

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

Feast of the Holy Family (C)

30th December 2018

DEANERY TEAM

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Schools: www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk – www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk
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http://stmaryschs.org.uk/ – **Deanery website:** www.leighdeanery.co.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 1
Readings Sunday – Feast of the Holy Family (C)
Weekdays – Christmas

Sunday Feast of the Holy Family (C)

Tuesday Mary, Mother of God
Wednesday St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazienzen
Thursday Holy Name of Jesus

Next Sunday The Epiphany of the Lord (C)



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

On 12th February 1944, 13 year old Anne Frank, who was living in hiding in Amsterdam but would soon be sent by the Nazis to die in a concentration camp, wrote about her sense of longing, "to talk, for freedom, for friends, to be alone, for everything." She longed to be able to cry because she felt as though she was going to burst. This restlessness that Anne Frank expressed in her writings reflects the deeper need that all of us have at the centre of our lives. It is that deep desire which St. Augustine prayed about: "You have made us for yourself, Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." In today's Gospel, Mary and Joseph are frantically looking for Jesus, who seems to have disappeared. They have been to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover but on their return journey they notice that he is no longer with them. They discover him in the Temple talking to the elders, asking them questions and listening to them. Naturally his parents are relieved. Jesus doesn't really understand why they should have been so worried. It might seem a strange thing to do, to stay in the Temple with a group much older than himself but, at the age of twelve, Jesus is in that place in his life when young people begin to emerge from being a child and start to move towards adulthood. It is a stage in life when the deeper questions of life are significant. Who am I? Who made me? Who am I meant to be? In staying behind Jesus has given himself the space to ponder on these questions and seek the wisdom of those who can help him explore them, guide him, and allow him to grow more deeply in his relationship with God.

At the heart of spirituality is the desire within the human person to satisfy a deeper longing. For many people, material possessions have lost their capacity to meet this need. People are more interested in having experiences, such as helicopter trips, mountaineering or walking in remote countryside. The common thread in such experiences is that they involve sharing time with other people. They provide people with memories which can last forever and change people's lives. Christian Spirituality takes a different form. At its heart lies a process of spiritual formation which enables Christians to live an authentic and fulfilled life in the present world. As people of faith we are constantly being called into a deeper relationship with God. We respond to this by modelling our lives on Jesus and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us. Today's Gospel reminds us that we can do this. It reminds us that we are never completely on our own. Jesus had the company of the elders to help him. He also had the supreme love of Mary and Joseph, the Holy Family. We are part of this Holy Family too because we are members of God's family. We can look in many different areas of our lives for fulfilment. Ultimately it is only in God that we can find complete fulfilment and the true meaning of our lives. As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family today, may it remind us that Jesus needed a family too and that, through Mary and Joseph, he shares our family with us today. May we welcome others into God's family as we continue in our journey of faith.

PARISH NEWS

This Week



THANK-YOU & HAPPY NEW YEAR

The priests and deacons of the Deanery would like to thank you for all you do for the Parish, and thank-you for all the lovely gifts and cards at Christmas. We wish you all a very Happy & Holy New Year. Let us pray that 2019 will be a good one for us all.



Feast of the Holy Family

As this is the Patronal Feast of Holy Family Church there will be tea, coffee and toast after both the 9.00am and 11.00am Masses **TODAY, Sunday, 30th December.**

With You Always



A note to all children and families in Year 4 at St.Richard's, St.Ambrose Barlow & Sacred Heart, Hindsford, that the celebrations of First Holy Communion will take place next year on the following dates:-

- **May 4th at 11.00am in St.Ambrose Barlow Church.**
- **May 11th at 11.00am in St.Richard's Church.**

The "With You Always" preparation sessions will take place early in the New Year.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The next Exposition and Rosary will be on **January 5th.**

Children's Liturgy at Holy Family

This will next take place on **6th January** at the 11.00am Mass.

R.C.I.A.



The next meeting for any adults who are interested in becoming Catholic or just want to find out more about the Faith will be in the New Year – date to be announced.

Exposition at St.Richard's

Just like the last few years we will have a Winter break from Wednesday morning Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St.Richard's Church. We will start again at the beginning of Lent.



Urbi et Orbi

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has delivered the sixth Christmas message of his pontificate, Urbi et Orbi, on the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, 25 December 2018. Urbi et Orbi means "for the city and for the world" and is a papal address and Apostolic Blessing not only for the city of Rome but for the entire world. The blessing is given at Christmas and Easter.

Full Text at <http://catholicnews.org.uk/urbi-et-orbi-2018>

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Happy Christmas!

To you, the faithful of Rome, to you, the pilgrims, and to all who are linked to us from every part of the world, I renew the joyous proclamation of Bethlehem: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he favours" (Lk 2:14).

Like the shepherds who first went with haste to the stable, let us halt in wonder before the sign that God has given us: "A baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (Lk 2:12). In silence, let us fall to our knees and worship.

What does that Child, born for us of the Virgin Mary, have to tell us? What is the universal message of Christmas? It is that God is a good Father and we are all brothers and sisters.

This truth is the basis of the Christian vision of humanity. Without the fraternity that Jesus Christ has bestowed on us, our efforts for a more just world fall short, and even our best plans and projects risk being soulless and empty.

For this reason, my wish for a happy Christmas is a wish for fraternity.

Fraternity among individuals of every nation and culture.

Fraternity among people with different ideas, yet capable of respecting and listening to one another.

Fraternity among persons of different religions. Jesus came to reveal the face of God to all those who seek him.

The face of God has been revealed in a human face. It did not appear in an angel, but in one man, born in a specific time and place. By his incarnation, the Son of God tells us that salvation comes through love, acceptance, respect for this poor humanity of ours, which we all share in a great variety of races, languages, and cultures. Yet all of us are brothers and sisters in humanity!

Our differences, then, are not a detriment or a danger; they are a source of richness. As when an artist is about to make a mosaic: it is better to have tiles of many colours available, rather than just a few!

The experience of families teaches us this: as brothers and sisters, we are all different from each other. We do not always agree, but there is an unbreakable bond uniting us, and the love of our parents helps us to love one another. The same is true for the larger human family, but here, God is our "parent", the foundation and strength of our fraternity.

May this Christmas help us to rediscover the bonds of fraternity linking us together as individuals and joining all peoples. (See web site for rest of text.)

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Advent Collection (St Ambrose Barlow) £ 23.03
Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory & Christmas Collection amounts to be published next week.

SECOND COLLECTIONS
Today & Next Week

No Second Collection (Crib Offerings)

Synod 2020

We have now sent off the names of those who have volunteered to become Synod members.

Here is a reminder of the "Synod Timeline" for the first year.

- **Sunday 3rd February – Synod Opening Ceremony in Liverpool Cathedral.**
- **Feb 9th or 13th or 16th – Meeting of Members. (Members can attend any one meeting)**
- **Lent 2019 – Discernment Preparation. (Various dates)**
- **29th April – 10th May – Pastoral Area gathering of all Members.**
- **May – June 2019 – Listening and discerning in Parishes. (Led by Members)**
- **21st or 25th or 28th September – Meeting of Members. (Members can attend any one meeting)**
- **October 2019 – January 2020 – Pastoral Area Pre-Synod 1. (One in each Pastoral Area)**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

200 Club 2019

I am now collecting names for the next 200 Club. It will take the same format as in previous years. The only difference being that agents need only bring in 5 members. For every 5 members recruited agents will receive a complimentary number for all draws. Anyone can be an agent.

Your £20 membership fee will ensure you are entered into a monthly draw for prizes of £100 and £50. These draws will take place in January, February, March and April. In early May there will be a cabaret evening with first option for free tickets going to 200 Club members. Please note that membership of the 200 Club and attendance at this event is restricted to over-16's!

At the cabaret evening, we will make the Grand Draw – a top prize of £1000, a second prize of £100 and a third prize of £50 plus 2 at £25.

As ever, it is your support that will help to ensure the success of the 200 Club, so please join. Many thanks to you all for your continuing support – and good luck in the draws.

Steve.

Deanery Forum Meeting

The next meeting of the Deanery Forum will take place on **January 10th** at 7.30pm in All Saints Church in Golborne. This will be the first time we have held the meeting outside the "old" Deanery boundary. If anyone would like a lift there should be a few cars going so please ask around at Church over the weekend.

Burns Night 2019

Friday 18th January at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall at 7.45 pm. Including "HAGGIS" supper and a "wee" dram or soft drink – £7.50. As this is a popular night please contact Des 07973 114365 for reservations.

Pastoral Area Pilgrimage to POLAND 17th - 21st June 2019

Over the last few years we have had very successful visits to the Holy Land, Fatima and Rome.

We are offering a 4-night stay in Krakow, with visits to Wadowice, birthplace of St John Paul, the extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau and to the Polish National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. Dinner, bed and breakfast in a 3 star hotel within minutes of the Central Square of Krakow. Price of £519 PLUS Airfare (Manchester-Krakow) currently approx £78.00. Please contact Des 07973 114365 for bookings. Information is available at the back of Church. A meeting will be held in mid-January for interested parishioners.

Prayer in preparation for Synod 2020

We thank you Father
For the love you have shown us
In the gift of Jesus, your Son.
Keep us grateful each day
For the blessings that surround us.

As we are fed by you,
So now send us out
To share what we have received
With our hungry brothers and sisters.

We humbly ask your help to become the Church
That you are calling us to be:
A community that listens, that trusts,
That lives with courage
And that puts out its nets into new waters.

May the gentle presence of Christ in our hearts
Be a source of healing, of new life
And a deeper trust in you.
We ask this in faith
Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



Prayer

God of joy
Remind me to rejoice

Wrapped up in my Christmas gifts
Tied down in my debts
I have forgotten

God of peace
Remind me of your calm

In my anxiety
and in my haste
I have forgotten

God of all
Remind me

Of the true light of Christmas
Of your gift shared

In my own wants
And in my own needs
I have forgotten

Wrapped up
In my little world
Remind me of your world

God of joy, remind me
To rejoice

Linda Jones 'liveSimply a CAFOD resource for living'

Newsletter

Please ensure that items for next week's 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

All monies should be paid into the Parish account of St Margaret Clitherow Please note spelling 'Clitherow'). Thank you.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Please pray for those who are Sick



Arthur Leggett
 All Cancer Patients
 Anne Broad
 Baby George
 Baby Grace
 Baby Luke
 Bernard O'Donnell
 Bridie Molyneux
 Catherine Jones
 Christopher Browne
 Clare Barlow
 Clifford Browne
 Derek Maude
 Eddie Shaw
 Emma Oldham
 Enid Kenwright
 Fon O'Hara
 Freda Peake
 Gerald Hackett
 Guy Ryan
 Hannah Delargy
 Irene Burke
 Irene McIntyre
 Jack Rothwell
 Jean Tchibukdjian
 Jess Garrett
 Jessie Lucas
 Joan Wilkinson
 John Neary
 John Wall
 Kathy Kenyon
 Maisie Sweeney (10)
 Margaret Case
 Margaret Dawson
 Margaret Ross
 Margaret Wall
 Marjorie Price
 Mary Tiernan
 Maureen Halliday
 Michael Wright
 Olivia Hutchinson
 Rev Jim Melia
 Sandra Jones
 Shelagh Welsby
 Stephen Howell
 Terry Barlow
 Thelma Humble
 Thomas McLoughlin
 Wyn Wright
 Yvonne Mellin

If any of the above are now better please tell margaretclitherow@yahoo.com

Week Beginning 30th December	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Maureen Riley 11.00 am Deceased Members of the Furey Family	(Sat) 6.00 pm John Burke 11.00 am Joseph Fletcher	(Sat) 6.00 pm Pat Shaw 9.30 am Keith Boulton & Eileen Boardman
MONDAY	5.00 pm Martha Ryan		
TUESDAY		No Mass today	HAPPY NEW YEAR
WEDNESDAY	No Mass today		9.00 - 10.00 am No Exposition this week
THURSDAY	10.00 am Deceased Members of Baxter Family		9.15 am Audrey & Terry O'Keeffe
FRIDAY	10.00 am Deceased Members of Neary Family		9.30 am Funeral Mass for Ted Leach
SATURDAY	10.00 am The Unborn Child who died	6.00 pm Paul Doherty	6.00 pm Dennis White
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am John Sleeman 11.00 am Peter Gavin	11.00 am Molly Yates & Alice Hewertson	9.30 am Pauline Brown



Please pray for those who have died recently:

Ted Leach

Hilda Lewis

R.I.P.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday Confessions after 10.00am Mass at Holy Family & after both 6.00pm Masses in St Ambrose and St Richard's.

Confession also available where possible by request / appointment.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Feast of the Epiphany (C)

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

The prophet Isaiah sees the radiant light of God shining forth and foresees people from all over the world paying homage to God with their precious gifts.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6

Paul has grasped the fact that in Christ Jesus we all share the inheritance of God's promises.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men represent us all, and their symbolic gifts enable Matthew to explain this manifestation of God: Christ Jesus is priest, prophet and king.

