

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

27th August 2017



DEANERY TEAM

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Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter	Week 1
Readings	Sunday – 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 21
Sunday	21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Monday	St. Augustine
Tuesday	The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Wednesday	Ss. Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward
Next Sunday	22nd 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

Do we know of anyone in our lives who has never given up hope in us? Parents are often good at that, sometimes brothers, sisters, our closest friends. All of us need the encouragement and support of other people, especially in our Church. Even when we are not too sure whether we have the strength and the gifts to live out our faith to the full, there are people around who continue to believe in us even when, perhaps, we don't even believe in ourselves. Each one of us needs people who help and support us each and every day of our lives. The Gospel today reveals the complete hope that Jesus had in Peter. Peter is someone we must all see as a role model. He often made mistakes. He so often got things wrong. He took the easy way out on a number of occasions. And, even after Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension, he continued to get things wrong. Just look at the Acts of the Apostles and some of Paul's letters. He had public arguments with Paul on a number of occasions. And Paul was always right!

Yet Peter still embraced his new position as the leader of God's Church. He was the first Pope. In the Gospel today Jesus, perhaps feeling a bit down trodden after being rejected by the people yet again, asks his disciples who do the people think I am. Peter responds by identifying him as the Messiah. Jesus realises that it is God who has revealed this to Peter and therefore chooses Peter as leader of his new Church.

This was quite a strange choice, when you think about it. Peter was a broken man in so many ways. On his first meeting with Jesus he admitted that he was a sinner. He had no idea how to help the people at the feeding of the 5000. He didn't want to come down from the mountaintop when Jesus was transfigured. He would go on to try to tempt Jesus away from going to Jerusalem to face a certain death. Then later still he would, of course, deny that he even knew Jesus three times. Yet Jesus continued to believe in him.

Peter's story reminds us that there is always a way back with God. God does not dismiss us when we get things wrong, but gives us another chance time and time again. No matter what we have done in the past, no matter how unworthy we feel we are, God has great plans for us if only we continue to believe. Even when we don't always believe in ourselves, God's belief in us is never ending. Like Peter we can so often feel broken, afraid, worried about life. But it is because we are broken that God loves us even more. God does not necessarily expect us to live lives of perfection. What he really needs us to do is turn to him when we are afraid, when we are in need, when we do feel broken, when we are lost.

In turning back to God, Peter did become a great leader of God's Church. He eventually gave his life for his faith and suffered persecution so many times. Persecution and suffering continues in the world today. As we remember those who suffer for their faith may we always value the faith that we share and, like Peter, be a rock of comfort and support to others.

Psalm Response Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

Gospel Acclamation God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.

PARISH NEWS

This Week & Next Week

Sunday Mass Times - Summer Schedule

Many thanks for your patience during the trial run of Masses during the Summer. At the next Parish Forum meeting – September 5th in Ambrose Barlow at 7.30 pm – we will review how the Masses went. Having the Summer Mass schedule has enabled us to have a think about how it would feel if the Sunday Masses were at a different time as well as helping us cover Masses due to the shortage of supply priests.

The usual Mass times, including the 6.30 pm Sunday evening Mass, will resume next week, the weekend of September 2nd & 3rd.

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.

Sacred Heart Parish Club

Sacred Heart Parish Club is due to reopen on **1st September**. Further details of the weekly programme of events will follow as more emphasis will be on organised functions especially over the weekend.

St. Ambrose Barlow Ladies Group

The next Ladies Group Meeting will take place on **Tuesday September 5th** at 2.00 pm in St. Ambrose Barlow Parish Hall. This will be a charity Bingo – Bring & Buy sale event. The charity will be decided on the day.

Parish Forum

The next meeting of the Parish Forum takes place on **Tuesday 5th September** at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall at St. Ambrose Barlow.

At this meeting we will review how the Summer Mass schedule went.

All welcome.

Annual Feastday Mass

The annual Feastday to celebrate the lives of our patron saints **Edmund Arrowsmith & Margaret Clitherow** will take place on

Wednesday September 6th
at 7.00 pm

in Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Leigh.

The Craft Class

The Craft Class will resume on **Thursday 7th September** at 10.00 am in St. Richard's Church Hall.

Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor seriously ill in hospital

21st August 2017

In a letter sent to all the Bishops of England and Wales, the President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, has shared that the Cardinal's health has taken a defining turn and that he is now in hospital.

Cardinal Cormac asks most sincerely for prayers, Cardinal Nichols writes, knowing that "these loving prayers are a source of great strength and comfort as he calmly ponders on all that lies ahead, all in God's good time. May the Lord strengthen him in faith and trust and may the prayers of the Church, which he loves so much, comfort and uphold him."

Mass Intentions

Recently a number of people have made requests for Masses to be said on specific dates but allowed very little time for the requests to be met. If you wish to have a Mass said on a specific date then you must give at least one month's notice. Even then we cannot guarantee that the Mass will be said on the date requested. This depends on whether the date has gone already, whether there is actually a Mass on that date (don't forget that all four priests are involved in other groups on an Archdiocesan level now and could be called away to meetings which can affect the Mass schedule) and of course a funeral may be arranged for the date you had requested. Obviously the funeral must have priority. Also there are fewer Masses at the moment so it takes a while to get round to saying all the Masses that have been requested.

So, in short, if you wish to have a Mass intention said on a particular date please write it down and hand it in to Church at least one month before the date itself to give us the optimum chance of saying the Mass on the date requested. And thank you for your patience.

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:

"Who do you say I am?" The question Jesus asks of his disciples resonates with us still today. We know the answer that Peter gave: 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' but what does that mean to each of us in our own life? Jesus asks each of us "Who am I for you?" Our response to this question lies in the knowledge we each have of Jesus, in our individual relationship with him, a relationship of love. And if we really believe that Jesus is the Son of God should not our lives reflect this in all that we do and say? Should we not be working in partnership with him to establish the kingdom of God?

Pray:

Lord,

- Open our ears to your call in the voices of those who cry out to us
- Open our lips to proclaim your good news
- Open our eyes to the wonder of your creation in the world around us
- Open our hearts to your love in the people we meet on our path through life
- Open our minds to the promptings of your spirit that we may not be afraid to walk your path

Act:

This week take time to really consider the question "Who do you say I am?". Let your response to this question be revealed to all by the way in which you live your life.

Challenge:

As Christians, our lives should reflect the love of God for the world around us - the earth and its abundant life, as well as the people who live in it. On a practical level, take steps to share this abundance of the fruits of the earth with others who have little.

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 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th and October 3rd at 11.00am followed by a shared lunch
- St Richard's House on Wednesdays September 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th and October 4th at 10.00am, following Exposition
- St Joseph's Presbytery (Green Room) on Fridays September 1st, 8th, 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.



"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.

In September we will start having planning meetings to prepare for the occasion so please watch this space for further details.

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	£1861.20
Samaritans	£ 307.71

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	Monthly SVP Collection
Next Week	The Medaille Trust

'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.

The Medaille Trust is a charity founded to help women, young men and children who have been freed from human-trafficking. This trust is based in the UK because human-trafficking goes on in our own country. Even in Manchester, there are children and young people kept as sex slaves!

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 27th August	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	8.45 am Alice & Frank Giron Conland	(Sat) 6.00 pm Bridget Walsh 11.15 am Alice Wilde	(Sat) 6.00 pm Dorothy Hunt 10.00 am Nancy Heaton NO 6.30 pm Mass
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.30 am Funeral Mass for Joan Knight	<i>Mass at St. Ambrose Barlow</i>
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Dorothea McGuire		9.00 - 9.45 am Exposition Blessed Sacrament 10.00 am Funeral Mass for Joan Baxter
THURSDAY	<i>Mass at St. Richard's</i>		9.15 am Carolyn & George Smallshaw
FRIDAY			<i>Sorry, No Mass today</i>
SATURDAY	<i>No Morning Mass or Confessions</i>	10.00 am Padre Pio Prayer Group 6.00 pm The Sick of the Parish	6.00 pm Amy & Fred Hogg
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Pat Hughes 11.00 am Kevin Higgins	11.00 am Leslie Almond	9.30am Mary & Martin Neary 6.30pm Una & Bartley Furey

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Kevin Hayes	Dorothy Joan Angel
Baby Clara May Travers	Leslie Almond
Margaret Ann Weir	Geoff Molyneux
Peter Hampson	Joan Knight
Joan Baxter	

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
Irene Burke	Gerald Hackett
Margaret Wall	John Wall
Joan Higgins	Michael Flaherty

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

After 6.00pm Saturday Mass at St. Richard's.
Confession also available by request or by appointment.
*No Mass or Confessions on Saturdays at Holy Family until
9th September.*

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Family of Faith
Sophia Annie Smith
May God bless her and her family.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading *Jeremiah 20:7-9*
Even though speaking God's message to the people has brought Jeremiah nothing but insults, he is unable to remain silent.

Second Reading *Romans 12:1-2*
St. Paul urges the Romans not to live like the people around them.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 16:21-27*
Jesus foretells his suffering and death, and tells his disciples that they too must be prepared to suffer.