

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

16th September 2018

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://stmmaryschs.org.uk/ – **Deanery website:** www.leighdeanery.co.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 4
Readings Sunday – 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Week 24

Sunday 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
(Home Mission Day)

Thursday St. Andrew Kim Taegon & Companions

Friday Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle

Next Sunday 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
(Thanksgiving for Harvest and/or fruits of Human Work)



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 senior priest was reflecting on his experiences for others at an earlier stage in his ministry: "In my early days as a priest in a parish, I used to say to myself, before I knocked on any door, behind this door is someone for whom Christ gave his life. More than that, if this was the only person in the world apart from Jesus himself, he would still have died for this person. If Our Lord considers this person worth dying for, then this person, no matter what he or she looks like, is worth a few minutes of my time. I wouldn't claim to have lived up to that, and I don't always take the time to say those words to myself nowadays, but it is still a truth that I try to live by." It is wise advice, because how often do we find ourselves to be grudging and impatient when we have to spend even a few minutes for someone else? A few minutes of our time is not much to offer, but it is a measure of how seriously we take the Cross. We may have fantasies of offering our life for someone, but we may never be asked to do that. If we want to really measure how willing we are to give our life for anyone, why not consider how willing we are to give up even a few minutes of our life?

The writer of Mark's Gospel uses the word "begin" quite a lot. People don't just do things in the Gospel of Mark. They very often "begin" to do things. In fact, the Gospel itself uses the "beginning" towards the very start: "The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God." The writer of the Gospel is addressing the question for his readers: how did it all begin? Yet there is an irony in the use of the words in today's Gospel: "And he began to teach them." So what exactly has Jesus been doing up to this moment? We have been told earlier in Mark's Gospel, when the writer tells the story of the feeding of the 5000, that Jesus began "to teach them at some length", but what is meant in today's Gospel Reading is a new kind of teaching. Teaching is no longer just a matter of words. It is what is about to happen that will be the teaching. We can know the meaning of words without really understanding them. Peter knows the word "Christ" but, until the Passion of Jesus actually begins, he is not even close to understanding what it really means for Jesus to be the Christ, the anointed one. Peter will not understand anything that Jesus has said to him until he too carried his cross.

If the Cross of Christ was just a word, then all we would have is memories. All we would be doing as Christians is commemorating an event from history. Yet the Cross IS reality today. It is a choice made by every human being, either to be the one who carries the Cross, or to be the one who imposes the Cross on others. The journey of Jesus is not a journey to death. Death is what his enemies planned for him. Jesus makes it a journey to life. It is a journey through death, but not to death, because Heaven is his home – and it is our home too. To carry the Cross is, therefore, NOT a death wish but a life wish. It is possible to love without faith and hope, but not in the way that Christ loves. It is only through faith and hope in the Risen Christ that we can offer to each other the life of God. So when Jesus makes his way to Jerusalem to endure the Cross, imposed by others, we can truly say that now he is beginning to teach everyone around him, friends and enemies alike.

Psalms Response
Gospel Acclamation

I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.
I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;
no one can come to the Father except through me.

PARISH NEWS

This Week

Children's Liturgy at Holy Family

Could all those who have expressed an interest in helping please speak to Fr Paul G this weekend to ensure he has contact details for you and hopefully be able to secure a date in the next few weeks to re-launch this important part of parish life.



Creation Time

1st September – 4th October 2018

Pope Francis has asked us to mark this period with prayer, reflection and action in relation to the Earth and our place upon it and so the Liverpool Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Commission and CAFOD Liverpool have once again produced Creation Time Reflections for parishes to use. Like the resource we used last year, this one can be used as a course or as a series of one-off sessions following each of the five Sundays and comprises the Sunday's Gospel, case studies, quotations from Laudato Si as well as opportunities for reflection, prayers and an invitation to action. Sessions will be held at St Richard's House at **10.00am on Wednesdays September 19th, 26th and October 3rd** (following Exposition when Exposition restarts next Wednesday, 26th September). All are welcome.

Friends of Holy Family Race Night

Friday 21st September 2018

Doors open 7:30pm. Horses come under orders at 8pm

The Beehive Community Centre

Lindale Hall, Lindale Road, Mosley Common M28 1BQ

Adults Only, Licensed Bar, £5 per ticket

Numbers are limited so don't miss out on a great night!

Tickets available at the back of Church after Mass on Sunday 16th September, or ring Lynsey on 07841405333

Foodbank Donations

There is now a box/basket in each of the three churches for your donations. Goods need to be non-perishable such as tea, coffee, sugar, tinned meat and fish, soup, packet mash, tinned fruit and rice pudding. Also long life milk, biscuits, and cereals. Toiletries are also welcome. Many thanks for your kindness.

Lost Property in St Ambrose Church

A red pouch / bag was left in St Ambrose church weekend 25th /26th August. It has been placed in the safe for safekeeping.

Exposition at St.Richard's

Apologies for the extra delay but Exposition at St.Richard's should start **next Wednesday 26th September at 9.00am**. Thanks for all your patience.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Meeting

CAFOD's Senior Emergency Manager Robert Cruickshank will be speaking about our work in the drought-ridden areas of East Africa and Ethiopia in particular. All welcome to this free event on **this Monday 17th September, 7 - 9pm** at St Joseph's, Penketh, Warrington WA5 2BB. RSVP for catering purposes to liverpool@cafod.org.uk or call Ged or Colette on 0151 228 4028.

Archdiocese of Liverpool Marriage & Family Life Department: Recovery from Divorce & Separation

The next series of meetings begins on **Wednesday 19th September 2018**. Meetings are in small groups and are free, confidential, informative and affirming. The course is for any person who is going through, or who has gone through, a relationship breakdown. Topics will cover: facing the effects of what has happened; communication and conflict resolution; letting go; managing other relationships; legal matters and being single and moving forward. Details of times and venue Contact: Maureen O'Brien Tel: 07967 753371 or Jacqui Selleck Tel: 07793 825815.

Lay Funeral Ministry

Lay Funeral Ministry was introduced to the Liverpool Archdiocese by the previous Archbishop, Patrick Kelly, in response to discussions held during the "Leaving Safe Harbours" consultation. Conclusions were reached that the severely declining numbers of priests in the Archdiocese were leading to concerns regarding providing funeral care. Firstly, there were long delays for families waiting for a funeral, which was deemed to be unacceptable when this ritual forms such a vital part of the grieving process. Secondly, many priests were feeling overwhelmed by the numbers of funerals they had to do and so were questioning whether, in fact, they were providing families with the pastoral care they truly deserved and level of care the priests really wanted to provide.

It is important to be clear that what is new is not the thinking behind the idea of Lay Funeral Ministers, but rather its implementation, which comes from the "Order of Christian Funerals", published in the 1990s. Here, we read that Lay Funeral Ministers are commissioned to lead funeral services when there is no Requiem Mass or no priest or deacon available. A Lay Funeral Minister can lead the Prayer Vigil before a funeral, lead the funeral service, the committal and the prayers at the graveside or in the crematorium. Lay ministers are offered – they are NOT compulsory. Families can still wait for the availability of a priest or a deacon.

The Order of Christian Funerals also points out that there are different funeral rites and that a Requiem Mass may not always be appropriate for every individual. In this situation, we must see it as good that people can still turn to the Church to give death meaning and respect and to find closure through the funeral ritual. At times of bereavement, families come to the Church needy and in pain, they are sometimes afraid, and we do well to heed the often repeated call from scripture to "comfort my people."

In all of this it must be stressed that Lay Funeral Ministers do not offer a second-class service and do have training and preparation for ministry. It is seen as a way of responding to the baptismal call of "the priesthood of all believers" and a way of building community and supporting clergy. They work with families to create a ritual that is both personal and within the bounds of Church requirements from liturgical, spiritual and theological standpoints. They do this by sitting with bereaved families and listening with an attitude of love, by being aware that a funeral is a celebration of life but also the Catholic Community's celebration of our belief in the Resurrection. Being a Lay Funeral Minister is a very real and often very raw opportunity to reach out to people, to be the face of Christ and the Church and to pass on the Good News of eternal life.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£1776.26
Catholic Education Service	£ 563.36

Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

Home Mission Sunday

The money raised from next Sunday's Second Collection will fund a number of national projects, including the development of resources to support ministry and outreach to non-churchgoing (lapsed) Catholics. There are around four million baptised in our countries who never or rarely attend church. Please do help the bishops to resource this important work.

Next Week

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

On Family Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to share in the abundance that God has given us. We are asked to fast, pray and give to help people who are short of food and/or clean water.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Annual Bring & Buy Coffee Morning at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall, Saturday, 29th September, 9am - 12noon.

Bacon/sausage barm, toast, tea & coffee and cakes!
Come and join us!

For more information or to donate items contact Mary Barton: 07946 512881.

Deanery Mass Survey

An early notice that, during the month of **October**, we are going to have a survey of where and when people attend Mass in the whole of the Deanery. This is so that we can look at which Masses are best attended, for example, and, if necessary, are there any changes we can make to help make Mass attendance easier and more efficient. We will be presenting the Mass Survey on the first Sunday of October. If you miss it you can still get one of the survey sheets and fill it in as soon as you can. More details soon.

New Pastoral Area Youth Group

The first meeting for the **LAUDATE SI Pastoral Area Youth Group** will take place on **Tuesday 9th October** at 7.00pm at Sacred Heart Presbytery, Leigh. If you are in Year 6 to Year 13 you are welcome to come along and join the group.

Rosary Sunday

There will be a Holy Hour at Holy Family to celebrate this Feast as it falls this year on **Sunday 7th October**. This will begin at 3.00pm with the recitation of the Rosary and conclude with Benediction. All welcome.

Forty Hours (Quarant Ore)

This will be held at Holy Family **12th – 14th October**. All are welcome to come at any point, just as 10,000 people came to visit Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament in Liverpool for the Adoremus conference. Sign up sheets for times will be available at the back of church as soon as possible.

Deanery Forum

Many thanks to all those who came along to the last Deanery Forum meeting. The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday, 14th November at 7.45pm in the Parish House at St Richard's**. The Forum is open to anyone from the Deanery to come along and get more involved in Parish life. All welcome.

Walsingham 2019

Monday 22nd - Thursday 25th April 2019

If you would like to go to Walsingham next year, please pay your £40 deposit by the end of September to Therese Thompson (Tel: 07780 064502) or Margaret Hawkins (St Edmund Arrowsmith parish). Thank you.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Fr. Colin has been invited by All Saints Travel, a Holy Land Pilgrimage specialist, to lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2019. The pilgrimage will run from **5th-12th December 2019**. Highlights of the trip include daily Mass at various churches associated with Our Lord's ministry, a Holy Hour in the Garden of Gethsemane, renewal of baptismal vows in the River Jordan and a boat trip on the Sea of Gallilee.

The cost of the pilgrimage is £947 on a half-board basis, staying in a double/twin room. If you would like more information and a full itinerary or a booking form, then please speak to Fr. Colin or call the Parish Office at St. Joseph's, Leigh.

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.



We will be looking at excerpts from Creation Time over the next few weeks.

Week 3 Theme: What difference does it make to meet Jesus?

Reflect

In today's Gospel, Peter recognises Jesus as the Christ, but fails to recognise that Jesus must suffer to fulfil his destiny as Saviour of the world. How do we recognise God's way in our lives?

Pray

Lord God,
Remind us every day that you have given us the gift of your creation and that you love all that you have created. Help us to be aware of our responsibility to the earth and to each other and to work for the good of all.

Act

Consider the relationship between the poor and the fragility of the planet. A change in lifestyle is required to re-balance the needs of the poor and the health of the planet. What can you do?

Challenge

It's important to reduce the amount of plastic we use. Try having at least one plastic free day per week.

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 Clitheroe Please note spelling 'Clitheroe'). Thank you.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Please pray for those who are Sick



Arthur Leggett
 Agnes Pilkington
 All Cancer Patients
 Anne Broad
 Baby George
 Baby Grace
 Baby Luke
 Bernard O'Donnell
 Bridie Molyneux
 Catherine Jones
 Christopher Browne
 Clifford Browne
 Derek Maude
 Eddie Shaw
 Edward Leach
 Emma Oldham
 Enid Kenwright
 Eugenie Cheetham
 Fon O'Hara
 Freda Peake
 Gerald Hackett
 Guy Ryan
 Hannah Delargy
 Irene Burke
 Irene McIntyre
 Jack Rothwell
 Jean Tchibukdjian
 Jess Garrett
 Joan Wilkinson
 John Neary
 John Sleeman
 John Wall
 Kathy Kenyon
 Maisie Sweeney (10)
 Margaret Case
 Margaret Dawson
 Margaret Hurley
 Margaret Ross
 Margaret Wall
 Marjorie Price
 Mary Tiernan
 Maureen Halliday
 Michael Wright
 Olivia Hutchinson
 Rev Jim Melia
 Sandra Jones
 Shelagh Welsby
 Stephen Howell
 Thelma Humble
 Thomas McLoughlin
 Wyn Wright
 Yvonne Mellin

If any of the above are now better please tell margaretclitherow@aahoo.com

Week Beginning 16th September	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Bernadette Bates 11.00 am Martin & Mary Furey	(Sat) 6.00 pm John Swift 11.00 am Mike Seddon	(Sat) 6.00 pm Maria Baxendale 9.30 am Joan Jones
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Frances Mary Ellis	9.15 am Malcolm Laithwaite
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Gwen Altride		<i>Sorry, no Exposition this week</i> 11.00 am Funeral Mass for Mary Burke
THURSDAY	9.15 am Mass for Beginning of School Year with Holy Family School in Church		9.15 am Michael Seddon
FRIDAY	10.00 am <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i> Martin & Mary Neary		9.15 am Carol Usher
SATURDAY	10.00 am Neil Nolan	10.00 am <i>Exposition and Rosary</i> 6.00 pm Parishioners	6.00 pm Mary Ellams
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Annie Callan 11.00 am Margaret Dermody	11.00 am Thomas Laing	9.30 am Bernadette Bates

BAPTISM

We welcome into our family of Faith:

Conor Jon Pendlebury

May God bless him and his family.



Please pray for those who have died recently:

Carol Usher
 Gordon Harris
 Angela Mary Shiel
 Mary Burke
 Stephen James McGowan
 Anthony Clarke

R.I.P.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday Confessions after 10.00am Mass at Holy Family and after both 6.00pm Masses in St. Ambrose and St. Richards.

N.B. Saturday Mass and Confessions at Holy Family will resume on Saturday 15th September.

Confession also available where possible by request or by appointment.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

First Reading *Wisdom 2:12,17-20*
 The godless plot to do away with the just one, because his blameless life is a reproach to them.

Second Reading *James 3:16-4:3*
 Jealousy, ambition, and self-seeking lead to disharmony and fighting. Gentleness, reasonableness and mercy lead to peace.

Gospel Reading *Mark 9:30-37*
 Jesus tells his disciples that he will suffer bitter humiliation and death, and says that true greatness shows itself in service towards the weaker members of the community.