

# Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

3rd Sunday of Easter (A)

30th April 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 3  
**Readings** Sunday – 3rd Sunday of Easter (A)  
Weekdays – Easter, Wk 3

**Sunday** 3rd Sunday of Easter (A)  
**Monday** St. Joseph the Worker  
**Tuesday** St. Athanasius  
**Wednesday** Feast of Ss. Philip & James, Apostles  
**Thursday** Feast of the English Martyrs  
**Next Sunday** 4th Sunday of Easter (A)  
(World Day of Prayer for Vocations)



## 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

In today's Gospel two disciples are struggling to make sense of a recent event: the death of Jesus. They leave Jerusalem as the place where their hopes met with defeat. When a stranger joins them on the road, they tell their story of disappointment. Jesus, the only one they had hope would set Israel free, is now dead. In their story it becomes clear that they cannot hold two things together: their hope in Jesus and his death. The death of Jesus has cancelled out their hope. They feel hopeless and helpless. They cannot understand how the death of Jesus can be seen as anything more than a tragic end to a life of great promise. Like most people they believe that if you haven't achieved what you set out to do before your death, you will never achieve it in death itself. When you are dead, it's too late for anything. Death, for the two disciples, is the end of the road of promise. So the disciples mourn not only the death of Jesus but the death of their relationship with him. Now they are ex-disciples of a dead prophet.

Only when they have finished their own story does the stranger begin his own. He invites them to look at the past again, this time in the light of scripture. He gives a wholly different interpretation of the same event as he sees the death of Jesus as something which was essential for the salvation of all people. According to the stranger, the death of Jesus was the achievement of his mission, not the end of it! As the stranger helps the two disciples to make sense of the past in a new light, they respond by inviting him to stay with them. When they go to table they break bread together. The stranger reveals himself as he breaks bread. He is the Risen Jesus, and he leaves them with hearts that burn and with eyes that see. Not only does he help them to interpret the past in the new experience of him as Lord, he gives them a new future. They can now face Jerusalem in the dark, and they return there to share their story with the others.

In their experience of Jesus as Lord, the disciples' past is changed. They can now revisit the past with the new light and the new love that they have experienced. They take the light of Easter Sunday back into the darkness of Good Friday, and everything looks different now. Only the Risen Jesus makes sense of everything that went before. In his Word and in the breaking of the bread the past is brought up to date. The past is now interpreted in the light of the great truth that Jesus is risen and Jesus is Lord. When we gather for the Eucharist we too listen to the Word of God and break bread together. Jesus comes among us not as the stranger; rather, he comes to us in word and sacrament to give us new hope to face the future with faith in him. Our own stories may now sound very different from the two disciples journeying to Emmaus. Our own lives may be full of disappointment. We too may have a past that makes little sense to us. But we are invited to tell our stories to the Lord, to listen to him as he speaks his Word, and to recognize him in the breaking of bread and in each other. Only then can we look with understanding at the past, and with hope look to the future.

**Psalm Response** Show us, Lord, the path of life.

**Gospel Acclamation** Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.  
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.

## PARISH NEWS

This Week



### CAFOD Café



The CAFOD Café will be open in Holy Family Hall after the 9.00am and 11.00am Masses **TODAY**, Sunday April 30th. On sale there will be delicious home made cakes as well as tea, coffee, soft drinks, toast, tea cakes – and bacon butties!! 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.

### Lost Money!

Over the Easter Sunday weekend a sum of money was found in the car park at St.Richard's. If you think it may be yours then please contact Fr.Paul as soon as possible.

### With you Always Preparation Sessions

A reminder to the Year 4 children from St.Richard's, Sacred Heart (Hindsford) & St.Ambrose Barlow that the next "With You Always" preparation sessions will take place this week:-

- **Tuesday May 2nd in St.Richard's Parish Centre at 5.30pm,**
- **Thursday May 4th in St.Ambrose Barlow Church at 6.00pm.**

Please note that you can go to either of the sessions. It doesn't matter which school the children go to. Just come along and join us. **Please note the above change of venue for the meeting on Thursday at St.Ambrose Barlow.** We are having the meeting in Church because the Hall is being used for Polling Day.

### Ladies Group Meeting

The next meeting takes place **this Tuesday, May 2nd**, at 2.00pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Raffle: Annie Laing and Anne Shufflebotham.

### Alice Flannery RIP

Many of you may remember Alice Flannery. Alice, who was very much involved in the Parish here in Atherton, especially with the Legion of Mary, moved to Ireland a number of years ago. We heard this week the sad news that she has passed away. Please keep Alice and all her family in your prayers. May she rest in peace.

### First Holy Communion

Over the next few weeks we will be celebrating the First Holy Communion of our Year Four children. This will mean that there will be more people attending than normal and is a wonderful opportunity for us to demonstrate a Christian welcome to those visiting our parish.

Please pray for all our children that they may come to know the Lord's love in their lives as they receive the Eucharist for the first time.

### 200 Club Winners

Many thanks to all who supported and participated in the 200 Club at St Ambrose.

This year's winners are:

- |                      |                   |                            |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>£1000 winner:</b> | <b>number 53</b>  | <b>Christine Bousfield</b> |
| <b>£100 winner:</b>  | <b>number 42</b>  | <b>Thirza Gough</b>        |
| <b>£50 winner:</b>   | <b>number 168</b> | <b>Bernard Tchibukdjan</b> |
| <b>£25 winner:</b>   | <b>number 186</b> | <b>Elaine Warren</b>       |
| <b>£25 winner:</b>   | <b>number 134</b> | <b>Pat Cooper</b>          |

### Mass Intentions at Holy Family

With the exception of Mass Intentions that have been given for specific dates, there is an urgent need for intentions for Masses at Holy Family. If not enough are in the book then we will accept intentions from other parts of the diocese who have too many to offer in a reasonable time.

Many thanks, Fr Paul G.

### 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.



### Holy Communion

At the recent training session for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion the issue was raised of receiving Communion by Intinction - in other words people taking the Consecrated Host to the chalice and dipping it in before receiving it. By direction of the Bishop's Council of England and Wales this is not allowed. It is never permitted for people to do this. Please may all parishioners follow the practice of receiving the Body of Christ in front of the distributing minister, then, if they wish to, receive separately the Blood of Christ from the chalice. Whether the communicant receives the Body only, or Communion under both kinds is by their own choice. as we receive the fullness of Communion even under one kind.

Thank you from both Fr Pauls.

### 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)

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

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### St Stephen's Concert

#### Stevie Williams and the Most Wanted Band

COOL music by this blisteringly good band! Come and listen to a hugely enjoyable programme of music that ranges from vintage blues; Country; modern and classic Americana; all with sheer class. At St Stephen's Church, Astley

**Saturday 6th May**, 7.00 for 7.30pm.

Tickets - Adults £10 Children FREE. Raffle and Wine Bar. Pay on the door.

### "HMS Pinafore"

The Three Towns Operatic Society are presenting a production of "HMS Pinafore" and "Trial By Jury" in St. Joseph's Hall, Chapel Street, Leigh, from **Tuesday May 16th to Saturday May 20th**. Tickets are £11 & £13 (concessions available). Contact 01942-605369 or 01942-676594.

### Friends of Holy Family Summer Fair

Friends of Holy Family are holding a Summer Fair on **Saturday 20th May**, 12.00pm-3.00pm in the school playground/field. Refreshments will be on sale, including a licensed bar, along with a variety of tombola, stalls and bouncy castle etc. Please come along to support us in raising funds for school.

If anybody wishes to hold a stall please contact Holy Family School on 0161 790 2123.

### 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.

- RSC's "Anthony & Cleopatra" – **Wednesday May 24th**
- RSC's "Titus Andronicus" – Wednesday August 9th

### HCPT Charity Golf Day

Once again HCPT are holding a Charity Golf Day. This takes place on **Thursday May 25th** with a shotgun start at 1.00 pm at Westhoughton Golf Club. If you would like to play please contact Richard (07900385494) or Joe (07402332955).

### Parish 'Spring Sing'

The next Parish Singalong social night at Sacred Heart (Hindsford) Parish Centre will be on **Friday 26th May**, from 8.00pm till late. Come along and enjoy a drink or two from the bar whilst listening to and joining in with Folk, Country, Traditional, Comedy and other popular songs led by local musicians and singers - some of whom have contributed to previous Parish Singalong nights and some who are coming for the first time.

Admission free!

### Cathedral Celebrations

This year marks the Golden Anniversary of the opening of the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. It was on Pentecost Sunday 50 years ago – 14 May 1967, to be precise – that the Cathedral's consecration took place and the golden jubilee will be marked by a sequence of events at the 'mother church' of our Archdiocese.

A Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving, a floral tribute and a Golden Jubilee Dinner are all planned for the weekend of 2–4 June – when the Feast of Pentecost falls – and the celebrations will continue until the Feast of Christ the King on Sunday 26 November. For more details please see the notice at the back of Church or visit [www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk)



### Reflect:

Many people find the Emmaus story really helps at times when they are at a low point in their lives. As in the case of the disciples, Jesus may not be visibly present in our difficulties and then somehow we know he IS there for us, we know he is raised and his loving presence accompanies us in a dark journey of life.

Jesus went to his disciples. Somehow he knew that his followers were in darkness and maybe despair. This is the call of the church today – to be with each other in prayer, community and service always. And especially for those who are on what Pope Francis calls 'the peripheries of life'. Most of us spend some time there, and appreciate the help of love and faith.

### Pray:

Meet us, Lord, on the road to Emmaus,  
Guide us on the path toward our destination,  
and renew our strength as we continue to walk  
and commune with you.

Open our eyes, so we see the signs of your presence around us;

Open our hearts, so we may receive your peace and love;  
and empower us to pass on to others  
the grace you have shared with us so freely.

### Act:

The disciples told their story of Jesus in the here and now. Not reminiscing on what things were once like in Galilee. Notice this week where the Lord is present - in love, in care, in creation, in an uplift of joy, in prayer and in the Eucharist.

### Challenge:

The disciples immediately felt the need to tell the story of how they were changed. Faith grows in sharing it. If we are honest and open with each other in faith, the faith of everyone grows. Every journey of life can be an Emmaus journey where we meet the Lord. Every altar can be the altar of Emmaus, and indeed every meal can be a time of friendship, care and nourishment for body and for soul. Is there an opportunity this week to share with others what you believe?

*(Adapted from a reflection by Donal Neary SJ)*

### LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory **£1965.41**

Friends of the Holy Land **£ 305.03**

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

### SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

Next Week

Monthly SVP Collection

Priests' Training Fund

'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.

### Priests' Training Fund

Next Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. The second collection will be the annual collection for the Priests' Training Fund which is the chief source of income that enables the Archdiocese to train our future priests. It takes six or seven years to train a priest and costs approximately £100,000. Gift Aid envelopes will be available at the back of each church.

# PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 30th April	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Fr Terry McCann  11.00 am Elizabeth Toole  12.30 pm Baptism	(Sat) 6.00 pm Special Intention  11.00 am Joan Clegg	(Sat) 6.00 pm Pat Shaw  9.30 am Joan Mullin  6.30 pm John Sherrington
<b>MONDAY</b>			
<b>TUESDAY</b>		9.15 am Kearns Family	9.15 am Jim & James Neary
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7.00 pm Caitlin Bradbury and Family		9.00 - 10.00 am <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.00 am Alan Philips		9.15 am Agnes Wilkinson
<b>FRIDAY</b>	10.00 am Sr Megan Haisley <i>(In St Gabriel's School)</i>		9.15 am Catherine Lyons
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10.00 am Larry Whitehead RIP  12.00 noon <i>First Communion Mass with St Gabriel's children</i>	6.00 pm Parishioners	6.00 pm Madeleine McCann
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Bernard & Jennifer Dagnall 11.00 am Vocations 12.30pm Baptism	11.00 am Intentions of the Ladies Group	9.30 am Jean Neary  6.30 pm Arthur Hennessy

### LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

*Those who have died, especially:*  
**Thomas Cunningham**                      **Alice Flannery**  
**Caitlin Bradbury**

*Those who are sick, especially:*

<b>Emma Oldham</b> <b>Kathy Kenyon</b> <b>Guy Ryan</b> <b>Shelagh Welsby</b> <b>Derek Maude</b> <b>Catherine Jones</b> <b>Michael Wright</b> <b>Agnes Pilkington</b> <b>Margaret Hurley</b> <b>Thomas McLoughlin</b> <b>Marjorie Price</b> <b>Jean Tchibukdjian</b> <b>Ann Mellin</b> <b>Margaret Dawson</b> <b>Maureen Halliday</b> <b>Enid Kenwright</b> <b>Bernard O'Donnell</b> <b>Mary Tiernan</b> <b>Simon, grandson of B &amp; N Atkinson</b> <b>Ted &amp; Harriet Langin</b> <b>James Pickering</b>	<b>Pat O'Neill</b> <b>Rev Jim Melia</b> <b>Anne Broad</b> <b>Margaret Case</b> <b>Joan Wilkinson</b> <b>Margaret Smith</b> <b>Irene McIntyre</b> <b>Susan Phillips</b> <b>Neil Hurley</b> <b>Margaret Ross</b> <b>Eugenie Cheetham</b> <b>Freda Peake</b> <b>Leonard Beach</b> <b>Fon O'Hara</b> <b>Thomas Higgins</b> <b>Betty Rostern</b> <b>Nancy Heaton</b> <b>Wyn Wright</b> <b>Bridie Molyneux</b> <b>Marjorie Hesketh</b>
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### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

After 10.00am Mass on Saturday morning at Holy Family.  
 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  
**Eimear Mary Anita Donohoe**  
 May God bless her and her family.

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)

**First Reading** *Acts 2:14,36-41*  
 Peter proclaims Jesus as the Risen Lord, and urges his bearers to repent and be baptised.

**Second Reading** *1 Peter 2:20-25*  
 Addressing slaves, Peter urges them to bear their unjust sufferings with patience as Christ, the Good Shepherd bore his sufferings for us.

**Gospel Reading** *John 10:1-10*  
 Jesus compares his love for his disciples to the love of a shepherd for his sheep.