

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

8th October 2017



DEANERY TEAM

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Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson and Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 3
Readings Sunday – 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 27

Sunday **27th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)**
Day of Prayer for Prisoners & Dependants

Next Sunday **28th 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

In today's Gospel Matthew uses part of Isaiah's idea of the coming Messiah, and the rejection he would face at the hands of his own country and people. Jesus shares a parable about the vineyard. In the parable Israel is no longer the vineyard itself but the tenant farmers working for their landlord. Features of the parable reflect conditions of life in rural Galilee – it was common for land to be owned by absentee landlords, who would collect their rent in kind from the tenant farmers at harvest time. The lengthy absence of the landlords alongside the harsh economic climate of the country often led to difficulties between landlord and tenant, sometimes leading to assaults on the agents sent to collect the rent. In the parable the landlord plants a vineyard leases it to tenants and entrusts them with the responsibility of caring for his estate and paying their dues. When vintage time comes the landlord sends his servants to collect what is due to him. When they are treated with brutality the landlord sends a larger number – but they meet with the same fate. If desperate situations demand daring remedies, the landlord follows these two catastrophes by sending his son, hoping his tenants will respect him. The landlord's hope is misplaced: the son is thrown out of the vineyard and killed.

Matthew clearly uses the parable, addressed to the chief priests and the elders, as a summary of salvation history. The landlord's servants represent the succession of prophets that God has sent to Israel, only to see them treated with disdain and violence. The son is clearly a figure of Jesus himself, dragged out of Jerusalem to be murdered. Jesus is not just another of the prophets, but God's own Son. The punishment of leasing the vineyard to other tenants clearly indicates Matthew's thought that the Kingdom of God will be granted to the Gentiles, in other words people from all over the world, and they will be more trusted to deliver the produce. The chief priests and elders react with hostility to the parable, but they cannot lay hands on Jesus without endangering their own position. In wanting to find Jesus, the leaders underline the truth of the parable, and it will only be a matter of time before they create the opportunity to harm him.

The parable speaks to us about the patience of God. When his servants – in this case prophets – are killed, he sends more and more in the hope that people will turn from their evil ways and turn back to him. Even when these are killed, he still hopes that his beloved Son will make his people change their ways. Jesus is God's last appeal, his final challenge. Depending on our response to him, judgement is then made. If we are now the tenants, then we are subject to God's expectation of us and subject to his judgement too. God looks to us for the fruits of faith and love and obedience. He also expects that, in the way we treat others, we will deliver forgiveness and mercy and justice. Today's parable has its own question addressed to each one of us: are these the fruits we produce in our lives each day?

Psalm Response The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

Gospel Acclamation I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.

PARISH NEWS This Week

Prisoners' Sunday and Week of Prayer

This week we begin a week of prayer for Prisoners everywhere. Please take home one of the leaflets from the back of Church and join in the daily prayers. For over forty years Prisons Week has prepared prayer literature for the Christian Community as we pray for those affected by prisons: prisoners and victims, their families, their communities, those working and volunteering in prisons and the criminal justice system. Please pray each day during Prisons Week but also ask yourself whether there is one thing that you can do as an individual, or something we can do as a Church, to help any of the people we are praying for this week.

Fatima Holy Hour

Please try your best to come along to Holy Hour to celebrate the centenary of the apparitions in Fatima. This will take place **this Tuesday, 10th October at 7.00 pm in St. Richard's Church, Atherton.**

Journey of Faith - RCIA

As there are several people who have spoken to Fr Paul G about exploring the Catholic Faith and considering becoming Catholics this next year, the first meeting of the group 'Journey in Faith' will be at **Holy Family Presbytery on Wednesday, 11th October 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.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

Every Saturday the Padre Pio Prayer Group meet to pray together on Saturday morning in St. Ambrose Barlow Church at 10.00 am. **Next weekend, 14/15th October**, to mark the centenary of the apparitions in Fatima, they are going to have a special time of prayer which will include the Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Please come along and join them in prayer.

With You Always

For any children in Year 4 who wish to make their First Holy Communion this school year from the communities of Holy Family or St Gabriel's, application forms have been collated. Dates of meetings will be passed on to those who have applied in the next few days. If anyone has missed the deadline, please contact Fr Paul G to enrol any children who have not yet applied.

The **Macmillan Coffee Morning** held at St Richard's on Thursday September 28th raised £900. Many thanks to all who supported the event and the helpers who made it such a success.

Thank you all who came and supported the **MacMillan Coffee Morning** held at St Ambrose Barlow on Saturday 30th September. We managed to raise £889.16 which is an amazing total. All the raffle prizes were claimed on the Saturday. On Sunday Purple451, Purple431 and Purple432 are not yet claimed. Please see Mary Barton.

St. Richard's Parish Centre 500 Club Draw for October

£100.00	422	J.Valentine.
£50.00	129	M.Hesketh.
£25.00	160	J.Morrison.
£15.00	441	E.Rothwell.
£15.00	371	J.Murphy.

Thank you for your continued support.

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)

Parish Forum

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

Newsletter

Please ensure that items for next week's newsletter are sent in by Tuesday evening, i.e. one day earlier than usual. 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





Reflect:

We can read this week's Gospel in the context of humankind's treatment of the earth and its gifts.

In Laudato Si Pope Francis reminds us that the climate is a common good and yet due to our lack of respect or care 'The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth'. #21

This is brought about 'by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed [the earth]. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life'. #2

Just as the workers in the vineyard murdered the owner's son, so humankind is gradually destroying the earth. Nor is it those who inflict the worst damages on the environment, those who live in the developed countries, that suffer the most. The brunt of climate change is felt most by the poor, those who live on the land and are dependant on its gifts for their day to day survival.

Pray:

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the earth and not
prey on it,
that we may sow beauty,
not pollution and destruction.
Extract from 'A prayer for our earth', Laudato Si'

Act:

How do my actions show that I love my neighbour, especially those who are living in poverty?

Challenge:

Do I strive to cherish and protect creation, remembering that God is the creator of all? In what ways do I do this?

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

"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.

Music Night

Saturday, 14th October
St Richard's Parish Centre Lounge
Vocalist /Guitarist Terry Langley
60's / 70's / 80's music
Free entry - all welcome.

Holy Family Craft Group

This is being started in the Parish Hall at Holy Family on Wednesday afternoons between 1.00pm 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.

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).

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 kdfletch@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.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£1978.53
Nugent Care	£ 241.35
CAFOD (Holy Family)	£ 110.00

Thank you so much for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today Prisoners Advice and Care Trust
Next Week Monthly SVP Collection

Prisoners Advice and Care Trust

The Prison Advice and Care Trust (PACT) is a national charity that provides support to prisoners, people with convictions, and their families. We support people to make a fresh start, and minimise the harm that can be caused by imprisonment on people who have committed offences, on families and on communities. Web site: www.prisonadvice.org.uk

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.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Week Beginning 8th October	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Geoff Molyneax 11.00 am Myra Rose & Jack Fitzmaurice 12.30 pm Baptism	(Sat) 6.00 pm Teresa Roberts 11.00 am David Gough	(Sat) 6.00 pm Margaret Aspden 9.30 am Simon Ward 6.30 pm Betty Neary
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Corless & Tiernan Families	9.15 am Ena Smith 2.00 pm Funeral Service for Ellen Hughes
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm James Pickering	9.00 am <i>St Mary's Y8 - All Welcome</i> Ray Hilton	9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition Blessed Sacrament
THURSDAY	10.00 am Michael Seddon		9.15 am Michael Seddon
FRIDAY	10.00 am Fr Paul Grady & Family <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>		9.15 am Ellen Lythgoe
SATURDAY	10.00 am Thankyou	10.00 am <i>Padre Pio Prayer Group</i> 6.00 pm Fr Paul Seddon & Family	6.00 pm Joan Baxter
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Thanksgiving 11.00 am Mick & Annie Donellan 12.30 pm Baptism	11.00 am Fr Arthur	9.30 am Jean & Sarah Herron & Mary Stafford 6.30 pm Michael Flaherty

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Michael Seddon	Maria McCoy
James Pickering	Joseph Grady
Thomas 'Paddy' Jones	Teresa Roberts
Leonard Beech	Ellen Hughes

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	Gwenda Byers
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 6.00pm 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

Paige Olivia Chamberlain

Amelia Willow Gaffey

Cian Joseph Brennan (*correction from last week*)

May God bless them and their families.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-10

The image of a banquet describes the blessings God wishes to bestow, not only on Israel, but on all nations.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Paul thanks the Philippians for their support but says that his real strength comes from the Lord.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14.

Isaiah's promise is fulfilled in Jesus. Through him all God's people are invited to the banquet feast of the Kingdom.