 30th September. She would welcome

your support and has a Just Giving page at www.justgiving.com/anna-davidson6 or you can sign the sponsorship form at the back of Holy Family church.

Midweek Mass Times

Please check the Newsletter each week for the times of Masses during the week in each Church. If one of the priests is away then the other will cover and say Masses in the other churches too.

So the usual weekday Mass time schedule would be as follows:-

• Tuesday	9.15 am	St. Ambrose Barlow
• Wednesday	7.00 pm	Holy Family
• Thursday	9.15 am	St. Richard's
• Friday	9.15 am	St. Richard's or
	10.00 am	St. Gabriel's School (during term time)

Please note that this **ONLY** applies when there is only **ONE** priest in the Parish. These times can change if a Funeral comes in. So please check the Newsletter for up to date details



Macmillan Coffee Mornings Dates for your Diary

St Richards Parish Centre - Macmillan Coffee Morning Thursday September 28th, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Various Stalls, Raffle etc. Admission £2 including unlimited Coffee & Tea and a delicious cake.

Helpers would be very much appreciated. To volunteer, please phone Eileen on 874928 or Margaret on 884893.

Macmillan Bring & Buy Coffee Morning in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall

Saturday 30th September, 9.00am to 12.00 noon

For further details or donations please contact Mary Barton.

Newsletter

Please ensure that 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 Paul Grady

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.

Please make all cheques payable to **St Margaret Clitherow** (Please note spelling 'Clitherow'). Thank you.

Deanery Website

www.leighdeanery.co.uk

Catholic School Websites

<http://stmaryschs.org.uk/>

www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk

www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk

www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk

www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk

Sacred Heart Hindsford Website

www.sacredheartrchindsford.co.uk



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Reflect:

The reference to 'where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them' is often understood in the context of prayer and God's response to it. Today's reading also states that it is important for us to support each other in not only defending what is right, but also to challenge what is wrong, confident in the belief that God will always stand with us. This is quite a challenge to each of us - we are often quite happy to live in our own little cocoon of safety, when in reality we are each called to be active in defending and supporting those whose very existence is a daily challenge.

Pray:

Prayer of the struggling farmer

Lord,

Show me the pain of those who are most troubled
so that I can learn about the suffering of my people.
Grant me the courage to serve others
because in surrender there is eternal life.

Illuminate us with song and celebration and raise the Spirit
amongst us.

May the Spirit flower and grow and give us strength to
continue our struggle.

May we remember those who have died from injustice
because for us they have given their lives.

Amen

A prayer written by Salvadoran farmers working with CAFOD's partner, the Jesuit Development Service.

Act:

Identify and support local producers and share information about them with others and so cut down on food miles as well as helping the local economy.

Challenge:

Seek out Fairtrade goods and try to make them part of your weekly shop.



R.I.P. Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has announced the death of his predecessor Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor who died peacefully on Friday, 1st September

2017 at the Royal Marsden Hospital, surrounded by his family and friends. Cardinal Nichols added, "Please pray for the repose of his soul. Pray, too, for his family, and those many friends and colleagues from the Diocese and far beyond who mourn his loss."

Pope Francis has written to Cardinal Nichols to offer his "heartfelt condolences" after the death of Archbishop emeritus of Westminster, Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. The two men were elevated to the rank of Cardinal at the same Consistory in February 2001.

TWELVE APOSTLES SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

Twelve Apostles RCPS are looking for a Foundation Governor to start in September. This is a voluntary role and you don't need any qualifications or expertise, just a commitment to making a difference to our young children's future. If anyone is interested or would like to find out more about the role please contact Father Kieran or Mrs Newton the Head teacher on 01942 674312 for an informal chat.



"Fatima At Home" Day

A reminder that, after our recent Pilgrimage to Fatima, we have decided to have a "Fatima At Home" Day in October, to celebrate the centenary of the last Apparition of Our Lady to the children.

So an early warning, a note for your diaries, that we will have a "Fatima At Home" event during October on the following dates:-

- **Friday October 13th**
Holy Hour in St. Richard's Church at 7.00pm.
- **Saturday October 14th**
Mass of Anointing in St. Richard's Church at 12noon.

We will have a planning meeting on **Wednesday, September 27th at 6.30pm** in the Parish House at **St. Richard's, Atherton** to prepare for the occasion so please come along and join us. We need your help.

Living Fully

"Living Fully" is a new initiative introduced by the Nugent Care Society to enable every child and adult with a disability to encounter Jesus in the life of the Church today. A day of study, worship and workshops will take place soon exploring how all life is a gift from God and how every person has a valuable and dignified place within the Body of Christ, the Church.

The day will take place at LACE Conference Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, on **Saturday 23rd September** from 10.00am-4.00pm. Cost is £10 which includes lunch.

"Come & See" Conference

The next Archdiocesan "Come & See" Conference will take place at Christ The King High School, Stamford Road, Southport, over the weekend of **October 14/15th**. The keynote speaker this year will be Fr. Timothy Radcliffe.

There are many other workshops and prayer sessions taking place over the weekend. For more information please contact Jenny at Irenaeus on 01519491199 or by email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or www.irenaeus.co.uk.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£1839.24
The Medaille Trust	£ 305.64

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	Catholic Education Service
Next Week	Home Mission Sunday

The **Catholic Education Service** is an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It negotiates with the Government and other national bodies in order to safeguard and promote Catholic education.

Home Mission Sunday

The Home Mission Office exists to help the Church throughout England and Wales to share the joy of the Gospel. It can seem daunting to share such a personal part of our lives as our faith in Jesus Christ. However, we can pray that the people we carry in our hearts will encounter him for themselves.

The money received from this collection ensures that the Catholic Faith Centre is resourced and is able to respond to those who have questions about the Catholic Faith.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 10th September	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Fr. Terry McCann 11.00 am Denise Bradley 12.30 pm Baptism	(Sat) 6.00 pm Brian Gerrity 11.00 am Donoghue & Roberts Families	(Sat) 6.00 pm John & Jean Neary 9.30 am Thomas & Alice O'Neill 6.30 pm Michael Flaherty
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am John Evans	<i>Mass at Ambrose Barlow</i>
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Mary Leatherbarrow		9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition Blessed Sacrament
THURSDAY	<i>Mass at St Richards</i>		9.15 am Peter FitzMaurice
FRIDAY	9.15 am Mass with Holy Family School in Church 10.30 am Mass with St Gabriel's School in School		<i>No Mass at St Richard's</i>
SATURDAY	10.00 am Bethan & Matthew Trussell	10.00 am <i>Padre Pio Prayer Group</i> 6.00 pm Parishioners	6.00 pm Norah Devlin
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Anthony Dermody 11.00 am Special Intention	11.00 am John Swift	9.30 am Margaret Aspden 6.30 pm Sheila Hughes

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Susan Mary Bradley
Michael Flaherty

Margaret Aspden

Those who are sick, especially:

Emma Oldham Kathy Kenyon Guy Ryan Shelagh Welsby Derek Maude Catherine Jones Michael Wright Agnes Pilkington Margaret Hurley Thomas McLoughlin Marjorie Price Jean Tchibukdjian Ann Mellin Margaret Dawson Maureen Halliday Enid Kenwright Bernard O'Donnell Mary Tiernan Ted & Harriet Langin Baby George Patricia Wilson Irene Burke Margaret Wall	Pat O'Neill Rev Jim Melia Anne Broad Margaret Case Joan Wilkinson Margaret Smith Irene McIntyre Freda Peake Sr Megan Haisley Margaret Ross Eugenie Cheetham Leonard Beach Fon O'Hara Thomas Higgins Betty Rostern Wyn Wright James Pickering Bridie Molyneux Gwenda Byers Edward Leach Joan Higgins Gerald Hackett John Wall
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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

10.30 am after Mass at Holy Family on Saturday.
 After both the 6.00 pm Masses on Saturday evenings at
 St Richard's and St Ambrose Barlow.
 Confession wherever possible is available by request or
 by appointment.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Family of Faith
Ava Lea Akkermans
Heidi Florence Hopkins
Alyssa Rose Mannion
 May God bless them and their families.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to
Helen Rogerson and Stewart Hyde
Kristina Wall and Paul Smith
 May the Lord bless and strengthen their love always.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading In refusing to forgive those who have sinned against us, we exclude ourselves from receiving God's forgiveness for our own sins. Second Reading The entire existence of a Christian is for Christ and for others. Gospel Reading We must be willing to extend to others the generous forgiveness God has extended to us.	<i>Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9</i> <i>Romans 14:7-9</i> <i>Matthew 18:21-35</i>
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