

# Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

The Epiphany of the Lord (C)

6th January 2019

## DEANERY TEAM

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

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week 2  
**Readings** Sunday – The Epiphany of the Lord (C)  
Weekdays – After Epiphany

**Sunday** The Epiphany of the Lord (C)

**Next Sunday** The Baptism 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

It is no exaggeration to say that every story included in the Gospels is there for the purpose of enlightening us and helping us enter more deeply into the mystery of who Jesus really is. And, of course, each of the four Gospels were written for particular Christian communities coping with the social circumstances in which they found themselves. Matthew was writing for his own Jewish people and one of his main concerns was that they grasped the fact that Jesus, while he had come to liberate them, had also come to liberate women and men of all time. Matthew is unique in giving us the story of the wise men: mysterious travellers coming from the east, an exotic part of the world full of mystery and mystique. Having helped his own people make the necessary connection with the prophecy about Bethlehem being the place towards which they were heading, Matthew links their journey with Isaiah's prophetic vision of all nations seeing the light and travelling to pay homage with their gifts. The wise men are there precisely to represent all of us and even their precious gifts are of considerable significance. The gold points us to the fact that the Christ-child has come to establish the Kingdom of God. The incense reveals that he is no ordinary child but God's only Son. The myrrh warns us of the disturbing prospect of his Passion and death: his body will therefore need to be anointed.

Over many years the Church has incorporated the wonderful symbols of the wise men's gifts in the Liturgy. Just think of how we use incense to remind us not only of the preciousness of the presence of Christ in the Sacraments, but also of the preciousness of each and every one of us. In the Funeral Rite the body, which has been anointed in the Sacraments, is incensed: a reminder that our mortal bodies are destined for resurrection because now we are Christ's adopted sisters and brothers and heirs to his Kingdom. St. Paul, after his conversion, grasped the truth of all this and was at pains for the rest of his life to make sure that everyone else believed it. Christ Jesus came so that pagans – that is, everyone on earth – should come to the same inheritance as his own Jewish ancestors. In today's world the invitation to all of us is to be ever conscious of the need to reach out to everyone and embrace all people as God's precious children. With so many displaced people travelling across the world to avoid persecution, warfare and violence, Pope Francis has appealed to us to see in them the face of Christ and make them welcome in his name. This Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord provides a wonderful opportunity for us to think again about the expansive and all-embracing nature of God's revelation to the world, embodied in Jesus, and above all of what it means for us to respond to the needs of our sisters and brothers everywhere.

### Psalm Response

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

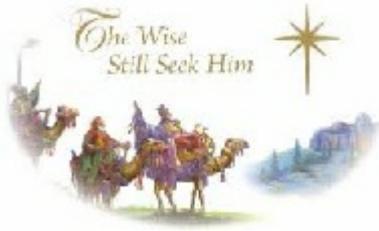
### Gospel Acclamation

We saw his star as it rose  
and have come to do the Lord homage.

**PARISH NEWS**  
This Week

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

We wish you all a very Happy & Holy New Year. Let us pray that 2019 will be a good one for us all.



**The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord**

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord.

**Children's Liturgy at Holy Family**

This will next take place **TODAY, Sunday 6th January** at the 11.00am Mass.

**Ladies Group**

The next Ladies Group meeting will be on **Tuesday 8th January at 2.00pm** in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Please remember your Secret Santa gift.

**Deanery Forum Meeting**

The next meeting of the Deanery Forum will take place **this Thursday, 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.

**Padre Pio Prayer Group**

Exposition and Rosary has now resumed at 10.00am on Saturday mornings at St Ambrose Barlow.



**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**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume in St. Richard's Church on Wednesday mornings at the beginning of Lent.

**LAST TWO WEEKS' PARISH COLLECTIONS**

<b>Offertory (Sunday, 23rd December)</b>	<b>£ 2045.07</b>
<b>Christmas Collection</b>	<b>£ 3439.39</b>
<b>Offertory (Sunday, 30th December)</b>	<b>£ 1822.90</b>
<b>+ Crib Offerings (St Ambrose Barlow)</b>	<b>£ 47.46</b>
<b>+ Christmas Gifts (Holy Family)</b>	<b>£ 40.00</b>

**Thank you for your generosity.**

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

**Today**

**No Second Collection (Crib Offerings)**

**Next Week**

**Monthly SVP Collection**



**Urbi et Orbi**

*The first part of the Pope's Urbi et Orbi Christmas message was published in last week's newsletter. It is continued here. Full Text at <http://catholicnews.org.uk/urbi-et-orbi-2018>*

May this Christmas help us to rediscover the bonds of fraternity linking us together as individuals and joining all peoples. May it enable Israelis and Palestinians to resume dialogue and undertake a journey of peace that can put an end to a conflict that for over seventy years has rent the land chosen by the Lord to show his face of love.

May the Child Jesus allow the beloved and beleaguered country of Syria once again to find fraternity after these long years of war. May the international community work decisively for a political solution that can put aside divisions and partisan interests, so that the Syrian people, especially all those who were forced to leave their own lands and seek refuge elsewhere, can return to live in peace in their own country.

My thoughts turn to Yemen, in the hope that the truce brokered by the international community may finally bring relief to all those children and people exhausted by war and famine.

I think too of Africa, where millions of persons are refugees or displaced and in need of humanitarian assistance and food security. May the Holy Child, the King of Peace, silence the clash of arms and allow a new dawn of fraternity to rise over the entire continent, blessing the efforts of all those who work to promote paths of reconciliation in political and social life.

May Christmas consolidate the bonds of fraternity uniting the Korean peninsula and help the path of rapprochement recently undertaken to continue and to reach agreed solutions capable of ensuring the development and well-being of all.

May this blessed season allow Venezuela once more to recover social harmony and enable all the members of society to work fraternally for the country's development and to aid the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

May the Newborn Lord bring relief to the beloved land of Ukraine, yearning to regain a lasting peace that is slow to come. Only with a peace respectful of the rights of every nation can the country recover from the sufferings it has endured and restore dignified living conditions for its citizens. I am close to the Christian communities of the region, and I pray that they may develop relationships of fraternity and friendship.

Before the Child Jesus, may the inhabitants of beloved Nicaragua see themselves once more as brothers and sisters, so that divisions and discord will not prevail, but all may work to promote reconciliation and to build together the future of the country.

I want to mention, too, all those peoples that experience ideological, cultural and economic forms of colonization and see their freedom and identity compromised, as well as those suffering from hunger and the lack of educational and health care services.

A particular thought goes to our brothers and sisters who celebrate the Birth of the Lord in difficult, if not hostile situations, especially where the Christian community is a minority, often vulnerable or not taken into account. May the Lord grant that they, and all minorities, may live in peace and see their rights recognized, especially the right to religious freedom.

May the little Child whom we contemplate today in the manger, in the cold of the night, watch over all the children of the world, and every frail, vulnerable and discarded person. May all of us receive peace and consolation from the birth of the Saviour and, in the knowledge that we are loved by the one heavenly Father, realize anew that we are brothers and sisters and come to live as such!

## 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

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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-Birchenu 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](mailto:margaretclitherow@yahoo.com)

Week Beginning 6th January	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am John Sleeman  11.00 am Peter Gavin	(Sat) 6.00 pm Paul Doherty  11.00 am Molly Yates & Alice Hewertson	(Sat) 6.00 pm Dennis White  9.30 am Pauline Brown
<b>MONDAY</b>			
<b>TUESDAY</b>		9.15 am Deacon Tony Arrowsmith	9.15 am Ian Davies
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7.00 pm Paul Goggins		<b>9.00 - 10.00 am</b> <i>No Exposition this week</i>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.00 am Margaret Shryan		9.15 am Edmund Gregory
<b>FRIDAY</b>	10.00 am Deceased Members of Hogg Family		10.00 am Ciaran Reid
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10.00 am Yuko	<b>10.00 am</b> <i>Exposition &amp; Rosary</i>  6.00 pm Margaret Warren	6.00 pm Eddie Leach
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am D W Pickering  11.00 am Teresa Kennedy	11.00 am James & Ann Houten and Mary & Henry Coleman	9.30 am Margaret Hurley



Please pray for those who have died recently:

Ted Leach

Joseph McDonagh

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

## 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 Baptism of the Lord (C)

**First Reading** *Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11*  
 The glory of the Lord will be revealed for all of us to see it.

**Second Reading** *Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7*  
 God has saved us through the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit.

**Gospel Reading** *Luke 3:15-16,21-22*  
 The Holy Spirit descends on Jesus at his Baptism.

