

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

15th January 2017



DEANERY TEAM

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Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter	Week 2
Readings	Sunday – 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 2
Sunday	2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) <i>(Peace Sunday)</i>
Tuesday	St. Anthony
Saturday	St. Agnes
Next Sunday	3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) <i>(Unity of Christians)</i>



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 Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, which we listen to in today's Gospel, was a moment when the world was changed forever. Jesus was revealed as the second person of the Holy Trinity – the Son of God – as the Spirit descended upon him and the voice of God called from the heavens. At the same time, Jesus was revealed as the suffering servant of Isaiah, whom we heard about in the First Reading – God's instrument for establishing a new world of justice and peace. In other parts of the Gospel story John the Baptist didn't think it was necessary, or even appropriate, for him to baptize Jesus, perhaps because he saw Jesus as being much more powerful than himself. John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. It required the forgiveness of sins and Jesus was without sin. Yet Jesus insisted. Jesus was baptized in solidarity with the people around him, taking on the life of the people for the purpose of redemption. John tells us that the Spirit not only descended on Jesus but rested with him. For John the Baptist, this was the sign that Jesus was "the Chosen One of God". Jesus was the beloved Son of God and he would be faithful to his Father, no matter what, for the rest of his life. We too have his lasting presence through the Holy Spirit. God, our Creator, continues creating through us and with us to bring about the fulfilment of God's Kingdom.

As followers of Jesus today, we share in the Baptism of Christ, the ministry of Christ, the death of Christ and the resurrection of Christ. This means that, just as God said to Jesus, "You are my Beloved," God says to each one of us too, "You are my beloved." God loves and affirms us through Jesus. God has chosen each one of us too. So what does this mean for the world? It means that God loves each one of us personally, individually and globally with an unconditional love. So if each one of us is a beloved daughter or son of God, like Jesus, that means each one of us is the beloved sister or brother of all God's children. This means that every human being on the planet are our sisters and brothers – whether it be a child playing with friends in China, or a woman making breakfast in Brazil, or a goat herder in the Sudan, or a family in the Philippines, or children playing in Iraq.

Everyone is our sister and brother, so, not only should we never hurt anyone, we should do our best to help them in whatever way we can because they are our brothers and sisters. Our calling as baptized followers of Jesus is to leave to one side the violence of the world, and love everyone the way God loves us. We are God's beloved, so, like Jesus, we are called to treat one another as God's beloved. Life is good and precious and wonderful, so why waste it on being negative, resentful and hateful towards others? Instead, let us live out our baptismal promises and share God's peace and love with everyone wherever we can and in whatever way we can. We may not be able to make a difference to the world in which we live today, but we can make the world a better place for those around us.

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

Gospel Acclamation Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens.

PARISH NEWS

This Week



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

This weekend we begin the celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It is so very important for us to pray for our sisters and brothers of other denominations and come together to celebrate our faith. There will be a special service of prayer in **St. George's Church, Atherton this Sunday, January 15th at 6.30pm**. During this special week, the following churches will be open for prayer between 10.00-11.30am:-

- Monday January 16th – Chowbent Chapel.
- Tuesday January 17th – St. Richard's Church.
- Wednesday January 18th – St. Michael's Church.
- Thursday January 19th – Independent Methodist Church.
- Friday January 20th – St. John's Parish Church.

Everyone welcome.

Plus, next week:

Christian Unity Service - Sunday 22nd January, 4.00pm at Boothstown Methodist Church (Fr Paul the Younger is preaching)
Ecumenical Compline (Night Prayer) - Tuesday 24th January 7.00pm at St John's, Mosley Common.

With You Always

The next meetings for St Gabriel's and Holy Family are this coming week:

Tuesday 17th January - 3.15pm in St Gabriel's School
Thursday 19th January - 3.45pm or 6.30pm in Holy Family Church

Parish Forum

The next meeting of the Parish Forum will take place in Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Hindsford, **this Tuesday 17th January at 7.30pm**. All welcome.

Burns Night 2017

Friday 20th January at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall at 7.45 pm. Just a reminder to those already booked. Please pay on the night.

St Richard's 500 Club

Please note that from January 2017 the **500 club** will be run by **Mr Michael Farrimond and Mr James Duffy**, and the Monthly Draw will take place during the Coffee Morning after 9.30am Mass at St. Richard's on the first Sunday of every month. **New members welcome.**

St Richard's 500 Club January Winners

£100	161	M Longworth
50	221	J Hankinson
25	85	T Rayner
15	116	M L Rigby
15	404	M Ellams

Thank you for your continued support.

Save Stamps for Charity

If you would like to save stamps for charity they can be placed in the red box at the back of St Ambrose Church.

Betty Rostern – Thank you

The family of Betty Rostern would like to say a deeply sincere 'Thank You' to everyone for their kindness and generosity in the many cards and gifts Betty received for her 90th Birthday. They would also like to offer their thanks for the kindness shown to Betty since being admitted to hospital, which actually happened on her birthday. Betty has now been transferred to Heartley Green Care Home in Irlam for continuing care.

Bags2School – Guides

Please note that St Ambrose Barlow Guides are holding a clothes collection on Friday 27th January.

Bags can be brought in and dropped off after Sunday Mass or alternatively on Thursday 19th and 26th January between 7.00pm and 9.00pm. You can also leave your bag at the church hall between 8.30am and 9.00am on Friday 27th. You can collect a bag from the back of church or you can just use a bin liner, that's fine too! Items that we are collecting are clothing, footwear, towels, linen, bags, belts and soft toys.

Thank you so much for your support as this funding helps us with our annual subscriptions fee which was over £700 last year.

If you would like us to collect any items for you, please contact Delia on 01942 884576 or text 07753 929476.

Regards, Delia, Bernadette and the team.

St Ambrose Barlow 200 Club:

Numbers have been drawn for those people who have already joined the 200 Club and are available from Steve at the back of church this weekend. If you have been intending to join but haven't yet got around to it – don't worry, there's still time. The first draw will take place **after the 11.00am Mass next Sunday, 22nd January**. You have until then to get yourselves signed up. To make sure you are entered into the first draw see Steve at the back of church or call him on 07952 152371.

Newsletter

Please ensure that items for the newsletter are sent in by Wednesday evening. **For Sundays 22nd, 29th January and 5th, 12th February please send new items to one of the priests as the regular newsletter editor will be unavailable.** 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

Exposition at St. Richard's Church

A reminder that the next Wednesday morning Exposition in St. Richard's Church will take place on the first Wednesday of Lent, March 8th. During the work that is soon to be done at St. Richard's Church there will be occasions when we have Mass in the Parish House or even the Parish Centre whilst the new radiators and heating system are being fitted. More details nearer the time.

Children's Liturgy Catechists

If anyone would like to help with the Children's Liturgy during Sunday morning Mass why not come along and speak to one of the catechists after Mass to find out what it is all about. It is a wonderful way of sharing God's Word with the children of the Parish. We always need more helpers. Thanks to so many of you who have been running the Children's Liturgy for so many years. If you think you can help then please speak to one of the priests or/and one of the catechists whenever you can.

RCIA

If there is anyone who is considering becoming a Catholic by making the 'journey of faith' this year please speak to one of the priests. A meeting will be arranged in the coming weeks for anyone who is interested.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

St Joseph's Players Pantomime

St Joseph's Players will present their pantomime, "**Robinson Crusoe**" in St Joseph's Hall, Leigh from **18th January to 28th January 2017**. Evenings at 7.15pm. Matinees, 21st, 22nd, 23rd from 2.00pm. Special Offer, 18th and 19th, all tickets £4. Tickets available from Stones Carpets, Chapel Street, Leigh (opposite Church).



CAFOD Café

The CAFOD Café will be open in Holy Family Hall after the 9.00 am and 11.00 am Masses on **Sunday, January 29th**. Delicious home made cakes will be available, as well as tea, coffee, soft drinks, toast, tea cakes – and bacon butties!! And, as a special extra to this post-Christmas Café, there will be a **Tombola**. If you have any donations, superfluous Christmas gifts etc you would like to donate to this, they would be very gratefully received. Proceeds will go to our **CAFOD Connect2Ethiopia** project.

The **Traidcraft** stall, with an array of fair trade produce, will also be available. Please come along if you can. You will be very welcome.

Live Screenings at Cineworld

We have in the past advertised the Live Screenings at Cineworld in Leigh. It was great to meet up with other parishioners to watch a live performance and enjoy each other's company. There are two more good looking performances coming up soon:

- National Theatre's "Amadeus" – Thursday, February 2nd at 7.00pm.
- National Theatre's "St. Joan" – Thursday, February 16th.

"With You Always" Catechists Meeting

As we prepare for the up-coming "With You Always" preparation course, there will be a meeting of catechists for St. Ambrose Barlow and St. Richard's on **Tuesday February 7th at 7.00 pm**. The meeting will be held at St. Richard's Parish House.

St Patrick's Night at Sacred Heart Club, Hindsford

There will be an evening of Irish and Country songs at Sacred Heart Club, Hindsford to help the Parish celebrate St Patrick's Day on **Friday 17th March**, from 8.00 pm till closing time. Live music from *The Cambridge Crew* plus guest singers/guitarists from the local *Streetlifers* group. Admission free.

Over 60's Afternoon – 18th March 2017

Every year, St Ambrose Barlow Church Community welcomes persons over 60 years of age to an afternoon commencing with Mass at 2.00 pm followed by a meal and entertainment. We can only accommodate 76 persons with our limited catering facilities. We will, of course extend our invitation to those who were invited last year. We do have a number of places available free this year. If you have not attended in the past please contact us to arrange invitations.

As always, our first priority must be to sick and housebound members of the community and those over 60 years who attend any Mass at St Ambrose Barlow Church on a regular basis. We would also like to invite those who have historically attended our church but who now worship in the neighbouring communities, plus those who help at our community events on a regular basis.

If you would like to attend this very enjoyable afternoon, please contact Delia (07753 929476), Jackie B. (01942 516619) or Steve (01942 876487) **before January 31st** who will pass your request on to the organisers. Invitations then will be issued, according to the above criteria and subject to numbers.

Parish Visit to Oscott

A reminder about the parish trip to **St. Mary's College, Oscott**, the seminary of the Archdiocese of Birmingham serving the Catholic Church in England, Wales & Scotland. The visit will take place on **Sunday 19th March 2017** and will follow the pattern: arrival about 4.00pm, afternoon tea, tour of the college, evening prayer 6.30pm, departure about 7.00pm.

Please let Fr Paul G know if you would like to go on the visit.

Fatima, 19th - 23rd June 2017

We have a good sized group travelling but still have places available on this Pilgrimage. The price is £377.00 PLUS the airfare (approx £100). If you want to book please contact Des or Cath during the week on 01942 888844 or complete a booking form (at the back of church) and send it with your deposit to the address shown on the booking form.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£1929.63
Crib Offerings (St Ambrose Barlow)	£ 24.20
Monthly SVP Collection	£ 253.27

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	Pax Christi
Next Week	Survive Miva Appeal

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. www.survive-miva.org

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 15th January	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Win Mullen 11.00 am Lloyd Hacker & James McGuinness	(Sat) 6.00 pm Frank Hudson 11.00 am Frank Bryan	(Sat) 6.00 pm Patricia Shaw 9.30 am John Pearson 6.30 pm Rex Baxter
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am George Stevenson	9.15 am Una & Bartley Furey
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Margaret Callaghan		<i>No Exposition until March</i>
THURSDAY	10.00 am Patrick McCafferty		9.15 am Gerry Burke
FRIDAY	10.00 am Bill Walsh <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>		<i>Mass in St. Gabriel's School</i>
SATURDAY	10.00 am Tom Lydon	10.00 am Padre Pio Prayer Group 6.00 pm Brian Gerrity	6.00 pm Theresa Cunningham
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Margaret Kelly & Daniel and Nellie Conneely 11.00 am Rev Jim Melia	11.00 am Thomas Unsworth	9.30 am Mary Charlton 6.30 pm Theresa Kelly

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

David Hilton	Margaret Brown
Ann Lyons	Jack Pheby
Bernadette Kelly	Eileen Winward

Those who are sick, especially:

Emma Oldham	Pat O'Neill
Kathy Kenyon	Rev Jim Melia
Guy Ryan	Anne Broad
Shelagh Welsby	Margaret Case
Derek Maude	Joan Wilkinson
Catherine Jones	Margaret Smith
Michael Wright	Irene McIntyre
Agnes Pilkington	Susan Phillips
Margaret Hurley	Neil Hurley
Thomas McLoughlin	Margaret Ross
Marjorie Price	Eugenie Cheetham
Jean Tchibukdjian	Freda Peake
Ann Mellin	Leonard Beach
Margaret Dawson	Fon O'Hara
Maureen Halliday	Thomas Higgins
Enid Kenwright	Betty Rostern
Bernard O'Donnell	
Simon, grandson of B & N Atkinson	

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions 10.30 am on Saturday, after morning Mass at Holy Family.

After 6.00 pm Saturday Mass at St. Richard's.

Confession also available by request or by appointment.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading *Isaiah 8:23-9:3*
The prophet Isaiah predicts future liberation for the people who are oppressed.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17*
Paul launches a passionate appeal for unity amongst the Christians at Corinth.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 4:12-23*
The wonderful prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled in the person of Jesus.