

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

5th February 2017



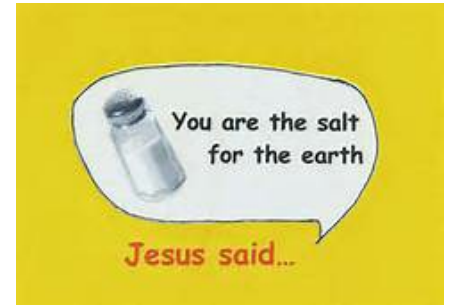
DEANERY TEAM

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Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter	Week 1
Readings	Sunday – 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 5
Sunday	5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Monday	St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
Friday	St. Scholastica, Virgin
Saturday	Our Lady of Lourdes
Next Sunday	6th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) (Racial Justice Day)



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, Jesus asks us, his disciples today, to be salt of the earth and the light of the world. It doesn't mean that we have to leave our jobs or our usual way of living and get involved in a whirlwind of good works. It simply means that we are called to practice our faith, our Christianity, not just in Church, but out in the world in whatever situation we happen to find ourselves in. In a world of darkness we need people to be our light. In a world of darkness we are called to be God's light for others. At our baptisms we were given a light in the hope that it would continue to burn as a beacon of faith. At the end of every Mass the priest or deacon calls us to go out from Church and not only share the Good News but BE the Good News of God to others.

So if we are teachers, we are called to teach well and bring light into the lives of all the children. If we are a judge, we should always seek true justice for everyone. If we are politicians, then we should work for the good of the whole country, especially the poorest members of society, and bring light into their lives in this way. If we are doctors, then we should treat everyone alike and work endlessly to bring healing and wholeness into people's lives. If we work for the police, we should never break the law ourselves, but uphold it by our example and enforce it fairly. If we are employers we should pay fair wages and create decent working conditions for our employees. If we are workers then we should try our best to know our job and to do it to the best of our ability. If we are reporters then we should deal in fact and not in half-truths or lies and write about important issues rather than trivialities and sensationalism. If we are in business then we should never overcharge but give value for money. If we are parents then we should always be there for our children and put them before everything else. If we are priests then we should always try to practice what we preach and live out the Gospel message along with our parishioners.

We could multiply these examples and still not cover everything. Each of us must look at our own situation and ask ourselves how can we practice our Christianity and live out our faith to the full in every situation of our lives. How can we be "salt" and "light" among the people we meet every day and in the everyday situations we find ourselves in. We may not always be able to be a "beacon" of light, but we can at least be a humble candle and bring a little light into the lives of others. Today's Gospel is a call to live lives of goodness and love. It is a challenge to think about our faith before every decision we make and everything we do. If we were accused of being a follower of Jesus would there be enough evidence to convict us?

Psalm Response The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

Gospel Acclamation I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

PARISH NEWS This Week

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.**

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.

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.

St. Margaret Clitherow Parish Forum

The minutes from the last meeting will be circulated before the next meeting which takes in the Church Hall at St Ambrose Barlow, Astley, on Tuesday March 7th at 7.45pm. All welcome

Live Screenings at Cineworld in Leigh

It has been quite a while since we last 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 good looking performances coming up very soon. We could meet up in the foyer about 6.45pm so we can buy tickets and a drink and enjoy the performance together.

- National Theatre's "St.Joan" – Thursday February 16th
- RSC's "Julius Caesar" – Wednesday April 26th.
- RSC's "Anthony & Cleopatra" – Wednesday May 24th
- RSC's "Titus Andronicus" – Wednesday August 9th

Trip to Oscott - Please Note

Trip to Oscott - Could everyone who has already let Fr Paul the Younger know that they are intending to come on this trip please ring Holy Family office to confirm this, as the list has been misplaced. Many thanks. Fr Paul G

Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes

A diocesan Mass will be offered by Archbishop Malcolm on Saturday 11th February at Christ the King, Childwall, Liverpool at 12noon. Fr Paul Grady will be attending this Mass directing the Lourdes Music Group, and as such there will be no Mass or Confessions at Holy Family this week.

HCPT Coffee Morning and Raffle

The Annual coffee morning and raffle for HCPT will take place on Sunday 12th Feb. Raffle Tickets will be on sale outside church at both the 9.00 and 11.00 masses. Refreshments will be on sale in the parish hall and the draw for prizes will take place in the hall at about 12.15.

HCPT Help a Helper – Family Ceilidh Night **Sat 11th March – 7.00pm** **St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall**

Eleanor Callaghan is a young parishioner from St Ambrose who will be traveling to Lourdes at Easter as a volunteer helper with HCPT group 81. Please support her fundraising towards her costs by coming along for a great social night with great music, Irish Dancing, bingo. Refreshments incl Hot Pot, cakes will also be on sale. Tickets £3. Please contact Andrea 07765 272070 for tickets

George Galway & Friends

George Galway is the brother of the world-famous James Galway. George plays the most sensitive melodies you will ever hear on saxophone, clarinet and flute. He is accompanied by Bryan Pendleton on piano. Ken Marley on brass and Nigel Cretney on drums.

Also appearing are Swedish singer-songwriter Anna Pauline Andersson accompanied by her father Jack on trumpet.

The programme will include well known songs – e.g. Autumn Leaves, A Foggy Day in London Town, and many more.

The show is to be held in St Stephen's Church, Manchester Road, Astley from 7.30 on Saturday 4th February. Entry fee is £10 for adults. FREE for children. Price includes refreshments. Pay on the door..

Brian Robinson

Many of you will remember Brian Robinson. Brian very regularly made appeals here at St. Richard's for HCPT. He regularly travelled to Lourdes at Easter and during the Summer with people from our Parish. He had a wonderful sense of humour, had great faith in God and in Our Lady. He was a great man. He sadly passed away last week. May he rest in peace, Amen.

Churches together in Boothstown

The Annual meeting will be held this Thursday at Holy Family. Time will be announced at Mass on Sunday.

Newsletter

Please ensure that items for the newsletter are sent in no later than 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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

“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.

Justice & Peace Group

The next meeting of the Deanery Justice & Peace Group will take place in St. Richard’s Parish House on Thursday February 23rd at 7.30pm. All welcome.

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.

Ladies Group Meeting

The next meeting takes place on Tuesday 7th February at 2.00pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Raffle: Maureen Craddock and Sylvia Bradley

Valentines Dance



This red and white themed dance will be held on Saturday February 11th in St Joseph’s Hall, Mather Lane and features artist Kezia Gill, a DJ and bar.. Tickets £5 or £6 on the door. Doors open 7.15. For further details contact 01942 792293

Date of Draw 29 January 2017

£200. 26 £50. 377 £25. 14
£10 Winners 1033, 1169, 1039, 299
£5 Winners 413, 201, 692, 841, 497

LiveSimply

In 2007 CAFOD developed the LiveSimply scheme. This scheme is an excellent way of challenging ourselves to a life in tune with our world.

There is a national livesimply Parish Award, supported by 80 Catholic organisations in the UK. The livesimply award is given to Catholic parishes, schools and communities that have taken significant steps to respond to the Church’s call to live simply so that others may simply live. It is awarded to communities who can show how they have been living:

- simply
- in solidarity with people in poverty
- sustainably with creation.

We propose that the Parishes of St Margaret Clitherow and St Edmund Arrowsmith now put in place strategies to work together to achieve this award for the Leigh Deanery and become the first Deanery to do this. Many of the schools have already expressed interest and so we are now looking for people who are prepared to champion this sustainable approach in their church communities. If you would like to be involved, please let one of the priests know and/or come along to a preliminary meeting at St Ambrose Hall on Thursday February 9th at 10am.

For further information have a look at the Deanery website <http://leighdeanery.co.uk/8-deanery-information/94-livesimply>

Free To Follow Jesus

A weekend for men, entitled “Free To Follow Jesus”, has been arranged at Irenaeus, in Waterloo, Liverpool. The weekend retreat will be led by Fr.Chris Thomas, who led our Deanery Lenten Retreat a couple of years ago. The retreat takes place between February 10th-12th. For further information please contact Irenaeus on 0151-9491199 Or jenny@irenaeus.co.uk

St. Richard’s Church - Heating

Apologies for the coldness in St. Richard’s Church at the moment. We were hoping that the new radiators would be in full use at the moment. However the workmen have hit one or two snags along the way, most notably the laying of pipes under the floor of the Church has taken much longer than anticipated. The work on the new heating system should be completed very soon. We were hoping that it would be ready this weekend but sadly not. We are hoping to get temporary heating this week, otherwise we have another cold Church and a short sermon again! It will be finished very soon – then we start looking at working on the roof!

With You Always Preparation Sessions

An early notice that for the Year 4 children from St. Richard’s, Sacred Heart (Hindsford) & St.Ambrose Barlow, the “With You Always” preparation sessions begin on March 7th, in St. Richard’s Church at 5.30pm, and on March 9th, in St. Ambrose Barlow Church at 6.00pm. During each of the seven preparation sessions the children and their parents will work together exploring the different themes each week as the children prepare to receive their First Holy Communion in May and June. More details nearer the time.

Quiz @ St. Stephen’s

There will be a Quiz Night at St Stephen’s School, Astley on Friday 17th February at 7.30pm. Tickets £4.00, this includes refreshments. There is no bar, so please bring your own alcoholic/soft drinks. More information from Steve Cooper.

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.

LAST WEEK’S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£ 1944.97
(Sacred Heart/St. Richard’s 21/22nd)	£ 823.48
Crib Offerings	£ 223.10
SVP	£ 324.56

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	HCPT
Next Week	Racial Justice

Racial Justice.

Racial Justice Sunday is celebrated in many parishes across the United Kingdom. On this day, churches hold special services, fundraising events, meetings, etc. Parishioners give thanks for human diversity, ask God to help them overcome prejudices, and pray to end injustice and racism.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 5th February	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Margaret Hibbert 11.00 am Gladys Hallaway	(Sat) 6.00 pm Frank Bryan 11.00 am Special Intention	(Sat) 6.00 pm Jean Neary 9.30 am Martin Neary Ted & Harriet Langin 6.30 pm Gerry Burke
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Private Intention	9.15 am Martin Furey
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Anthony Dermody		<i>No Exposition until March</i>
THURSDAY	NO MASS - Fr. Paul the senior and Fr. Paul the junior have unavoidable commitments		
FRIDAY	10.00 am Private Intention <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>		9.15 am Arthur Lucas
SATURDAY	No morning Mass	10.00 am Padre Pio Prayer Group 6.00 pm Margaret Baybutt	6.00 pm Jeffrey Hinds
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Karen Conlan 11.00 am Kathleen Roddy 12.30pm Baptism	11.00 am Evelyn Green	9.30 am Mona Pugh 6.30 pm Jim & Mary Burke

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Anne Braithwaite
Hilda Woodward

Joan Kirkpatrick.
Brian Robinson

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
Simon, grandson of B & N Atkinson
Ted & Harriet Langin

Pat O'Neill
Rev Jim Melia
Anne Broad
Margaret Case
Joan Wilkinson
Margaret Smith
Irene McIntyre
Susan Phillips
Neil Hurley
Margaret Ross
Eugenie Cheetham
Freda Peake
Leonard Beach
Fon O'Hara
Thomas Higgins
Betty Rostern

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

BAPTISM

We welcome into our Family of Faith
Toby Christopher Thomasson
Jacob Michael Coyle
May God bless them and their families

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading *Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20.*
God has given us the freedom to choose to do good or evil, to choose life or death.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 2:6-10.*
True wisdom comes from God, and reveals the wonderful things God has prepared for those who love him

Gospel Reading *Matthew 5:17-37.*
Jesus proposes new standards of goodness for his disciples