

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

26th August 2018

DEANERY TEAM

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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 1
Readings Sunday – 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Week 21

Sunday 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
Monday St. Monica
Tuesday St. Augustine
Wednesday Passion of St John the Baptist
Thursday St. Edmund Arrowsmith
Saturday Ss. Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward
Next Sunday 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
(Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation)

*I am the
living bread
... if any man
eat of this bread,
he shall
live forever.*
John 6:51

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

Today's Gospel centres on a choice. In recent weeks we have heard Jesus talking about the importance of faith, which brings us into closest union with him. Last week he spoke plainly about the Eucharist, ending with the words, "anyone who eats this bread will live forever". For some of his followers, this marks the end of their discipleship. It is too much for them: "This is intolerable language," they say, "how could anyone accept it?" Jesus agrees. It isn't easy to accept such a claim. In fact, without the help of the Holy Spirit, it would be impossible. But he doesn't go back on what he has said, not even when – and this is one of the saddest sentences in the Gospels – "many of his disciples left him." He takes back nothing. Incredibly, he goes further. He turns to the Twelve and asks, "What about you, do you want to go away too?" He knows he could lose his closest friends over his teaching about the Eucharist. Peter has a wonderful response: "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe." He and the other disciples cannot understand, any more than the other people could, how Jesus will do what he says, how he will give himself to us in the Eucharist. But their faith tells them that he has the message of eternal life. They trust him. They choose God. They choose eternal life.

There is a sense in which the Gospel story today becomes a reality at Mass. As each one of us comes forward for Holy Communion, the priest or minister holds up the host and says: "The Body of Christ". All we see is a wafer of bread. That's what it will taste like and feel like. And yet, as we look at the host, we say, "Amen". Amen is a tiny word, so tiny that it is easy to mumble it without a second thought. Yet it is full of meaning. It comes from a Hebrew root that suggests solidarity and strength. It is our "Yes", our act of faith. We believe this IS the Body of Christ: the same Christ who once walked the roads of Palestine; the same Christ who healed the sick and comforted the rejected; the same Christ who kept people spellbound when he spoke; the same Christ who died for us on the Cross; the same Christ who rose again in glory. The Eucharist is above all the sacrament of faith, and faith is more than simply saying, "I believe". It involves total commitment to Jesus. Our "Amen" is like Peter's declaration: "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life." In the Eucharist we are making a decisive choice: we choose God, and we choose life, a fullness of life that only God alone can give.

Psalm Response

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Gospel Acclamation

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life:
You have the message of eternal life.

PARISH NEWS

This Week

End of Summer Mass Schedule

This weekend marks the final weekend of our Summer Mass Schedule. Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time. It has helped us to think about what it might be like when we DO have fewer Masses in the area in the very near future.



A reminder that Sunday Morning Masses next week take place at the following times:-

- Holy Family at 9.00am.
- St.Richard's at 9.30am.
- St.Ambrose Barlow at 11.00am.
- Holy Family at 11.00am.

Saturday Mass and Confessions at Holy Family

This will be temporarily unavailable until mid-September. Confessions are always available on request.

Midweek Mass Times

Please check the Newsletter each week for the times of Masses during the week. If one of the priests is away then the other will cover and say Masses as listed below.

The 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 | 9.15 am | St. Richard's or |
| | 10.00 am | St. Gabriel's School (during term time) |

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.

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.

Mass Collections

St. Richard's are looking for volunteers to help count the Mass collections on a monthly rota basis. Everyone is welcome. For more information please phone James on 07521 931871.



Children's Liturgy at Holy Family

There has been some interest and we will try to restart children's liturgy initially once a month after the summer. If anyone else is interested please speak to Fr Paul G.

Children's Liturgy at St Ambrose Barlow

Please note that there will be no Children's Liturgy at St Ambrose Barlow Church during the summer holidays. Sessions will resume again in September. Have a great summer!

Ladies Group

The next Ladies Group meeting will be on **Tuesday 4th September** at 2:00pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Raffle: Doreen Henderson and Pauline Wilson.

Deanery Forum

The next meeting of the Deanery Forum will now take place on **Wednesday September 5th at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart presbytery, Leigh**. Please note the change of date from the last meeting. The Forum is open to anyone from the Deanery to come along and get more involved in Parish life. All welcome.

Creation Time Reflections

Creation Time Reflections will be held in St Richard's House at 10.00am on Wednesdays, following Exposition, on **September 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th and October 3rd**. All are welcome.

Craft Groups Restart

The Craft Classes will resume next week as follows:

- Holy Family / St Ambrose Barlow Group - **Wednesday 5th September** at St Ambrose hall, 1.00pm to 3.00pm.
- St Richard's Group - **Thursday 6th September** at 10.00am in St.Richard's Church Hall.

"With You Always" Catechists' Meeting

There will be a meeting of all the catechists who help with the First Holy Communion Preparation course for St.Richard's, Sacred Heart (Hindsford) and St.Ambrose Barlow on **Tuesday September 11th** at 7.00pm in St.Richard's Parish House. Please let the older Fr.Paul know if you cannot make it.

Feastday Mass

The annual Celebration of the Feast of St.Edmund Arrowsmith & St.Margaret Clitherow will take place in **St. Ambrose Barlow Church on Wednesday September 12th at 7.00pm**.



Please come along and join us in prayer. All are invited into the Church Hall at St Ambrose Barlow after Mass for tea, coffee, soft drinks and a cake!

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

| | | |
|----------------|---|--------------------------|
| Offertory | } | tba next week - counting |
| The Samaritans | } | delayed due to holidays |

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

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.

Next Week

The Medaille Trust

The Medaille Trust is a charity founded to help women, young men and children who have been freed from human-trafficking. This trust is based in the UK because human-trafficking goes on in our own country. Even in Manchester, there are children and young people kept as sex slaves!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Eucharistic Assembly Liverpool

From 7–9 September 10,000 pilgrims from across England and Wales will come to Liverpool for the first **National Eucharistic Congress** (also known as “Adoremus”) to be held by the Roman Catholic Church in this country for 110 years, the last having been in London in 1908.

Venues and approximate times are as follows:-

- **Friday September 7th – ACC Convention Centre, Liverpool between 10.00 am - 5.45 pm.**
- **Saturday September 8th – ACC Echo Arena, Liverpool between 9.30 am - 5.00 pm.**
- **Sunday September 9th – Mass in Liverpool Cathedral at 9.30 am & 11.30 am.**
- **Outdoor Eucharistic Procession at 1.00 pm.**

In addition to the main events there is the **Adoremus Liverpool Parallel Programme:**

Talks, discussions, workshops, prayer opportunities and cultural events complementing the main events of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage & Congress Adoremus 2018.

Venues in the centre of Liverpool and open to all: Friday afternoon and evening, Saturday afternoon and evening, 7-8 September with some events continuing Sunday 9 September. See www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk for full Congress details.

What is Eucharist?

Eucharist is... sacrifice.

Remembering Jesus' death cannot be done simply by thinking about it. If we are to remember as we are called to remember, then we need to live as Jesus lived, think as he thought and act as he acted. We celebrate the memory of Jesus in the Eucharistic sacrifice by offering our own lives together with Jesus for the life of the world.

Eucharist is... thanksgiving

When we give thanks at Mass, the past is renewed, the present is transformed, and the future is made already present. In this thanksgiving, hope is generated by recalling past mercies. What we know from the past of the power and love of God gives us confidence in the continued mercy of God despite whatever may be going on in our lives to try us.

Eucharist is... pilgrimage

The culmination of a pilgrimage may be a Mass, but the source and summit of any week as a Catholic Christian is the Eucharist. We don't have to journey with passport and suitcase to find the healing that we need, the healing of forgiveness and inclusion in God's family. We just have to journey to church for Mass.

Eucharist is... Real Presence

At Mass or when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for our adoration, Jesus Christ is present with us because he told us he would be. His presence shows the truth of his words recorded right at the end of Saint Matthew's Gospels when he told us to know he is with us always. Jesus is present, but that presence demands something of us too: our presence. At Mass we are present at the Last Supper.

Eucharist is... Personal Vocation

(more next week)

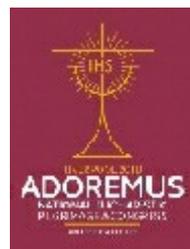
Prayer in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress 2018 and for Synod 2020

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:

This conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse focuses on personal faith in the life of Christian discipleship. Each person must make his or her own judgment about who Jesus is and in doing so determine the way of life that he or she will follow. God's grace invites us to be Jesus' disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God. This faith then commits us to the path of life, leading us to eternal life.
(*Sunday Connection – Loyola Press*)

Pray

Lord, Give me the strength and courage to follow your teachings, to open my heart to the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, that I may always do your will – even when following your path is the difficult option. Amen

Act & Challenge

Do I answer Jesus' personal invitation "Come to Me! Come and follow Me!" every day, every moment, in the most diverse situations of my life, in various circumstances, in the presence of others? Make conscious efforts this week to walk with the Lord.

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
 Baby Penny Rose
 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
 Gordon Harris
 Guy Ryan
 Hannah Delargy
 Irene Burke
 Irene McIntyre
 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
 Rev Jim Melia
 Sandra Jones
 Shelagh Welsby
 Sr Megan Haisley
 Stephen Howell
 Ted & Harriet Langin
 Thelma Humble
 Thomas McLoughlin
 Wyn Wright
 Yvonne Mellin

| Week Beginning 26th August | Holy Family | St. Ambrose Barlow | St. Richard's |
|---|--|---|---|
| SUNDAY <i>Last week of Summer Sunday Mass Times</i> | 8.45 am Alice and Frank Giron-Conland | (Sat) 6.00 pm Jozef Godzinski 11.15 am Joan Rigby | (Sat) 6.00 pm Dorothy Hunt 10.00 am James Cawley Shaun Pendlebury |
| MONDAY | | | |
| TUESDAY | | 9.15 am Frances Mary Ellis | <i>Mass at St. Ambrose Barlow</i> |
| WEDNESDAY | 7.00 pm Pat Alexander | | <i>No Exposition this week and none until September.</i> |
| THURSDAY | <i>Mass at St. Richard's</i> | | 9.15 am Leonard Beach |
| FRIDAY | 11.00 am Funeral Mass for Bernadette Bates | | <i>Mass at Holy Family</i> |
| SATURDAY | <i>No Mass or Confessions</i> | 10.00 am <i>Exposition and Rosary</i> 6.00 pm Kevin McHugh | 6.00 pm Rose Shaughnessy |
| NEXT SUNDAY <i>Normal Sunday Mass times resume</i> | 9.00 am Fr Terry McCann 11.00 am Seamus McNulty | 11.00 am Mary McLoone | 9.30 am The Donelan Family |



Please pray for those who have died recently:

Mary Ellams
 Bernadette (Bernie) Bates

God our Father,
 Your power brings us to birth,
 Your providence guides our lives,
 and by Your command we return to dust.

Lord, those who die still live in Your presence,
 their lives change but do not end.
 I pray in hope for my family,
 relatives and friends, and for all the dead known to You alone.

In company with Christ,
 Who died and now lives, may they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away.
 Unite us together again in one family, to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

No Saturday Mass or Confessions at Holy Family until mid-September

Saturday Confessions after both 6.00pm Masses in St. Ambrose and St. Richards.

Confession also available where possible by request or by appointment.

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

First Reading *Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8*
 Moses rejoices at the great gift of the Law, which the Lord has given to his people, and urges them to keep his commandments.

Second Reading *James 1:17-18,21-22,27*
 St. James insists that true religion involves not just words but actions like helping widows and orphans.

Gospel Reading *Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23*
 Jesus tells us to make sure we observe God's commandment and not just human traditions.