

# Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

4th February 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

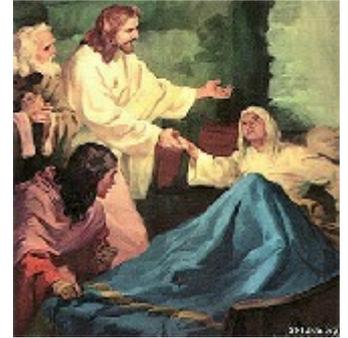


## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week 1  
**Readings** Sunday – 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)  
Weekdays – Ordinary Time, Wk 5

**Sunday** 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)  
**Monday** St. Agatha  
**Tuesday** St. Paul Miki and Companions  
**Saturday** St. Scholastica  
**Next Sunday** 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)

*(Day of Prayer for the Sick, their carers,  
and the Unemployed)*



## 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

Are we more optimistic or pessimistic? Do we tend to see rays of light or clouds of darkness? The French philosopher Rene Descartes wrote, "The optimist may see a light where there is none, but why must the pessimist always run to blow it out?" It is easy to be overwhelmed by the misery in the world if every day we watch the news with its constant diet of war, violence and tragedy. We can sometimes feel crushed by the sheer amount of suffering we see. Sometimes we can feel crushed by our own personal sense of darkness. This is what happened to Blessed John Henry Newman. In 1833 he was lost at sea near Sardinia and felt worn down by sickness and depression. But there he prayed for light in what has become a well-known hymn:

"Lead kindly light, amidst the encircling gloom, lead thou me on.  
The night is dark and I am far from home, lead thou me on.  
Keep thou my feet, I do not ask to see the distant scene, one step enough for me."

Job, in today's First Reading, does not seem able to pray like that. He is feeling the misery of the world. He is pessimistic about life. For most people it is sheer drudgery. In his sickness he lies on his bed and feels a terrible restlessness as he waits for morning and then frets until evening falls. And when we turn to the Gospel we see how the crowds who suffer like Job are drawn out of their despair by the healing touch of Jesus. He is a light in the darkness. Jesus has announced the Kingdom of God and is now healing sick people and casting out devils from those who are possessed. This is exactly why he has come – to preach a message of hope to a suffering world. Jesus teaches but so often he has to reach out to touch the sick people who are pressing around him for healing. Much of Mark's Gospel is taken up with his miracles of healing because this is what the wounded world demands. Some are dramatic exorcisms but others, as we hear today, are smaller cures. In Simon's house he goes to the disciple's mother-in-law, lying with fever on her bed. He takes her by the hand, helps her up and she is healed and given new hope. But Jesus does not want to be seen as just a wonder-worker. His healing goes deeper. He forgives sin and heals spiritual sickness. And then at the end of his life he shares our suffering by identifying with those who are poor and are outsiders. He undergoes their fate by being crucified between two criminals. It is only on the Cross after he has suffered that Jesus will gain the full recognition of being both Messiah and Son of God.

*(Continued overleaf)*

**Psalms Response** Praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted.  
**Gospel Acclamation** I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

(Continued from front page)

In a society which highly values those who are young, healthy and rich, the acknowledgement of sickness and even death is not always welcome. But the Bible has no qualms about facing these realities. It tells us outright that we are mortal and gives us the permission to lament our suffering just as Job did. Jesus confronts the misery of the world head-on. He makes the healing of sick people central to his ministry. By entering fully into the misery of the world Jesus becomes for us a source of healing and hope. Optimism is a feeling that things will get better, but Christian hope is rooted in a person who has triumphed over death. In the light of that hope we can pray to God for healing in many ways. God works through the skill of the doctors and nurses in modern hospitals. But the Lord works as well in our communities through his presence among us, especially through the sacraments of healing. In Baptism we are washed clean, in Confirmation we are strengthened in the Spirit, and in the Sacrament of the Sick Jesus continues his healing work among us through the laying on of hands. And today, as we gather for Mass, we are fed with the bread of life. But we are also healed, as Peter's mother-in-law was, by the love and care in our homes through the loving concern of our brothers and sisters. Healing is not always dramatic, but it continues each day through the loving presence of God in our lives.

## PARISH NEWS This Week

### 'With You Always' Programme (St.AB, St.R & SH)

Dates, venues and times for the next "With You Always" preparation programme for Year 4 children attending St.Ambrose Barlow School, St.Richard's School and Sacred Heart School, Hindsford, are now available, either through school or at the back of Church. Please fill in an application form and return it completed to the Church or the School Office as soon as possible.

### 'With You Always' Catechists Meeting (St.AB, St.R & SH)

A reminder to all the catechists who help to lead the "With You Always" programme for Sacred Heart, St.Ambrose Barlow & St.Richard's, that there will be a meeting in the Parish House at St.Richard's on **Tuesday 6th February at 7.00pm**. Please come along with lots of ideas!

### Ladies Group

A Charity Bingo Bring & Buy sale will be held at the next Ladies Group meeting on **Tuesday 6th February at 2.00pm** in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Everybody welcome.

### Craft Group at Holy Family

The Craft Group at Holy Family meets **every Wednesday afternoon** between 1.00pm and 3.00pm. Admission £3.50 including all materials. All welcome.

### Craft Class at St. Richard's

The Craft Class in St.Richard's Parish Centre will resume on **Thursday 8th February** between 10.00am-12noon. All welcome.

### Churches Together in Boothstown

Meeting at Boothstown Methodist Church **Thursday 8th February at 7.00pm**. All welcome.

### HCPT Coffee Morning

There will be an HCPT Coffee Morning at Holy Family after Masses on **Sunday 11th February**.



### Ash Wednesday

An early notice that **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th**. The priests of the Deanery will be busy that day distributing Ashes in the schools and also during the following Mass times:-

- **St.Ambrose Barlow @ 7.30am**
- **St.Richard's @ 12noon**
- **Holy Family @ 7.00pm**

### Services During Lent

Once again there will be a number of devotions and services taking place during the Season of Lent. Please try to do something extra as we walk with the Lord through the desert.

There will be Stations of the Cross, early morning Lenten Masses, a Taize Prayer Service, Ecumenical Talks, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. See below for details regarding days and times.

Please come along and join us in prayer.

### Stations of the Cross during Lent

**Tuesdays: 7.00pm at St.Richard's**

**Wednesdays: 6.30pm at Holy Family, before the evening Mass.**  
Anyone willing to lead the Stations please sign up at the back of church.  
Booklets and versions of the Stations are available from the parish office.

**Fridays: 7.00pm at St Ambrose Barlow**

### Early Morning Mass during Lent

**Wednesdays: 7.30am at St Ambrose Barlow**

**Fridays: 6.30am at Holy Family**

### Exposition during Lent

Exposition in **St.Richard's** on **Wednesdays at 9.00am**.

### Ecumenical Lenten Talks

Ecumenical Lenten Talks  
in **Atherton Independent Methodist Church** on **Thursdays at 7.00pm**.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS



### **Our Lady of Lourdes Feast**

Mass will be celebrated with Bishop Tom with the Liverpool Lourdes Association on **Saturday 10th February** at 12noon at Christ the King Church in Wavertree Liverpool.

Fr Paul G will be leading the Lourdes Music Group in his role as Director of Music, and so there will be no Mass or Confessions this Saturday at Holy Family.

All welcome to the Mass in Liverpool.

### **Reflect:**

We know from last week's Gospel that Jesus gathered and prayed with the community in the synagogue. Today we learn that Jesus also took the time to pray alone. Jesus models for us a life of prayer - for Jesus, prayer is intrinsically linked to the work he does, to his understanding of the relationship between himself and his Father in heaven. Do we live our secular and spiritual lives in this balance too, or is one part of our being out of sync with the other?

### **Pray:**

In our waiting, in our praying, in our being;  
By our actions and our words  
By our choices and decisions  
May we make your love known

In our tears and our anger  
By our sharing and our sheltering  
Through our joy and thanksgiving  
May we make your love known.

*Linda Jones 'Livesimply – a CAFOD resource for living'*

### **Act:**

Jesus healed many who were suffering in today's Gospel. Find ways in which you can help to cure others – pray with them; lend a helping hand in their distress; show you care; donate to a food bank; be environmentally aware....

### **Challenge:**

Take steps to ensure the spiritual and secular life you live are in balance with each other – become a whole person!

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### **CINEWORLD Live Screenings**

There are a couple of good looking Live Screenings at Cineworld for those who would like to join us. We can meet in the ticket area at Cineworld and watch one of the live screenings together for all those who are interested.

The next ones are:-

- **“Tosca” from the Royal Opera – Wednesday February 7th at 7.00pm.**
- **“Twelfth Night” from the RSC Stratford – Wednesday February 14th at 7.00pm.**

### **Family Quiz Night**

at St Stephen's School, Astley

There will be a quiz for all the family at St Stephen's on **Friday 16th February** from 7.30pm.

Tickets £4 or £10 for a family - includes refreshments (but bring your own booze).

Please ring Jenny on 01942 876310 or Margaret on 01942 870851 to book your place (for catering numbers). You can pay on the door.



### **Sacred Heart Club**

**Quiz Night**

**Cash Prizes**

**Every Thursday**

**Doors open 8.00 pm for 8.30 start.**

### **St Patrick's Eve Singalong Night**

**Sacred Heart Club, Hindsford**

**Friday 16th March**

Doors open 7.30pm for 8.00pm start

finish soon after 11.00pm

Admission Free

Hot pasties on sale at the interval.

An evening of mostly Irish, Country and Traditional songs led by The Cambridge Crew (from Liverpool) plus guest singers with popular songs from the 1960's onwards. Sing along with all the songs you know - chorus sheets will be provided.

### **Holy Family Car Park**

Barriers have now been installed at Holy Family to secure the car park after long-standing anti-social behaviour particularly in the area directly behind the presbytery. There are two gateways: the first coming up the drive is the entrance and the second, nearest the hall, is the exit. Please be considerate in parking to allow others to be able to drive in and out safely. Outside of church, hall and school use the car park will be locked.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we await the development of the hall and car park. More information to follow once I have it. Fr Paul G

### **Parish Administrator at Holy Family**

In addition to the priests being contactable by email, Helen the parish administrator at Holy Family is now contactable for enquiries and booking of baptisms on [margaretclitherow@yahoo.com](mailto:margaretclitherow@yahoo.com)

### **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.sacredheartchindsford.co.uk](http://www.sacredheartchindsford.co.uk)

# PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Please pray for those who are Sick



Agnes Pilkington  
 All Cancer Patients  
 Anne Broad  
 Baby George  
 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  
 Jean Tchibukdjian  
 Jess Garrett  
 Joan Wilkinson  
 John Wall  
 Kathy Kenyon  
 Maisie Sweeney (age9)  
 Margaret Case  
 Margaret Dawson  
 Margaret Hurley  
 Margaret Ross  
 Margaret Wall  
 Marjorie Price  
 Mary Tiernan  
 Maureen Halliday  
 Michael Skiffington  
 Michael Wright  
 Patricia Wilson  
 Rev Jim Melia  
 Sandra Jones  
 Shelagh Welsby  
 Sr Megan Haisley  
 Ted & Harriet Langin  
 Thomas Higgins  
 Thomas McLoughlin  
 Wyn Wright  
 Yvonne Mellin  
 + addition this week  
 Baby Luke

Those who have died, especially  
 Michael Harrison  
 Teresa Foster  
 Eileen McNulty  
 Don Dalton  
 Margaret Smith

Week Beginning 4th February	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Brenda McDonald  11.00 am Mike Harrison	(Sat) 6.00 pm Mary Kerrins  11.00 am Phyllis Whelan	(Sat) 6.00 pm Jean Neary  9.30 am Arthur Lucas
<b>MONDAY</b>			
<b>TUESDAY</b>		9.15 am Kearns Family	9.15 am Malcolm Griffiths
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7.00 pm Betty Rostern		<i>No Exposition until Lent</i>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.00 am Lloyd Hacker		9.15 am Eric Tonge
<b>FRIDAY</b>	10.00 am Maisie Sweeney <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>		10.00 am Funeral Mass for Eileen McNulty
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<i>No Mass or Confessions this morning.</i>	6.00 pm Special Intention	6.00 pm Georgina Ruddy
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Madelaine Sighe  11.00 am Kathleen Roddy	11.00 am John & Kate McLaughlin	9.30 am Joni Horton

### LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory	£1981.57
Racial Justice (CARJ)	£ 248.46

*Thank you for your generosity.*

### SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

#### Survive Miva Appeal

Survive-Miva is a Catholic lay association based in Liverpool which exists to provide one vital element for the success of the Church's health and pastoral work in areas of great need - a means of transport. Check out their website: [www.survive-miva.org](http://www.survive-miva.org)

Next Week  
H.C.P.T.

HCPT – The Pilgrimage Trust is a UK based charity which takes children with special needs on pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter. Website: [www.hcpt.org.uk](http://www.hcpt.org.uk)

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions after both 6.00pm Masses in St Ambrose and St Richard's. Confession also available where possible by request or by appointment. **NB No Saturday Confessions at Holy Family on 10th February.**

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Sixth Sunday of the Year (B)

**First Reading** *Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46*

Laws are imposed on Israel regarding leprosy. Fear spreads in a community when a skin complaint spreads amongst the people. Strict measures are enforced.

**Second Reading** *1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1*

Paul insists that whatever is done should be done in the name of the Lord, and that nothing offensive should be done to anyone.

**Gospel Reading** *Mark 1:40-45*

Jesus does the unthinkable. He not only cures a leper, he touches him, thereby incurring the life of a leper: exclusion and isolation from other people.

### BAPTISM

*We welcome into our family of Faith*

Primrose Devlin

*May God bless her & her family.*

### IN MEMORIAM

Fr Kevin Snape R.I.P.  
 Fr James Beirne R.I.P.  
*late Parish Priests,  
 Holy Family;  
 Anniversaries 7th & 9th  
 February respectively*