

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

Pentecost Sunday (B)

20th May 2018

DEANERY TEAM

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
Tel: 01942 883395
Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk
St. Margaret Clitherow Parish Enquiries
Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady
Tel: 01942 673517
Email: kjmgrady@hotmail.com

Priest: Fr. Paul Grady
Tel: 0161 790 2390
Email: frpaulmgrady@hotmail.com
margaretclitherow@yahoo.com
Priest: Fr. Colin Fealey
Tel: 01942 673517 or 731280
Email: stjosephs@live.com

Deacons: Rev. Robert Hewertson & Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith
Schools: www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk – www.boothstownhollyfamily.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 3
Readings Sunday – Pentecost Sunday B
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Week 7

Sunday Pentecost Sunday (B)
Monday Our Lady, Mother of the Church
Friday St. Bede
Saturday St. Philip Neri
Next Sunday Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (B)



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

One of the most fascinating characteristics of John's Gospel is how he presents the story of Jesus as a lawsuit between God and an unbelieving world. Witnesses are arranged on either side to argue the case. And the case at hand is this: is Jesus the Messiah and the Son of God? God's witnesses are Jesus' Word, the great prophet John the Baptist, the signs and mighty works of Jesus himself, and finally the Holy Spirit and the apostles. The opposition is represented by the unbelieving Jews, who bring their own testimony against the claim. When Jesus' trial gets underway, the accusers are invited to bear witness regarding the evil that Jesus is alleged to have committed. Jesus boldly challenges the officer in court: "If I have spoken wrongly, why do you strike me?" No one takes up the challenge. According to John's account Jesus wins the most important lawsuit in history. And because Pilate declares Jesus' innocence three times, the judge is convicted of perverting justice when he hands Jesus over to be crucified. The trial of Jesus is seen to be a masquerade; the innocent one is handed over to be executed. When Jesus dies, however, the lawsuit is not finished. His claim to be the Messiah and the Son of God is confirmed in his resurrection, when the Father raises the innocent one to glory. But there are still many who do not accept the evidence. The principal advocate for Jesus' claim is now the Holy Spirit. He is the one who advances the claims of Jesus before the court of the unbelieving world. And the Holy Spirit's principal witnesses are the apostles – those who have been with Jesus right from the beginning of his ministry.

What we celebrate at Pentecost is the coming of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, the one who enables the apostles to be witnesses to Jesus' claims in the world. Before the coming of the Holy Spirit, the apostles were incapable of acting as witnesses; they were frightened men who were too confused and hurt to act as effective witnesses on behalf of Jesus. With the help of the Spirit they are graced with a new courage. Their courtroom is the market-place of the world, and they are willing to testify to the truth of Jesus' claims to anyone who is willing to listen. As we know from experience the lawsuit still continues today. The case is not closed. There will always be opposition, there will always be people to persuade. The Spirit continues to be the Advocate, calling on generations of Christians to come forward as witnesses to the case. We are called to be witnesses today. To us it is given to continue the case on behalf of Jesus. The disbelieving world still looks to Jesus' witnesses to make their case – not so much by the quality of our information, but by the quality and courage of our lives. The world is not dying from a lack of information about Jesus. But the world needs witnesses who will declare their faith in Jesus. St. John finishes his Gospel by saying that he writes "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing this you may have life in his name." And so the case continues.

Psalms Response Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

PARISH NEWS

This Week

First Holy Communion Celebrations

Please remember all the children who are making their First Holy Communion today. They have been attending all the "With You Always" meetings. Please keep them and their families in your prayers at this special time.

Atherton Pentecost Service

Churches Together In Atherton are holding a special Pentecost Service outside Atherton Parish Church **TODAY, Sunday May 20th at 4.00pm**. The service will consist of a few hymns and readings to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit which came upon the apostles at Pentecost.

Pentecost 2018 – Hope in Harmony 3.00pm - 5.00pm TODAY in Liverpool

There will be an afternoon of music and unity **TODAY** as we celebrate the strong links between Liverpool's two Cathedrals. Starting at Liverpool Cathedral with a short act of worship there will be a procession along Hope Street, during which different choirs from our two cathedrals will fill Hope Street with music and celebration. The proceedings will culminate in a mass choral performance and singing of the Hallelujah chorus on the steps of the Metropolitan Cathedral.



Tongues of Fire

A Pentecost Musical
By Darren Garfield

Worsley Road North Methodist Church
Argyle Avenue, Walkden M28 3GD
Anniversary Celebration
TODAY - Sunday 20th May 2018, 3.00pm

All welcome! (Voluntary Donations)

Children's Liturgy

It has been some while since this has been possible at Holy Family and once more I extend an invitation to anyone who might be interested in helping to run this as part of a team (ie not having to do it every week). It would be wonderful for our children to have the opportunity to encounter the Scriptures within their own liturgy. Anyone interested please speak to Fr Paul G.

S.P.U.C.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) has launched a petition calling for the Home Secretary to oppose any moves to restrict peaceful pro-life citizens' freedom of expression and freedom to pray outside abortion centres. Kindly support this petition by taking time to read the leaflet at the back of church and signing the petition form(s) which will be collected and forwarded to SPUC before the closing date, 27th July 2018.

Volunteers, Please

Can you help to maintain the lawns and flower beds at Holy Family Church? Please put your name and contact number on the sheet at the back of church. Thank you in anticipation!

&

We are looking for additional help to maintain the grounds at St. Ambrose Barlow in Astley. If you feel you can spare an hour or two on a regular basis or would like more information please contact Peter Mellin, Des Deignan or Steve Cooper for further details.

Liverpool Synod 2020

Following on from the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter before Christmas, Liverpool Archdiocese are embarking on a three year project aimed towards a General Synod in 2020. As part of the preparations we will be holding a number of Holy Hours very soon as we focus on prayer for the first year. The Archbishop will be leading some of these Holy Hours in the different areas of the Archdiocese. So an early notice that the Holy Hours in our Deanery will take place on the following dates and venues:-

- **Wednesday May 30th** at 7.30pm – St. Joseph's Church, Leigh. (Led by Archbishop Malcolm)
- **Wednesday June 27th** at 7.30pm – St. Ambrose Barlow Church, Astley.
- **Wednesday July 18th** at 7.30pm – Sacred Heart Church, Leigh.

Parish Forum

The next meeting of the Parish Forum takes place on **Tuesday, June 26th** at 7.45pm in Holy Family Church. The Forum is open to anyone who would like to come along and get more involved in Parish life.

Meru Women's Garden Project

Atherton Churches Together have agreed to help Soroptimist International, Leigh & District Club, raise money for a unique project which has been set up in Meru, a region of Kenya. The project aims to help 194 women create vegetable gardens which will not only feed their families but also allow them to sell any surplus to raise money and send their children to school. To do this we are collecting old, broken, perfect and not so perfect jewellery that can be exchanged for cash by weight. So the more we collect the more money we make for the project.

A box for the donated items will be placed at the back of St. Richard's Church for the next few weeks. The entire Parish is invited to take part. Please help if you are able to do so. Further information can be found at meruwomen.org Or you can contact Josie Carter on 07845973353.

This is a Soroptimist International, Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) project working with the charity child.org.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory £1977.89
World Communications Day £ 558.66
Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

Friends of the Holy Land

Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) is a charitable organisation supporting the Christians of the Holy Land, who are suffering greatly. The work of FHL is entirely non-political and is carried out with the backing and blessing of Anglican and Catholic Bishops in England and Wales. Have a look at the website:

www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

Next Week

Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Second Collection next weekend will go to support those pilgrims who are sick who may not be able to afford to travel to Lourdes with the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage in July. The collection will also help to make their journey and stay in Lourdes more comfortable.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Rome Pilgrimage 18th June

Meeting 29th May, 7.30 pm

St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall.

For all those booked we will be distributing information and boarding passes and sharing information. Please come along!

Parish Trip to Stratford, 28th June

Only a few months late, Fr. Paul will phone round all the people on the list for the trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon this week. This is just to confirm that you are definitely coming. There are a few people who have expressed an interest in recent weeks so, if any spaces become available, we will let you know. More details regarding departure times very soon.

St Ambrose Barlow School Summer Fayre

This year's Summer Fayre will be held in the school grounds on **Saturday 30th June** from 12 noon-4.00pm. Please come down and support this fantastic family day, featuring a variety of stalls and entertainment including a 'Bake-off' Competition, pony rides and Emergency Service Vehicles. A grand raffle will be drawn on the day with a first prize of £100 up for grabs as well as a selection of other prizes including bottles and chocolates. Tickets for the raffle will be available after 11.00am mass at St Ambrose Barlow from Sunday 27th May, priced at £1 a book, so everyone can join in even if you can't attend on the day.

Thank you for your support with this important event, all proceeds from which will go straight into supporting our school and children.

Eucharistic Assembly Liverpool

We have been informed that there are now some **extra places available for the National Eucharistic Assembly**, also known as "Adoremus" (7-9th September). Tickets are available for the Saturday of the Congress but you will need to book them directly from the Archdiocese. The contact person is Eleanor Lalley on 0151-52201047 and she will send you a booking form which you will need to return immediately. Or you can download the booking form from e.lalley@rcaol.co.uk or formation@rcaol.co.uk

Parish Trip to York - FULL!

Please note that the Parish trip to York on **Tuesday, December 11th** is now completely full. If you are still interested in going then please leave your name(s) and contact number with Fr. Paul (the Big One!) and you will be put on a reserve list. If any places become available you will then be invited on the trip asap. The cost should be approximately £10 per person. We will give you further details regarding pick-up points and times of departure and return much nearer the time.

Theatre Dates for 2019

The Rise and Fall of Little Voice - Thursday 31st January 2019 - Matinee 2pm

The Importance of Being Earnest - Thursday 13th June 2019 - Matinee 2pm

Venue : Albert Halls, Victoria Square, Bolton BL1 1RU.

Ticket price (band A) £17.50pp

I have secured 20 seats for each production. If interested please contact Pat Mullaley, on [01942 702224](tel:01942702224). As previous, patrons make their own transport arrangements.

Prayer in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress 2018 and for Synod 2020

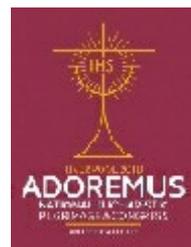
We thank you Father
For the love you have shown us
In the gift of Jesus, your Son.
Keep us grateful each day
For the blessings that surround us.

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: Today we recall that Jesus sent us his Holy Spirit to guide us on our life's journey as followers of Christ. We accepted this spirit into our lives when we were confirmed, but do we actually allow the Spirit to work in and through us?

Pray: Whirlwind Spirit of God
Roar through our timidities and fears,
Shake the foundations of our ill-placed securities,
Sweep away the cobwebs of our apathy,
Blow down the wall that separates us, one from another.
Then into our empty spaces, breathe
Re-strengthened courage to challenge injustice,
Renewed belief in the urgency of our vocation,
Revitalized passion to change our lifestyles,
Re-dedication to speak only words that build and unite.

Let gentle breeze and still small voice
Become in us today

Mighty wind and loud proclamation.

Make us a Pentecost people!

Amen

Kathleen O'Brien in livesimply CAFOD

Act & Challenge: Dare to allow your life to be transformed through the action of the Holy Spirit.

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.

Sacred Heart Church, Hindsford Community Website
www.sacredheartrchindsford.co.uk

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
 Bernadette Bates
 Bernard O'Donnell
 Bridie Molyneux
 Catherine Jones
 Christopher Browne
 Clifford Browne
 Derek Maude
 Edward Leach
 Emma Oldham
 Enid Kenwright
 Eugenie Cheetham
 Fon O'Hara
 Freda Peake
 Gerald Hackett
 Guy Ryan
 Hannah Delargy
 Irene Burke
 Irene McIntyre
 Jamie Robbins
 Jean Tchibukdjian
 Jess Garrett
 Joan Wilkinson
 John Sleeman
 John Wall
 Kathy Kenyon
 Maisie Sweeney (age9)
 Margaret Case
 Margaret Dawson
 Margaret Hurley
 Margaret Ross
 Margaret Wall
 Marjorie Price
 Mary Tiernan
 Maureen Halliday
 Michael Wright
 Mildred Hughes
 Patricia Wilson
 Rev Jim Melia
 Sandra Jones
 Shelagh Welsby
 Sr Megan Haisley
 Steve Clorston
 Ted & Harriet Langin
 Thelma Humble
 Thomas McLoughlin
 Wyn Wright
 Yvonne Mellin

Week Beginning 20th May	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Betty Neary 11.00 am Allan Hilton (First Communion Mass)	(Sat) 6.00 pm John Burke 11.00 am Annie Murphy	(Sat) 6.00 pm Fr. Michael O'Neill 9.30 am Mary Charlton
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Guidance for those voting on the repeal of the 8th Amendment*	10.30 am Funeral Mass for Anne Elizabeth Jones
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Michael Watchorn		9.00 - 9.45 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00 am Funeral Mass for Kathleen Lyth
THURSDAY	10.00 am Hilda Trent	10.00 am Funeral Mass for Maureen Mitchell	<i>Mass in St. Ambrose Barlow Church</i>
FRIDAY	10.00 am Eileen Ward (Mass in St Gabriel's School)		9.15 am Arthur Hennessy
SATURDAY	No Mass or Confessions	10.00 am Exposition and Rosary 6.00 pm Evelyn Ward	6.00 pm Alan Charlton
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Michelle Gannon 11.00 am William Joseph Silcot	11.00 am Frank Green	9.30 am Joan Baxter

**Mass Intention for 'Guidance for those voting on the repeal of the 8th Amendment': The people of the Republic of Ireland are voting on whether to repeal the 8th Amendment of their national constitution which prohibits abortion in Ireland (unless the life of the mother is at stake).*



Please pray for those who have died recently:

Marie Dootson
 Anne Jones
 Alan Hedley
 Kathleen Lyth
 Maureen Mitchell
 R.I.P.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday Confessions after 10.00am Mass at Holy Family (**but not on Saturday 26th May**) and after both 6.00pm Masses in St Ambrose Barlow and St Richards. Confession also available where possible by request or by appointment.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

First Reading *Deuteronomy 4:32-34,39-40*
 Moses exhorts the people to remain faithful to the one true God, so that they may prosper and have a rich life.

Second Reading *Romans 8:14-17*
 God gives us the Holy Spirit, to make us God's daughters and sons, able to inherit the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 28:16-20*
 Jesus' final command: go out to make disciples of all nations. He promises to be with his followers to the end of time.