

# Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

The Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

16th July 2017



## DEANERY TEAM

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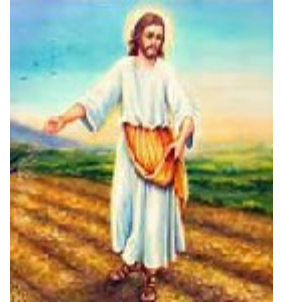
**Deacons:** Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week 3  
**Readings** Sunday – The Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)  
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 15

**Sunday** **The Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**  
(Our Lady of Mount Carmel)

**Saturday** **Feast of St. Mary Magdalene**  
**Next Sunday** **The Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**



## 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

Amadeus (not Mozart!) was a famous violin teacher. He knew his music and had a gift for being able to bring out the best in his pupils. At one time four pupils were sent to him. He saw that each one of them had great talent and this excited him. He wanted to make them even better. It was a great opportunity for them.

The first pupil was called Mary. She had only just started her music lessons when her friends began to pester her. They would come knocking at her door, begging her to come out and play. After a while, she gave in, and that was the end of her music lessons. Amadeus was sorry to see her go.

The second pupil was called John. The idea to take music lessons had come from his parents. He felt forced into it and so, his heart was not in it. Still, for a while, it was exciting to hear the sound of the violin. But soon the novelty wore off. It was just too much hard work and so he gave up. And Amadeus was sorry to see him go.

The third pupil was called James. He was multi-talented. He particularly liked athletics and football but was anxious to cultivate all his interests. For a while he succeeded. But eventually something had to suffer. It was the music lessons. First he began to fall behind, then to neglect them, and finally he dropped them altogether. Amadeus was sad to see another of his pupils go.

The fourth was Anne. She was by no means the best of the four, but she really wanted to succeed. Right from the start, she put her heart and soul into all the lessons. Even so, there were times when practising got boring, and she would have preferred to be out playing with her friends. But she stuck to her lessons, and in the end graduated with first class honours. Amadeus was delighted for her.

Does this story remind us of anything? Hopefully it will remind us of today's Gospel. The Word of God is symbolized by the seed being sown on the land. It needed a good gardener – like Amadeus in the story – to help it to grow. But it also needed people who were prepared to persevere and allow it to grow inside them and bear fruit for God. All of us have been blessed with hearing the Word of God. But do we really listen to its message? Do we allow the Good News to grow within us? None of us can claim that we know Jesus unless we listen to his Word and unless we allow his Word to take root in our lives each day. In nature the seed has only a short growing season in the early part of the year. This isn't so with the seed that is God's Word. It can grow at any stage in a person's life. Some grains of wheat were found in the tomb of one of the kings of ancient Egypt. Someone planted and watered them. To the amazement of everyone, the grains came to life and began to grow, after 5000 years of lying in a tomb. The seed of God's Word, once sown into the human heart, never dies. And it is never too late to act on the Word of God.

**Psalm Response** Some seed fell onto rich soil, and produced its crop.

**Gospel Acclamation** Speak, Lord, your servant is listening;  
you have the message of eternal life.

## PARISH NEWS

This Week



### Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Fr Paul the Younger will be travelling this week to Lourdes with the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage. He will be leading the Lourdes Music Group assisted by people from our parish and from other parts of the diocese. All parishioners intentions will be remembered during the Masses and prayer of the pilgrimage. Please pray for all those who are travelling to Lourdes either as assisted pilgrims, hospitalite, youth, chaplains and musicians.

### 'Lourdes At Home' Day

A number of people have asked why we are not having a "Lourdes At Home" Day this year. The simple reason is that we have not been able to get a day when all the priests have been available at the same time, at least not during the Lourdes Pilgrimage itself. We will try our best to make sure we can have one next year, God willing.

However, one of the highpoints of the day is the Mass of Anointing. Since we are celebrating the centenary of the apparitions of Fatima this year, it would be good to have a similar gathering of the whole Deanery near the date of the final apparition in October. So, at the next Clergy Meeting, which is in August, we will try to come up with a few dates and hopefully have a similar celebration to "Lourdes At Home" at this time of the year. Watch this space for more details.

### " A Blooming Great Tea Party"

To raise funds in aid of Marie Curie.

Tuesday 18th July 2017

between 10.00am and 12 noon

in St Richard's Jubilee Hall, Crab Tree Lane, Atherton.

Please come along and enjoy some tea, coffee and cakes with the Leigh and Atherton fundraising group.

### Padre Pio Prayer Group - Minister Wanted

The Padre Pio Prayer Group meets at 10.00am every Saturday morning at St Ambrose Barlow. The group has Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every other week. A minister is needed to help with this. If you can help, please contact Fr Paul Grady or Albert Nuttall at St Ambrose Barlow.

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### Trial Summer Sunday Mass Schedule

PLEASE NOTE NEW SUNDAY MASS TIMES FOR AUGUST

Once again we will be trying out a different Mass schedule for the Summer months. At the recent Open Meeting it was suggested that we need to cut down on Mass times with the prospect of losing a priest very much a probability in the next year or two. So the Summer Mass schedule gives us an opportunity to look at what possibilities we have and have a trial run, as it were. The Summer Mass Schedule will not, at present, effect the Saturday evening Masses, but we are going to have a trial run, **during the month of August**, of the following times for Sunday morning Mass:-

- **Holy Family, 8.45 am.**
- **St. Richard's, 10.00 am.**
- **St. Ambrose Barlow, 11.15 am.**

The usual Mass times, including the 6.30pm Sunday evening Mass, will resume once again on the first weekend of September, 2nd & 3rd.

### Reflect:

In today's Gospel we consider how we receive the Word of God in our lives. Do we try to take in and live the Word of God? Do we act on what we hear at Sunday Mass so that our actions throughout the week are lived in the light of the Gospel or do we forget about it once we have left church? How can we ensure that the Word of God is planted deeply in our hearts and is with us on a daily basis, becoming our way of living and a real part of who we are?

### Pray:

I pray for the ones who help me.  
I pray that the word of God will spread and live long.  
I pray for rain and food  
because there are so many people who have neither.  
I pray for more justice and peace in this world.

*By Mana, Ethiopia from 'LiveSimply' Cafod  
ed. Annabel Shilson-Thomas*

### Act:

It's not too late to grow some of your own vegetables and enjoy chemical & package free, fresh crops. The only distance they will travel is from your garden to your door, so you'll be saving on food miles too!

Five of the easiest and most rewarding veg to grow are salad leaves, courgettes, beans, tomatoes and potatoes.

### Challenge:

How can you nurture and grow the Kingdom of God in your daily life?

Take time out with God to pray; to listen to him, to integrate His word into our daily life.

Take time to act - for others in the world, the poor, the homeless, the needy, the sick.

### 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](http://www.leighdeanery.co.uk)

### Catholic School Websites

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

[www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk)

[www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk)

[www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk](http://www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk)

[www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk](http://www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk)

[www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk)

## Fatima Pilgrimage

It is a few weeks since we went on Pilgrimage to Fatima. It was a wonderful week. Everyone on the Pilgrimage seemed to really enjoy it.

After arriving in Fatima – via a flight to Lisbon – on the Monday evening, it was a little too late to do any pilgrimage sights on arrival. However some of us did venture out to watch the end of the Rosary Procession, which was very moving since there were 1000's of people there. Fatima does not get the same number of pilgrims as Lourdes, apart from around the dates of the apparitions and, of course, when Pope Francis is there! However, the Rosary Square is huge and the numbers of pilgrims who do arrive each day are dwarfed by the size of the place.



On one side stands the older basilica, where Lucia, Francesco & Jacinta, the three children who saw Our Lady, are buried. Francesco and Jacinta were recently canonized and enormous pictures of them are displayed on the outside walls of the old basilica.

Just near the old basilica is the Apparition Chapel, erected very close to the site of the place where Our Lady appeared to the children 100 years ago. In the Apparition Chapel can be seen the statue of Our Lady of Fatima; the crown which she wears is adorned with many jewels and also with the bullet with which Pope John Paul II was shot in St. Peter's Square in 1981.

On the opposite end of the square is a new basilica, which is adorned with a massive set of rosary beads which light up at night. Next to the basilica is a beautiful 80 foot depiction of the Crucifixion. It can be seen from miles around. It is truly an amazing place, very beautiful and very peaceful.



As our first day ended we joined with the Rosary Procession at night and felt the peace of being close to Our Lady in Fatima.

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## 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.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Parish Forum

The next meeting of the Parish Forum will be on **Tuesday 5th September at 7.30 pm at St Ambrose Barlow.**

### 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](mailto:jenny@irenaeus.co.uk) or [www.irenaeus.co.uk](http://www.irenaeus.co.uk).

### Cineworld – Live Screenings

If anyone would like to join us for the Live Screenings at Cineworld in Leigh, then please come along and join us. We usually try to meet up in the foyer about 6.45pm so we can buy tickets and a drink and enjoy the performance together. The next live screening is RSC's "**Titus Andronicus**" on Wednesday 9th August.

### LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£2200.43
Apostleship of the Sea	£ 632.98

Thank you so much for your generosity.

### SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	Let The Children Live!
Next Week	Monthly SVP Collection

**Let The Children Live!** is a charity that works in Colombia with children from the streets and shanty-towns. These children have been called 'the disposable ones' and they live, and sometimes die, in the streets and rubbish dumps of Colombia's cities. Their ages range from babies to teenagers and they are often unloved, unwanted, beaten, robbed, raped and murdered. The charity aims to safeguard the lives of these children from the poverty and violence of the streets and to make their lives worth living by giving them love, education and a future. It is currently working with nearly 600 very vulnerable children and young people, both boys and girls. Check out their website: [www.letthechildrenlive.org](http://www.letthechildrenlive.org)

'SVP' stands for 'St Vincent de Paul'. There is an SVP Group in most Catholic parishes whose sole purpose is to reach out to those who are struggling and in need in the community in which we live. The monthly SVP collection assists us in this ministry. Thank you for the support you give consistently throughout the year. It really does help to change lives.

# PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 16th July	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Victims of this year's tragic events and their families and friends  11.00 am John Evans	(Sat) 6.00 pm Parishioners  11.00 am Ray Hilton	(Sat) 6.00 pm Margaret & Frank Toal  9.30 am Joseph Baker  <span style="color: red;">NO 6.30 pm Mass</span>
<b>MONDAY</b>			
<b>TUESDAY</b>		9.15 am Joan Clegg	Mass at St. Ambrose Barlow
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	9.15 am Mass of thanksgiving with Holy Family School in church  7.00 pm Bernadette Higgins		9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition Blessed Sacrament
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.00 am Kevin McHugh		12.30 pm Funeral Mass for Neil Hurley
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Sorry, No Mass today		Sorry, No Mass today
<b>SATURDAY</b>	No Mass or Confessions	10.00 am Padre Pio Prayer Group  6.00 pm Pilgrims in Lourdes	6.00 pm Georgina Roddy
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Ken Jones 11.00 am Harry and Kathleen Knight	11.00 am Graham Smith	9.30 am Fr. Paul Seddon  <span style="color: red;">NO 6.30 pm Mass</span>

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

*Those who have died, especially:*

Nancy Heaton	Gary Johnson
Constance LeBlique	Betty Neary
Neil Hurley	Joyce Peters
Bernadette Campbell Higgins	
Beatrice Mary Mellis	

*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	Freda Peake
Margaret Hurley	Sr Megan Haisley
Thomas McLoughlin	Margaret Ross
Marjorie Price	Eugenie Cheetham
Jean Tchibukdjian	Leonard Beach
Ann Mellin	Fon O'Hara
Margaret Dawson	Thomas Higgins
Maureen Halliday	Betty Rostern
Enid Kenwright	Wyn Wright
Bernard O'Donnell	James Pickering
Mary Tiernan	Bridie Molyneux
Ted & Harriet Langin	Gwenda Byers
Baby George	Edward Leach
Margaret Aspden	Patricia Wilson

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

No Mass or Confessions at Holy Family  
this Saturday morning.  
Confession available by request or by appointment.

After 6.00pm Saturday Mass at St. Richard's.  
Confession also available by request or by appointment.

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

The Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

**First Reading** *Wisdom 12:13,16-19*  
God has both the knowledge and the power to root out evil people if he so wished. But, as the Book of Wisdom reminds us, he is lenient and calls us to be lenient and more forgiving too.

**Second Reading** *Romans 8:26-27*  
The Holy Spirit helps us to pray when we cannot find the words to express what is on our minds or in our hearts.

**Gospel Reading** *Matthew 13:24-30*  
The Church, and indeed the world, is like a field in which wheat and weeds grow side by side until they are separated at harvest time.