

# Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

The Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

23rd July 2017



## DEANERY TEAM

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

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

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week 4  
**Readings** Sunday – The Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)  
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 16

**Sunday** The Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)  
**Tuesday** Feast of St. James, Apostle  
**Wednesday** Sts. Joachim & Anne  
**Saturday** St. Martha  
**Next Sunday** The Seventeenth 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

Throughout the Bible, the Old Testament and the New, God so often shows great patience with wrongdoers. In today's Gospel the Kingdom of Heaven is compared to a farmer who is confronted with a serious problem: his field is alive with wheat but also with a poisonous weed, darnel, which can only be distinguished from the wheat when the growth is advanced. The farmer's servants want to weed out the darnel, but the farmer tells them to leave it alone. He is worried that uprooting the weeds will endanger the wheat. He orders that no premature attempt be made to separate them. Thus both the wheat and the darnel are allowed to grow, and only at the final harvest are they separated.

The message of the parable is something that Jesus lived throughout his ministry. He reached out to all sorts of people, mixing with prostitutes, crooks, scribes, politicians, tax collectors and all kinds of sinners. Religious separatism was something Jesus refused to advocate, making it his business to seek out and save the lost. The Pharisees, those whose very name means "the separated ones", criticized him for associating with the wrong crowd. But Jesus knew that all communities are a mixture of the good and the bad, the crooked and the honest. Further still it is almost impossible at times to tell which is which. In the end Jesus is the one weeded out by the authorities and thrown onto the killing fields.

The message of the parable still challenges us today. It is not the place of the Church, or of any Christians, to judge other people. How often do we judge people without really knowing them or understanding them? It is God's part to judge, not ours. Paul underlines this point as he writes to the people at Corinth: "There must be no passing of premature judgement. Leave that until the Lord comes." Paul, like Jesus, was aware that we can get it terribly wrong about people. There might be another story, another perspective, another time. After all, Paul got it terribly wrong about Jesus when he went around weeding out his followers before he finally became one himself on the road to Damascus. Paul himself changed completely and became a real apostle even though members of the early Church had written him off completely. But if the final judgement is precisely that – final – the good hope is that there will be some changes before then. And that hope should never be denied to anyone, least of all by the followers of Jesus.

**Psalm Response** O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

**Gospel Acclamation** May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

## PARISH NEWS

This Week

### Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Fr Paul the Younger is in Lourdes this week 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.

### 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. Gabriel's School**  
(during term time)

Of course, these times can change if a Funeral comes in. So please check the Newsletter for up to date details.

### 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.



### CAFOD Café

The CAFOD Café will be open in Holy Family Hall after the 9.00am and 11.00am Masses next Sunday, July 30th. Delicious home made cakes will be available, as well as tea, coffee, soft drinks, toast, tea cakes – and bacon butties!! The Traidcraft stall, with an array of fair trade produce, will also be available. Proceeds from the refreshments will go to CAFOD Connect2Ethiopia.

So far this year we have sent £1,800 to CAFOD to support the people of Sebeya in Ethiopia. Over the time we have been supporting this programme, we have sent £9,200 to Connect2Ethiopia. Thank you to everyone for your generosity. We receive regular updates on the progress and these are displayed in the Café. In the July 2017 update, received a few days ago, Bairagabr Gidey, a resident of Sebeya says: "I would like to thank the Catholic Church for all they have done. We are thankful for the seeds, the cash for work programmes, the water points and the irrigation channels. The support continues to save the lives of the people who are the most in need. I would like to see more work in water as it is the only obstacle to our existence."

Please come along to the Café if you can, you will be very welcome, and please continue to remember the people of Sebeya in your prayers. Thank you.

### Happy Holidays!

We would like to wish all the children and staff from all the schools a very happy Summer holiday. Happy holidays to anyone else who may be going away over the Summer. We hope you feel relaxed and refreshed on your return. If you're staying in the area then we hope the sun shines on you too. Astley, Atherton, Tyldesley, Hindsford and Boothstown are as nice as anywhere at this time of the year!

### Marie Curie Tea Party

The Marie Curie Tea Party was held in St. Richard's Parish Centre last Tuesday. Many thanks to Michelle for letting us use the hall, and to the members of Leigh & Atherton fundraising group. But most of all a very big thank-you to the people who supported the event. Thanks to you we managed to raise £240 which is very much appreciated by the charity.

### Fatima Pilgrimage

Our next day, our first full day in Fatima, was spent having a tour of the area, especially the wonderful museum and slide show which told the story of Fatima. In the afternoon we attended Mass at the Apparitions Chapel, where Our Lady appeared to the three children, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, 100 years ago this year. Then in the evening we



joined 100's of other pilgrims from all over the world on the Rosary Procession. Even though the gathering was dwarfed by the size of the Rosary Square there were many, many people there and the procession was a great event. There were many opportunities

to pray in Fatima, to enjoy the peace and tranquility of the place. It is certainly a very peaceful place and our first full day there was wonderful.

### 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)



**Reflect:**

Today's readings continue the theme of growing the Kingdom of God introduced last week. This week we are reminded that God's kingdom is made up of all sorts of people and we should not make a judgement about someone based solely on first impressions or appearance or on what we believe we know about them. Indeed, 'uprooting' people, judging or discriminating between different people actually harms our own growth. Do we sometimes have this attitude when we see images of others suffering on TV or hear about something in the news?

We are also offered words of consolation as Jesus reminds us in the parable of the mustard seed and in that of the yeast how seemingly small or insignificant actions can have a massive impact. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom.

**Pray:**

**Prayer of St Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.

**Act:**

Search out small things that you can do this week to help to grow the Kingdom of Heaven:  
Smile at a stranger; hold open a door for someone; pick up some litter; feed the birds; pray for refugees; give to charity; recycle your waste....and more!

**Challenge:**

Set aside some time this week to make bread with your family. Show the small amount of yeast that is required to raise an entire batch of bread. Alternatively, if you do not have the time, find a video on Youtube which illustrates this!

\*\*\*\*\*

**‘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.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Ladies’ Meeting**

The next meeting of the Ladies’ group will take place on **Tuesday 1st August at 2.00 pm** in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Raffle: Mary Tiernan & Linda Rushworth.

**Ecumenical Walk of Faith**

Organised by Churches Together in Boothstown, this will be on **Saturday 5th August**.

11.00am Leave St Andrews, 11.30am arrive at St Marys, 11.45am leave St Marys, 12.10pm arrive at St Johns, 12.25pm leave St Johns, 12.45pm arrive at Holy Family, 1.00pm leave Holy Family, 1.10pm arrive at Boothstown Methodist, 1.25pm leave Boothstown Methodist, 1.30pm approx arrive at St Andrews. A light lunch will be provided at St Andrews. All are welcome to take part in this witness to Christ in our community.

**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).

**LAST WEEK’S PARISH COLLECTIONS**

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>£1809.43</b>
<b>Let The Children Live!</b>	<b>£ 411.25</b>

**Thank you so much for your generosity.**

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

<b>Today</b>	<b>Monthly SVP Collection</b>
<b>Next Week</b>	<b>SSAFA – supporting our Forces and their families</b>

‘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.

**SSAFA** stands for ‘The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association’. SSAFA is a national charity supporting those who serve in our Armed Forces, those who used to serve and the families of both.

# PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 23rd July	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Ken Jones  11.00 am Harry and Kathleen Knight	(Sat) 6.00 pm Pilgrims in Lourdes  11.00 am Graham Smith	(Sat) 6.00 pm Georgina Roddy  9.30 am Fr. Paul Seddon  <b>NO 6.30 pm Mass</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>			
<b>TUESDAY</b>		9.15 am Ray Hilton	<i>Mass at St. Ambrose Barlow</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7.00 pm John Evans		9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition Blessed Sacrament
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<i>Mass at St. Richard's</i>		9.15 am Martin Neary
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<i>Mass at St. Richard's</i>		9.15 am Jim & James Neary
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<i>No Mass or Confessions</i>	10.00 am <i>Padre Pio Prayer Group</i>  6.00 pm Linda Buckley	6.00 pm Angela & Maurice McCreavy
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Dorothea McGuire  11.00 am Seamus McNulty	11.00 am Mary Sharples	9.30 am Neil & Margaret Hurley  <b>NO 6.30 pm Mass</b>

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

*Those who have died, especially:*

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

*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 Margaret Aspden	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 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.

### BAPTISM

We welcome into our Family of Faith  
**Jack Meyer Barker-Canavan**  
May God bless him and his family.

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

The Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

**First Reading** *1 Kings 3:5,7-12*  
Told by God that he could have any gift he wanted, Solomon chose the gift of wisdom.

**Second Reading** *Romans 8:28-30*  
Those who love God can turn everything to their spiritual advantage.

**Gospel Reading** *Matthew 13:44-52*  
What God offers us is so precious that it is worth everything we have.