

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

23rd 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://stmaryschs.org.uk/> – **Deanery website:** www.leighdeanery.co.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 1
Readings Sunday – 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Week 25

Sunday **25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)**
Monday **Our Lady of Walsingham**
Thursday **St. Vincent de Paul**
Saturday **Saints Michael, Gabriel, Raphael Archangels**
Next Sunday **26th Sunday of Ordinary Time (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

In last week's Gospel Jesus spoke of himself as the Son of Man who had to suffer and be rejected and be put to death. Following that prediction of the Passion, Jesus invited those who would follow him to take up their own crosses. In this week's Gospel Jesus is now travelling secretly through Galilee, taking time to instruct his disciples about how the Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of his enemies and be put to death. The ministry in Galilee is now over. The road leading to Jerusalem beckons. Jesus is seen to be anxious that his disciples understand the meaning of what lies ahead. Mark tells us how the disciples respond to this second prediction of the Passion: "They did not understand what he said and they were afraid to ask him." The disciples cannot comprehend the future of powerlessness that Jesus maps out for himself. They are afraid to ask him, perhaps because their worst suspicions will be confirmed. Perhaps Jesus does mean exactly what he says; perhaps he will face the coming terror without resorting to power tactics. The disciples cannot face that scene, so they start their own discussion group about power and prestige.

When the group arrives in Capernaum, Jesus asks them what they have been arguing about on the way. It didn't take long for their seminar on power to grow into an argument about which one of them was the greatest. To the question that Jesus puts to them, the disciples respond with the silence of shame. It is in this silence that Jesus takes a little child, sets the child in front of the disciples, puts his arm around the child, and challenges his disciples to accept this little one. When they can welcome the child, they can welcome the real Jesus.

Jesus compares himself to the little child, the one who cannot resort to power tactics when threatened or maltreated. Jesus' protection is his Father. His trust is placed in the God who will ensure his protection. When suffering comes, Jesus refuses to abandon trust in the Father. This trust makes him vulnerable in the world's eyes, like a little child, but unless the disciples can come to welcome such vulnerability for themselves, they will never understand the way of Jesus. Jesus offers a permanent challenge to his followers to welcome the powerless, to take to heart the weakest members of the community. He places himself in their company. Special hospitality should be offered to those from whom we can benefit the least. Their vulnerability is something that Jesus not only shares but values. As he takes the road to Jerusalem, his own vulnerability will expose him to those who lie in wait. There will be people keen to explore his gentleness and put his endurance to the test. In drawing his own followers away from looking to power and prestige for models of discipleship, Jesus invites them to a new openness to the Father. No earthly power will save Jesus from death in Jerusalem. Only his Heavenly Father can save him from being left for dead. This is what the Father does. This is how the Father welcomes the trust of the little one.

Psalm Response The Lord upholds my life.

Gospel Acclamation I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

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.

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 will start **next Wednesday 26th September at 9.00am**. Thanks for all your patience.

Ladies Group

The next meeting for the Ladies Group will take place on Tuesday 2nd October at 2pm in St Ambrose Church Hall. Raffle: Hilda Almond & Maureen Craddock

St Ambrose Barlow Panto 2019

If anyone would like to appear in this year's panto please let Steve Cooper know. Over 16s only please. See Steve after the 11.00 Sunday mass or ring him on 07952 152371.

CAFOD Family Fast Day: Friday October 5th

On Family Fast Day, Friday October 5th, CAFOD invites us to share in the abundance that God has given us by eating more simply - perhaps having a bowl of soup instead of a meal - and giving the money we save to help others around the world. In other words, we are being asked to live more simply so that others may simply live. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from the back of church next weekend and give what you can. Many thanks.

Aid to the Church in Need

There are still too many areas in the world where Christians are being persecuted or face unfair treatment and discrimination. "Aid To The Church In Need" is a Papal Charity which exists to reach out to these communities with practical support, prayerful solidarity and active campaigning for justice. Next weekend members of the North West team of "Aid To The Church In Need" will visit the churches of the Parish to talk about the work of the charity and to seek our support. They will also have small piety stalls in the different churches selling items including books, gifts and devotional items. Please make them very welcome and support them if you can.

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	£ 1829.89
Home Mission Sunday	£ 474.95
Catholic Education Service	£ 4.50

Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

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.

Next Week

Aid for the Church in Need

Aid to the Church in Need helps Christians who suffer persecution or oppression for their faith in more than 130 countries around the world. You can find out more at: www.acnuk.org

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Macmillan Coffee Morning

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

Thank You

The family of the late Gordon Harris would like to thank Fr Paul Seddon, Bernard Higgins, Pat on the Organ, the people who attended the Funeral Mass. Thanks for the donations for St Ann's Hospice which made £180. Thank you and God Bless. Brenda.

PLEASE NOTE

Due to Saturday being the feast of St Gabriel and the Archangels, Mass on Friday will be in school at 2.30pm to allow as much of the school community to celebrate their Patronal Feast Day as possible. Parishioners are welcome as always.

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 Clitherow Please note spelling 'Clitherow'). 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@yahoo.com

Week Beginning 23rd September	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
SUNDAY	9.00 am Annie Callan 11.00 am Margaret Dermody	(Sat) 6.00 pm Parishioners 11.00 am Thomas Laing	(Sat) 6.00 pm Mary Ellams 9.30 am Bernadette Bates
MONDAY			
TUESDAY		9.15 am Cath Lees	9.15 am Joseph Lyons
WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Una and Bartley Furey		Sorry no Exposition this week
THURSDAY	10.00 am Pat Alexander		11.00 am Funeral Mass for Florence Prescott
FRIDAY	2.30 pm Agnes & Harold Bostock <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>		9.15 am Leonard Beach
SATURDAY	10.00 am James Pickering	10.00 am Exposition and Rosary 6.00 pm Wyn & Alf Brown	6.00 pm Leo Dillon
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Thanksgiving 11.00 am Gordon Harris	11.00 am	9.30 am The Leonard Family

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:

Mary Burke.

Stephen James McGowan.

Florence Prescott.

Marjorie Miles.

Anthony Clarke

R.I.P.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday Confessions after 10am Mass at Holy Family; after both 6pm Masses in St Ambrose and St Richards. Confession also available where possible by request or by appointment.

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-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

First Reading *Numbers 11:25-29.*

Joshua resents the fact that the gift of prophecy is now given to many others besides Moses, but Moses himself welcomes it.

Second Reading *James 5:1-6.*

We hear a strong condemnation of wealth, especially when it is obtained through the exploitation of the weak.

Gospel Reading *Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48.*

Jesus delivers a lesson in tolerance and in the avoidance of scandal and occasions of sin.