

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

The Baptism of the Lord (C)

13th January 2019

DEANERY TEAM

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Schools: www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk – www.boothstownholymfamily.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 1
Readings Sunday – The Baptism of the Lord (C)
Weekdays – 1st Week in Ordinary Time

Sunday The Baptism of the Lord (C)
Monday St. Kentigern
Thursday St. Anthony
Next Sunday 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (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

The Baptism of Jesus reminds us hopefully of our own baptisms. There are many offices that people can hold in the Church. But all of these pale into insignificance when compared to the basic gift to all: Baptism. When we stand before the throne of God, these other offices will be of no importance. Our dignity will depend on one thing only – the extent to which we have lived out our baptism calling. The ceremony of baptism is beautiful. In it we are formally named and welcomed into the family of God's people. Our body is signed with the sign of the Cross, the mark of Jesus' love for us. Water is poured over us, symbolic of being cleansed but also a symbol of new life with God. We are anointed with holy oil. Just as the bodies of athletes were smeared with oil to give the strength to compete, so we are anointed with holy oil to give us strength for the inevitable struggle against evil. And just as kings, queens, prophets and priests are anointed with oil and marked out as God's ministers here on earth, so we are anointed with the oil of Chrism that we may be ambassadors for God here on earth. We are clothed in a white garment, the outward sign of our Christian dignity. We are given a candle which is lit from the Easter Candle to signify the precious light of faith. God calls us out of darkness into the wonderful light of his Son.

What happened at the Baptism of Jesus happened at our baptism too. God calls us by name. He says to each one of us, "You are my beloved daughter or beloved son". And the Holy Spirit descended upon us, in order to help us live the life of a Christian and share in the mission of Jesus. From a spiritual point of view, Baptism is the greatest thing that can happen to us. To be baptized is to be christened, that is, to be made like Christ. But this doesn't happen automatically as a result of being baptized. We have to learn what it means to be a Christian, and to grow into this new life that God calls us to. This can take a lifetime. Towards the end of his life a saint was asked if he was a Christian, and he replied, "Not yet!" There are many vocations in the Church but baptism is the perhaps the most important because it is the vocation to be a follower of Christ Jesus. We sometimes celebrate birthdays lavishly. So we should celebrate our baptism day, because this is the day we were reborn as children of God. Every time we enter Church and sign ourselves with the holy water we are reminding ourselves of our baptism, and committing ourselves to live up to it. So as we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus this weekend, let us remember that his baptism began a new journey in his life. Let us pray that we may live out our baptism calling to the full for in doing this we live as a disciple of Jesus.

Psalm Response Bless the Lord, my soul!
Lord God, how great you are.

Gospel Acclamation Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I.
He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

PARISH NEWS

This Week



With You Always

St Gabriel's & Holy Family With You Always – The next session takes place this week:

- in **St Gabriel's School, Tuesday 15th January at 2.30pm;**
- in **Holy Family Church on Thursday 17th January either at 3.45pm or 6.30pm.**

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 this 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.

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 **this Wednesday, 16th January at 7.45pm** in Holy Family Presbytery.

Burns Night 2019

This 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.

Brian Tomkins

We are sad to have to share the news that one of our former parishioners, Brian Tomkins, passed away after a very short illness last weekend. Brian was only in his 50's and was living in Bulgaria with his wife. As is the local custom over there, Brian was buried just a few days after his death. So we will have a special Memorial Mass for Brian in St.Richard's on Tuesday February 5th at 12noon. Please keep Brian and his family, especially his mum and dad, Maree & Phil, in your prayers at this time.

St. Richard's 500 Club January Winners

£100	207	M.Hancock
£50	331	K.J.Hebson
£25	433	M.Bullows
£15	33	S.Longworth
£15	185	M.O'Donnell

Thank you for your continued support.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

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

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.

Synod 2020

On **Sunday 3rd February at 3.00pm** Archbishop Malcolm, at a special service in Liverpool Cathedral, will celebrate formally the calling of a Synod for the whole of the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The Service will begin an important period of time leading up to the Synod itself in October 2020. As the Archbishop himself said in his Pastoral Letter for Synod Sunday 2018, the Synod is the time when we choose the path to walk on.



Everyone is welcome to this service. The Synod members (Parish, Pastoral Area and others) will be mandated to undertake their task and we will all be invited to pray with and for them and for the working of our Synod. Please, if you can, join Archbishop Malcolm in the Cathedral on Sunday February 3rd at 3.00pm.

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)**

Deanery Forum Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended the Deanery Forum meeting in All Saints Church in Golborne last week.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£ 1926.22
Crib Offerings	£ 203.10

Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

Monthly SVP Collection

'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.

Next Week

Pax Christi

Pax Christi is an international Catholic peace organisation providing support and resources for the Christian community in the UK. Website: www.paxchristi.org.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Week of Prayer For Christian Unity

There will be a special service of prayer to mark the beginning of the "Week of prayer for Christian Unity". This will take place on **Sunday January 20th at 4.00pm in St. Phillip's Church in Atherton**. It will be good to welcome all the different Christians together as we begin this special week. Please come along and join us in prayer. All welcome.

Churches Together In Boothstown will celebrate a service of Prayer together in **St Mary's, Ellenbrook on Sunday 20th January at 4.00pm**, preceded by refreshments at 3.30pm. Rev Karen will be presiding, Rev Darren will be preaching, and Fr Paul G will be providing the music. All welcome.

Ecumenical Compline (Night Prayer) at **St John's, Mosley Common on Tuesday 22nd January at 7.00pm**. All welcome.

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

Meeting, Monday 28th January

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 on Monday, 28th January at 7.00pm at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall for interested parishioners to book.

Training for Eucharistic Ministers

If you wish to become a Eucharistic Minister, to give out communion at Mass and distribute to those who are sick and housebound, please give your name to one of the priests to be included in training to be held on **Saturday 9th February**, 10.00am - 3.00pm at St Ambrose Barlow. This will be led by Fr Paul Grady. Existing ministers welcome.

We will begin with Mass at 10.00am and Adoration for half an hour. Tea/coffee will be provided but please bring a sandwich for lunch.

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.

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.



Reflect

"He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire" says John the Baptist....when you look back over your life, are there times when you can recognise a powerful God at work? At work in yourself, or at work in other people?

Pray

Lord, open our hearts to your Spirit,
Renew us in your healing love,
Inspire us to water the earth
And nurture one another
So all may flourish.

Act

Close windows, curtains and doors to keep heat in.

Challenge

A New Year has just started, take this opportunity to make a liveSimply pledge which will help you to become more in tune with the impact you have on creation.

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
 +
 addition this week
 Jennifer Langin

Week Beginning 13th January	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am D W Pickering 11.00 am Teresa Kennedy	(Sat) 6.00 pm Margaret Warren 11.00 am James & Ann Houten and Mary & Henry Coleman	(Sat) 6.00 pm Eddie Leach 9.30 am Margaret Hurley
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Joan Clegg	9.15 am Eileen Ottiwell
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Maureen Riley		9.00 - 10.00 am <i>No Exposition this week</i>
THURSDAY	10.00 am Michael Grady		9.15 am James Leonard
FRIDAY	10.00 am Private Intention <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>		2.00 pm Funeral Mass for Ian Simpson
SATURDAY	10.00 am Anthony Arrowsmith	10.00 am <i>Exposition & Rosary</i> 6.00 pm William Jarrott	6.00 pm Bill O'Connor
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Margaret Kelly, Daniel and Nellie Conneely 11.00 am Lloyd Hacker	11.00 am Graham Jones	9.30 am John Pearson



Please pray for those who have died recently:

Ted Leach

Ian Simpson

Joseph McDonagh

Brian Tomkins

& for Fr Richard Coughlan,
 ex-PP St. Ambrose Barlow,
 anniversary 16th January.

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

Second Sunday of the Year (C)

First Reading *Isaiah 62:1-5*
 As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so the Lord delights
 in his holy people.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 12:4-11*
 Each person is specially and uniquely gifted. These gifts come
 from God and they are given so that all people may benefit
 from them.

Gospel Reading *John 2:1-11*
 The Wedding at Cana in Galilee was a sign of God's love for
 us. Jesus transforms us, too, that we might experience the
 Spirit-filled life.