

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

15th October 2017



DEANERY TEAM

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Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 4
Readings Sunday – 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 28

Sunday 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Tuesday St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr
Wednesday Feast St. Luke, Evangelist
Next Sunday 29th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
(World Mission Day)

**The Great Banquet:
God's Invitation**



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

A royal wedding feast can be a wonderful occasion and to receive an invite must be a great privilege. So the question arises, from today's Gospel, why would anyone refuse such an invitation? There can be many reasons. One day a man named Tom received an invitation to the royal banquet. He was delighted. As he continued farming his field he asked the King's messenger when it would take place. "Tonight" was the answer. "I'll be back in an hour for your answer", replied the King's messenger. The banquet was to be held that very night. This changed things. Tom looked at the work he had been doing. It was going well and, as he pondered what was left to be done, he thought he could finish it today for the weather was in his favour. He began to have doubts about attending the royal feast. At that moment he looked up and saw the messenger going into his neighbour's field to invite them too. Suppose they were sat next to each other? That would be awful. The feast began to lose its appeal. Then there was the tedious business of getting washed and changed. And what clothes would he wear? Even his best suit was not good enough for a royal banquet. Thus, one by one, the clouds of doubt began to gather, and what only a short while ago looked wonderful now turned into something of a chore. "If only the banquet was tomorrow night instead", he began to think to himself. Alas he decided to decline the invitation. He had a litany of excuses to give to the messenger but he didn't care to listen. He was away before Tom had finished his sentence.

Notice that the excuses that kept Tom from accepting the invitation were all perfectly good, apart from his dislike for his neighbour. And in Jesus' story in today's Gospel, the things which kept the invited guests from accepting the invitation were perhaps good things too. We can be so easily distracted by the mundane things in life and miss out on something very special, which Tom did in this story.

So what is the banquet? The banquet represents, amongst other things, the fullness of life to which God is calling us. It is a call to intimacy with God, and to a deeper and authentic person relationship with him. But it is also a call to be part of a community with others. The invitation challenges us to abandon our isolationism, our exclusivism, our self-sufficiency, and to be willing to share with others, to associate with others, and to collaborate with others. And, of course, in the final analysis, it is a call to eternal life, to expect God's promise of Heaven. Just as good parents want what is best for their children, so God wants the best for us who are his children. And only God knows what is truly best for us.

Psalm Response In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Gospel Acclamation The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.

PARISH NEWS

This Week



Quarant Ore **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

This will take place at Holy Family Church from **Friday 20th October to Sunday 22nd October.**

Lists will be available at the back of Holy Family to sign up for time slots to be with the Lord in prayer. Please come along to pray for our area and communities.

Friday 20th October

- 10.00am Morning Prayer and Mass (Opening of Exposition)
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer
- 7.00pm Praying with Pope Francis (Prayer and Reflection)
- 8.45pm Night Prayer and Benediction (and close of Exposition)

Saturday 21st October

- 10.00am Morning Prayer and Mass (start of Exposition)
- 10.30am Confessions (until 11.00am)
- 5.00pm Evening Prayer
- 8.00pm Taize Prayer (Prayerful Music)
- 8.45pm Night Prayer and Benediction (and close of Exposition)

Sunday 22nd October

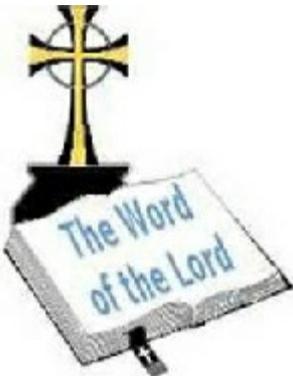
- 8.00am Morning Prayer (start of Exposition)
- 9.00am Mass
- 11.00am Mass
- 3.00pm Evening Prayer and Solemn Benediction (to conclude Exposition)

Holy Family Craft Group

This is being started in the Parish Hall at Holy Family on Wednesday afternoons between 1.00 pm and 3.00pm. We hope to cover most popular crafts such as knitting, crochet, card making and sewing amongst others.

The first gathering will be on **Wednesday 18th October** and will concentrate on Christmas crafts. Admission £3.50 including all materials.

Readers' Ministry at Holy Family Church



Have you ever thought about reading the word of the Lord in church? Are you someone who used to read but gave up and would like to come back to it? We are looking for people to join our team of readers at Holy Family for Sunday and/or weekday Masses. If you'd like to try it, please contact Wyn Goggins on 0161 790 1854 or by email at wyngoggins@yahoo.com, or at 9.00am Mass on Sundays. No obligation! Please think and pray about it and see whether the Lord is calling you to this wonderful ministry.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

Every Saturday the Padre Pio Prayer Group meet to pray together on Saturday morning in St. Ambrose Barlow Church at 10.00am. This weekend, on Saturday 14th October, to mark the centenary of the apparitions in Fatima, they had a special time of prayer which included the Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Next weekend, on Saturday 21st October, the Group will revert to the usual prayer group meeting.

First Holy Communion Celebrations

Please note that the Holy Communion preparation for Year 4 children from Sacred Heart, Hindsford, St. Richard's, Atherton and St. Ambrose Barlow, Astley, will take place in the New Year. Letters will be sent through school just after Half-Term to explain what the preparation course involves. A good way of preparing now is to bring the children to Mass each week so that they become more familiar with the Church and get to know everyone in the Parish. If your child does not go to any of the three schools then please contact Fr. Paul at St. Richard's AFTER half-term.

Journey of Faith - RCIA

The next meeting of the group 'Journey in Faith' will be at **Holy Family Presbytery on Wednesday, 1st November at 7.45pm** after the evening Mass. Open to all adults thinking about becoming Catholic or who just want to come along and learn more about their faith.

Sixth Form Open Evening

St. Mary's High School in Astley are holding a Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday, **November 9th** between 5.30-8.00pm. Subject staff will be available to discuss and promote the courses. For further information please call 01942-884144 or email sixthformenquiries@smchs.org.uk



Family Quiz Night

St Stephen's Church, Astley

Friday 20th October at 7.30pm.

Tickets £4 (includes supper) or £10 for a family.

Bring your own booze.

Ring Jenny on 01942 876310 (or see Steve).

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

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

Sacred Heart Church, Hindsford Website

www.sacredheartrchindsford.co.uk



October - Month of the Holy Rosary (continued)

and the five **GLORIOUS MYSTERIES:**

The Resurrection

The Ascension

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

The Assumption

The Coronation of Our Lady in Heaven & the Glory of all the Saints

Reflect:

Did you ever plan a party and nobody came? Or people came and stayed just a short time and you know they have something better to be doing? Or you plan a party for your child and you see his or her disappointment when people don't come. It's something like that in the gospel story today. What does God do? God really goes out to make sure each of us is welcomed to his feast. God wants us all there and wants a full table. The table of God is for everyone. He goes right into the middle of each person's life to call them to his feast - not just one type of person, but all sorts of people.

If we respond to God's call and say yes, then we take on a Christ-like way of life. That's the garment. There are people who say yes but the way they live their lives says no. If we go to God's banquet, to the Eucharist, it means a change in our lives. There's the call to live like Jesus. God's call is loving and also demanding. It seems less of a burden when we remember that it's the call of a loving God who always gives another chance.

Pray:

Lord, open our hearts and minds to your call.
Guide us along your way.
May we be sensitive to the needs of those we meet on our path through life
Sharing your abundant love with all we meet.

Act:

The Church calls for a more equitable distribution of wealth and natural resources between people, and between rich and poor nations. What steps can you personally take to facilitate this target?

Challenge:

God calls us all with his love. His chosen are those of us who freely say "yes" to his call of love.
Have you ever stopped to realize you were God's beloved?
Have you ever reflected on the dignity of others as God's beloved?
How does that fact change your outlook on the world?
(word-sunday.com)

October - Month of the Holy Rosary

The Holy Rosary helps us to keep in memory certain principal events or mysteries in the history of our salvation, and to thank and praise God for them. There are twenty mysteries reflected upon in the Rosary, and these are divided into:

the five JOYFUL MYSTERIES:

The Annunciation

The Visitation

The Nativity

The Presentation

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

the five LUMINOUS MYSTERIES:

(instituted by St John Paul II, Pope)

The Baptism of the Lord

The Wedding of Cana

The Proclamation of the Kingdom

The Transfiguration

The Institution of the Eucharist

the five SORROWFUL MYSTERIES:

The Agony in the Garden

The Scourging at the Pillar

The Crowning with Thorns

The Carrying of the Cross

The Crucifixion

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**The Three Towns Operatic Society
IN CONCERT**

Broadway, West End, Songs from the Shows, Popular & Classical music in a relaxed cabaret setting.

Saturday, 4th November, 7.30pm

St Richard's Parish Centre

Tickets £5.00

Licensed Bar, Tea/Coffee available.

Tickets available after all Masses from 8th October & from St Richard's Parish Centre, Tel: 01942 882 125.

Charity Night in Aid of Cancer Research

A charity evening is being held at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall on **Saturday 4th November, 7.30pm till 12 midnight.**

Cost is £20 a ticket which includes a hot pot supper, a raffle ticket for some great prizes and entertainment by the fabulous Steven Green.

First two drinks included in the price of your ticket - bottled beer, wine or soft drinks. Over 18's only.

To reserve tickets, please contact Delia Fletcher on 07753 929476 or e-mail on kdffletcher@btinternet.com.

Also Delia will be selling tickets after 11.00am Mass on Sundays at St Ambrose Barlow.

Please come along to support this worthy cause and have a great night - tickets are limited.

Parish Forum

The next Parish Forum meeting will take place on Tuesday, **November 7th** at 7.30pm in Holy Family Church. All welcome.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory **£2074.40**

Prisoners Advice & Care Trust (PACT) **£ 275.11**

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today Monthly SVP Collection
Next Week APF

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.

APF

The Association for the Propagation of the Faith (**APF**) assists each and every one of the Catholic Church's 1,069 mission dioceses to provide pastoral care and preach the Gospel effectively. Pope Pius XI made it the official mission-funding society for the Catholic Church. The APF in England and Wales works collaboratively with the **Mill Hill Missionary Society**; the only major missionary society to have been formed in England.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 15th October	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Thanksgiving 11.00 am Mick & Annie Donellan 12.30 pm Baptism	(Sat) 6.00 pm Fr Paul Seddon & Family 11.00 am Fr Arthur	(Sat) 6.00 pm Margaret Murray 9.30 am Jean & Sarah Herron & Mary Stafford 6.30 pm Michael Flaherty
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am James Pickering	9.15 am Ellen Reilly 1.00 pm Funeral Service for Kathleen Jones
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Caroline Smallshaw	9.00 am <i>St Mary's Y8 - All Welcome</i> Les Almond	9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition Blessed Sacrament
THURSDAY	Sorry, no Mass today		Sorry, no Mass today
FRIDAY	10.00 am Ann Callan <i>Mass in Holy Family Church beginning Three Days Adoration</i>	12.00 noon Funeral Service for Mary Drinkwater	9.15 am Leonard Beach 10.00 am Funeral Service for Ellen Hughes
SATURDAY	10.00 am Neville Dennis	10.00 am <i>Padre Pio Prayer Group</i> 6.00 pm Mike Ward	6.00 pm Joan Baxter
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Teresa Roberts 11.00 am James Pickering 12.30 pm Baptism	11.00 am Jess Garrett	9.30 am Maria McCoy 6.30 pm The Seddon Family

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Mary Drinkwater
Ellen Hughes

Kathleen Jones
Leonard Beach

Those who are sick, especially:

Emma Oldham	Pat O'Neill
Kathy Kenyon	Rev Jim Melia
Guy Ryan	Anne Broad
Shelagh Welsby	Margaret Case
Derek Maude	Joan Wilkinson
Catherine Jones	Margaret Smith
Michael Wright	Irene McIntyre
Agnes Pilkington	Freda Peake
Margaret Hurley	Sr Megan Haisley
Thomas McLoughlin	Margaret Ross
Marjorie Price	Eugenie Cheetham
Jean Tchibukdjian	Fon O'Hara
Ann Mellin	Thomas Higgins
Margaret Dawson	Betty Rostern
Maureen Halliday	Wyn Wright
Enid Kenwright	Mary Tiernan
Bernard O'Donnell	Bridie Molyneux
Ted & Harriet Langin	Baby George
Edward Leach	Patricia Wilson
Joan Higgins	Irene Burke
Gerald Hackett	Margaret Wall
John Wall	Jess Garrett

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

10.30 am after Mass at Holy Family on Saturday.

After both the 6.00 pm Masses on Saturday evenings
at St. Richard's and St. Ambrose Barlow.

Confession wherever possible is available by request or
by appointment.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Family of Faith

Thomas Christopher Hayes

Isabelle Corys Hall

May God bless them and their families.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

29th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1,4-6

The return of the people from exile – a return made possible by King Cyrus – is seen as a sign of God's love for his people, Israel, and of his Lordship over all peoples.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Paul expresses his concern for the Christian Community at Thessalonika.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:15-21

The enemies of Jesus attempt to trap him into saying something incriminating.