

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

The Transfiguration of the Lord (A)

6th August 2017



DEANERY TEAM

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Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 2
Readings Sunday – **The Transfiguration of the Lord (A)**
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 18

Sunday	The Transfiguration of the Lord (A)
Tuesday	St. Dominic
Wednesday	Feast of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Patron of Europe
Thursday	Feast of St. Lawrence
Friday	St. Clare
Next Sunday	Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)



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

This weekend we celebrate the wonderful feast of the Transfiguration. For the first time Jesus revealed his divine self to the disciples who followed him up Mount Tabor. It is difficult for us to imagine what really went on and how Jesus looked, but the Gospel today tells us what happened and the effect it had upon Jesus' followers. When Jesus took Peter, James and John up the mountain, he had reached a moment of crisis. Official opposition to Jesus was growing. When he asked, "Who do you say I am?" Simon had answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This profession of faith earned him a new name, Peter, the "Rock", and, as Jesus later said, "On this rock I will build my Church." However, within a very short time, when faced with the prospect of Jesus' betrayal, arrest and crucifixion, Peter was quick to dissuade Jesus from going to Jerusalem – "Lord, this must not happen to you". Jesus' response was, "Get behind me Satan, the way you think is not God's way but man's."

So now, six days later, Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain where he was transfigured in their sight. He was teaching them to think in God's way. They saw Jesus with Moses and Elijah, representing the teaching of the Law and the prophets. They heard the voice of the Father, "This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him." It was such an overwhelming experience that they wanted it to last forever. They wanted to stay there. Their minds had been opened to the reality of what it means to say, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." But very quickly the vision was over and they were left alone with Jesus and they had to go back down the mountain and continue on their way to Jerusalem and, for Jesus, the journey to Calvary.

For the disciples, the wonder of the transfiguration soon wore off. When the crisis of Jesus' passion and death came, they were overcome with fear. They ran away and hid in the Upper Room. And this, sometimes, is the reaction of many of us after an experience of faith. We want to stay on the mountain top, like the disciples. But sometimes God calls us to places we would rather not go, to meet people we would rather not see, to do his will when we would find it hard. We all need Tabor experiences in our lives at some time. It is these experiences that keep us going, that enthuse us and excite and inspire us. Yet, like Jesus himself on Mount Tabor, he knew he would have to come down from the mountain to encounter the religious authorities in Jerusalem. May our Mount Tabor experiences – the feeling that God is close to us – be many, and may these moments spur us on to do God's will so that we too, like the disciples, may hear the voice of the Father call us to listen to his Son and do his holy will every day of our lives.

Psalms Response The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

Gospel Acclamation This is my Son, the Beloved, he enjoys my favour; listen to him.

PARISH NEWS

This Week

Sunday Mass Times - Summer Schedule

Please remember that during the month of August we will be continuing our **Summer Mass schedule**. So we are having a trial run with the following Sunday morning Mass times:-

- **Holy Family** 8.45 am
- **St. Richard's** 10.00 am
- **St. Ambrose Barlow** 11.15 am

The usual Mass times, including the 6.30 pm Sunday evening Mass, will resume once again on the first weekend of September, 2nd & 3rd.

Midweek Mass Times

Please check the Newsletter each week for the times of Masses during the week in each Church. If one of the priests is away then the other will cover and say Masses in the other churches too. So the usual weekday Mass time schedule would be as follows:-

- **Tuesday** 9.15 am **St. Ambrose Barlow**
- **Wednesday** 7.00 pm **Holy Family**
- **Thursday** 9.15 am **St. Richard's**
- **Friday** 10.00 am **St. Gabriel's School**
(during term time)

(Please note: The previously published time of 9.15am for the Friday Mass was a temporary arrangement - now back to the usual 10.00am either in St. Gabriel's School or St. Ambrose Barlow church.)

Please note that this ONLY applies when there is only ONE priest in the Parish. These times can change if a Funeral comes in. So please check the Newsletter for up to date details.

Cineworld – Live Screening

If anyone would like to join us for the Live Screenings at Cineworld in Leigh, then please do so. We usually try to meet up in the foyer about 6.45pm so we can buy tickets and a drink and enjoy the performance together. The next live screening is:

RSC's "Titus Andronicus", this Wednesday, 9th August.

St. Richard's 500 Club August Winners

£100.00	330	K. Lyth
£ 50.00	106	W. Croughan
£ 25.00	440	M. Barton
£ 15.00	294	S. Cooper
£ 15.00	266	P. Hankinson

Thank you for your continued support.

Next Week

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day of Obligation

On **Tuesday, 15th August** the Masses will be as follows:

9.15am St Ambrose Barlow
12noon St Richards
7.00pm Holy Family.

As on a Sunday we come to Mass to celebrate together the mysteries of our faith.

Masses in the Deanery are:

7.00pm (Monday Night Vigil) Our Lady's
9.00am St Joseph's
12noon Sacred Heart
7.00pm XII Apostles.



Fatima Pilgrimage

Our final full day in Fatima included a bit of free time in the morning. Many of us spent the day having a tour around Fatima and enjoying time in the different chapels and spending time in prayer. In the afternoon Fr. Paul (The Elder!) had the great honour of being the Chief Celebrant at Mass in the Chapel of Apparitions. Some of it was even filmed! He needed one of those pink gins afterwards! It didn't touch the sides! It was a truly international occasion – many people stopped and joined in praying at the Mass including many new friends from Ireland. Afterwards many of us attended the Rosary Procession for the last time and bade a very fond farewell to Fatima after yet another wonderful day with Our Lady and our fellow pilgrims.

Many books and articles have been written about the secret messages of Fatima over many years. Perhaps the main message is faith and hope. Our Lady promised the two children, Jacinta and Francisco, that they would be with her very soon in Heaven. They died within two years of the apparitions. Whilst this must have been terrible for the family at the time, Our Lady kept her promise to the children. And now, after Pope Francis' visit to Fatima earlier this year, they are both canonized saints of the Church. Lucia lived much longer and kept the message of Fatima alive. All those who went on the Fatima Pilgrimage felt greatly blessed by the faith and hope of the children, a faith and hope that helped them persevere in their belief and knowledge of the great love of God, shown to them through Mary in those moments when they saw her in Fatima 100 years ago.

Newsletter

Please ensure that items for the 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



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Parish Forum

The next meeting of the Parish Forum will be on **Tuesday 5th September at 7.30 pm at St Ambrose Barlow.**

Annual Feastday Mass

The annual Feastday to celebrate the lives of our patron saints, Edmund Arrowsmith & Margaret Clitherow, will take place on **Wednesday September 6th at 7.00 pm in Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Leigh.**

Living Fully

“Living Fully” is a new initiative introduced by the Nugent Care Society to enable every child and adult with a disability to encounter Jesus in the life of the Church today. A day of study, worship and workshops will take place soon exploring how all life is a gift from God and how every person has a valuable and dignified place within the Body of Christ, the Church. The day will take place at LACE Conference Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool, on **Saturday 23rd September** from 10.00am-4.00pm. Cost is £10 which includes lunch.

“Come & See” Conference

The next Archdiocesan “Come & See” Conference will take place at Christ The King High School, Stamford Road, Southport, over the weekend of **October 14/15th**. The keynote speaker this year will be Fr. Timothy Radcliffe. There are many other workshops and prayer sessions taking place over the weekend. For more information please contact Jenny at Irenaeus on 01519491199 or by email jenny@irenaeus.co.uk or www.irenaeus.co.uk.

TWELVE APOSTLES SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

Twelve Apostles RCPS are looking for a Foundation Governor to start in September. This is a voluntary role and you don't need any qualifications or expertise, just a commitment to making a difference to our young children's future. If anyone is interested or would like to find out more about the role please contact Father Kieran or Mrs Newton the Head teacher on 01942 674312 for an informal chat.

Reflect:

In the story of the Transfiguration, the eyes of the disciples are opened to the true nature of Jesus living in their midst. Their moment of blinding perception is confirmed by the voice of the Father instructing them to listen to his Son, to follow in his path.

Are we willing to make the climb up the mountain with Jesus, to have our eyes opened to his vision, to the glory of God in this world and the next?

Pray:

God within us
We thank you for the presence of your glory in the flesh of the ordinary.
Give us a contemplative gaze
capable of detecting the signs of your presence and love in the people we meet
and in the stuff of our daily existence.
Amen
(Michael Winstanley SJB)

Act:

Going to the shops this week? Try to make sure that you only buy what you require and will use, rather than throwing items away that are past their sell by date or not really wanted. Pop something in the food bank box too!

Challenge:

Take action to live more simply by checking the number of personal effects owned, how often are they used, how often are new ones bought? Can some seldom used items be given away to people in need of such things?

“Lourdes At Home” Day

As mentioned previously in the Newsletter, a number of people have asked why we didn't have a “Lourdes At Home” Day this year. The reason is simply that we couldn't get a date when all four priests were available to help – don't forget that we would need all the priests for the Mass of Anointing. However, after our recent Pilgrimage to Fatima, we have decided to have a similar day in October, around the date of the centenary of the last Apparition of Our Lady to the children.

So an early warning that we will have a

“Fatima At Home” Event

during October on the following dates:-

- **Friday October 13th**
Holy Hour in St. Richard's Church at 7.00pm.
- **Saturday October 14th**
Mass of Anointing, St. Richard's Church at 12noon.

In September we will start having planning meetings to prepare for the occasion so please watch this space for further details.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£1870.82
SSAFA	£ 238.15

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today	Catholic Deaf Association
Next Week	Housing Justice

The **Catholic Deaf Association** is an association of deaf and hearing people who support each other and promote services for deaf people in the community. Have a look at their website: www.cda-uk.com

Housing Justice is the national voice of Christian action in the field of housing and homelessness. The charity supports night shelters, drop-ins and hundreds of practical projects nationwide by providing advice and training for churches and other community groups who work with homeless people. Website: www.housingjustice.org.uk

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 6th August	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	8.45 am Anthony Dermody 12.30pm Baptism	(Sat) 6.00 pm Mary Ann & John Farrington 11.15 am John Evans	(Sat) 6.00 pm Peter McCoy 10.00 am Mary & Alan Charlton NO 6.30 pm Mass
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Joan Clegg	Mass in St. Ambrose Barlow
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Marie Hanrahan		9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition Blessed Sacrament
THURSDAY	10.00 am Sister Gabriel of the Good Shepherd Convent		9.15 am John Hall
FRIDAY		10.00 am	9.15 am Peter & Joseph McCoy
SATURDAY	10.00 am Michael Shanahan	10.00 am <i>Padre Pio Prayer Group</i> 6.00 pm Philip Paterson	6.00 pm Christine Battersby
NEXT SUNDAY	8.45 am Margaret Langan 12.30pm Baptism	11.15 am Joe Rigby	10.00 am James Hurst NO 6.30 pm Mass

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Brian Brady	Patricia Hughes
Dorothy Joan Angel	Geoff Molyneux

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 Mary Tiernan Ted & Harriet Langin Baby George Margaret Aspden Irene Burke	Pat O'Neill Rev Jim Melia Anne Broad Margaret Case Joan Wilkinson Margaret Smith Irene McIntyre Freda Peake Sr Megan Haisley Margaret Ross Eugenie Cheetham Leonard Beach Fon O'Hara Thomas Higgins Betty Rostern Wyn Wright James Pickering Bridie Molyneux Gwenda Byers Edward Leach Patricia Wilson Gerald Hackett
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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions 10.30am at Holy Family after
Saturday morning Mass.

Confession available by request or by appointment.

After 6.00pm Saturday Mass at St. Richard's.

Confession also available by request or by appointment.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our Family of Faith

Elodie Hunt
Harrison Hunt
Oscar Hunt

May God bless them and their family.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading *1 Kings 19:9,11-13*
 Fleeing for his life, the prophet Elijah takes refuge in a cave where he encounters God.

Second Reading *Romans 9:1-5*
 St. Paul tells us about the sorrow and anguish he suffers because his fellow Jews refuse to accept Christ as the Messiah.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 14:22-33*
 When they are caught in high winds and rough seas, Jesus comes to the apostles. He calms their fears, and brings them peace.