

# Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

Third Sunday of Lent (B)

4th March 2018

## DEANERY TEAM

**Priest:** Fr. Paul Seddon  
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**Priest:** Fr. Kieran O'Grady  
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**Priest:** Fr. Colin Fealey  
**Tel:** 01942 673517 or 731280  
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**Deacons:** Rev. Robert Hewertson & Rev. Anthony Arrowsmith

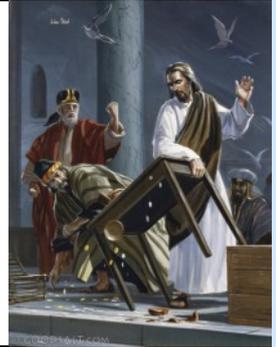
**Schools:** www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk – www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk  
www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk – saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk - saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk  
http://stmmaryschs.org.uk/ – **Deanery website:** www.leighdeanery.co.uk



## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week  
**Readings** Sunday – 3rd Sunday of Lent (B)  
Weekdays – Lent - week 3

**Sunday** 3rd Sunday of Lent (B)  
**Wednesday** Ss Perpetua and Felicity  
**Thursdays** St John of God  
**Friday** St Frances of Rome  
**Next Sunday** 4th Sunday of Lent (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

Some thirty years before St. John wrote today's Gospel, the huge Temple in Jerusalem had been completely destroyed by the Roman army. Once it had been among the wonders of the ancient world, the most sacred place on earth for the Jewish people, the place where God dwelt among God's people. Now it was little more than a heap of ruins. Yet for John it was so much more than an ancient site. He had seen it in its glory days. Now he was old, but as a young man he had actually visited it with Jesus. It was Passover time and John had witnessed the huge influx of Jews, coming from all parts of the Mediterranean world; he had seen the Temple courts being turned into a kind of bazaar, with the transactions of money changers, the noisy haggling of buyers and sellers, the bleating of sheep and the selling of pigeons.

John could see that Jesus was distressed, even angry. The next moment, whip in hand, he was clearing them out of the Temple – men and beasts and birds. He was tipping over the tables of the money changers so that the coins went jangling across the stone pavement. He explained to them angrily, “Of course, people did have to make preparations for the Passover – animals had to be bought and the correct coinage had to be acquired – but there was no need for them to turn his Father's house of worship into a marketplace. Jesus' reaction reminded John and his friends of the prophetic words, “Zeal for your house will devour me.”

The Jewish authorities were not pleased. Who did this young rabbi from Nazareth think he was? What sign could he offer to show what it all meant? Jesus' reply must have left them bewildered: “Destroy this sanctuary”, a sanctuary already forty-six years in the building, “and in three days I will raise it up.” But they were not the only bewildered ones. John admits that it was only after Jesus' death and resurrection that he realized what Jesus really meant. It was then that the pieces fell into place. It was as if, on that day in the Temple, Jesus had put his hand on his own heart and declared himself to be the living Temple of God, destroyed on Good Friday, and risen again on Easter Morning.

In the next few weeks we shall be celebrating the death and resurrection of Jesus. In the Risen Jesus we have the new, indestructible Temple of God. This Temple is not made of stones but of the glorified flesh of the Victorious Christ. This is where God is to be found and where God is worshipped in spirit and in truth. Perhaps the most extraordinary feature of this new Temple is that it is built of living stones – and the living stones are all of us, God's people here on earth. Together with Christ as our head, we make one body, one Temple to the glory of God.

**Psalm Response** You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

**Gospel Acclamation** I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord whoever believes in me will never die.

## PARISH NEWS

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

Dates, venues and times for the next "With You Always" preparation program 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.

The next sessions will take place on **March 6th & 8th**

### **CAFOD Lenten Café**

The CAFOD Lenten Café will be open in Holy Family Hall after the 9.00am and 11.00am Masses today and every Sunday during Lent. Tea, coffee, soft drinks, a wonderful array of home-made cakes and delicious snacks - including bacon butties.. Proceeds go to the CAFOD Lent Appeal Every £1 given to the Appeal, up to £5m, will be match funded by the Government

This year we are again seeking sponsors for each week that the CAFOD Lenten Café is operating. If you would like to sponsor a session at £35, please contact ([justinesilcock@gmail.com](mailto:justinesilcock@gmail.com)).

The **Traidcraft** Stall will be available every Sunday in Lent, providing an excellent opportunity to buy a variety of fairtrade products to help others throughout the world. The 2018 Fairtrade Fortnight is Feb 26th to Mar 11th, please try some Traidcraft goods which will support this venture.

Please come along if you can, You will be very welcome.

*In light of recent news reports you may wish to know CAFOD has a statement about safeguarding vulnerable communities on [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). [Copies are available in the CAFOD Lenten Café].*

### **Help Required**

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.

### **Easter Flowers**

Donations are now being accepted for the Memorial Flowers during Easter. Please place your donation in an envelope together with the names of those you wish to be remembered and hand it in to church or presbytery of your choice.

### **Over 60's Afternoon – 17th March 2018**

Every year, St Ambrose Barlow Church Community welcomes persons over 60 years of age to an afternoon commencing with Mass at 2.00 pm followed by a meal and entertainment. We can only accommodate 76 persons with our limited catering facilities. We will, of course extend our invitation to those who were invited last year. We do have a number of places available free this year. If you have not attended in the past please contact us to arrange invitations. As always, our first priority must be to sick and housebound members of the community and those over 60 years who attend any Mass at St Ambrose Barlow Church on a regular basis. We would also like to invite those who have historically attended our church but who now worship in the neighbouring communities, plus those who help at our community events on a regular basis. If you would like to attend this very enjoyable afternoon, please contact Jackie B. (01942 516619), Steve (01942 876487) or Des (07973 114365) before 20th February. Invitations then will be issued, according to the above criteria and subject to numbers

### **200 Club St Ambrose**

The February winners were:

**£100 - Number 124, Mary McHugh**

**£50 - Number 189, Theresa Yates**

## 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.

- **Tuesday at 7.00pm** – Stations of the Cross in St. Richard's.
- **Wednesday at 7.30 am** – Early Morning Lenten Mass in St. Ambrose Barlow.
- **Wednesday at 9.00 am** – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Richard's Church.
- **Wednesday at 10.00am** – CAFOD Lenten Reflections in St. Richard's.
- **Wednesday at 6.30 pm** – Stations of the Cross in Holy Family Church.
- **Thursday at 7.00 pm** – Ecumenical Lenten Talks in Atherton Independent Methodist Church.
- **Friday at 3.00 pm** – Holy Hour, with the opportunity for individual Confession, in Holy Family Church.
- **Friday at 7.00 pm** – Stations of the Cross in St. Ambrose Barlow Church.

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.**

**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**

Sign up sheet for readers and ministers at back of Holy Family.

### **Lenten Reflections**

*"On the Altar of the World. Praying with the Gospels, stories from our time and Laudato Si"*

will be taking place across the area this Lent. All are welcome to attend. The times and venues of the sessions are:

- St Richard's Parish House at 10.00am (after Exposition) on **Wednesdays** 7th, 14th and 21st March.
- Holy Family at 7.45pm (after 7.00pm Mass) on **Wednesdays** 7th and 21st March.

### **Sacred Heart School, Hindsford**

Sacred Heart Primary School in Hindsford, has been selected for "Tesco Tokens!" If you shop at Tesco in Atherton or Leigh please collect as many tokens as you can for the school – the little blue tokens were you are invited to support the charity of your choice on your way out of the store. The school's allocated time is from March 1st to April 30th. The more tokens they get, the more money we will receive. Please help the school as much as you can.

### **Food Hamper**

During Advent a hamper was placed in the porch at St Ambrose to collect food items which were then taken to the local food bank for distribution at Christmas. Several items have been donated since the Christmas period, therefore it has been decided to continue collecting until further notice. All donations will be taken to the food banks on a regular basis, so if you have anything you would like to donate, please place it in the hamper in the porch at St Ambrose Barlow Church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

### **St Paul's Missal**

There are copies of the St Paul Missal available for Eucharistic Ministers in Holy Family. Please collect from the office for use visiting the sick and housebound

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS



## **Holy Family - Lenten Services**

There will be the early Mass on the Fridays of Lent at 6.30am – sign up sheet for readers and ministers at back of Holy Family. Stations of the Cross this year at Holy Family will be at 6.30pm on Wednesdays 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.

## **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 area of the Archdiocese. So an early notice that Archbishop Malcolm will be leading a Holy Hour in St. Joseph's Church, Leigh, on Wednesday May 30th at 7.30pm. All welcome. More details nearer the time.

## **Archbishop's Letter - Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

Following last weekend's letter from Archbishop Malcolm, please find below contact details if you are interested in going on or helping out with the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. We are awaiting more information leaflets too but you could still email or phone the Archdiocese independently if you like. If anyone is interested in travelling to Lourdes please phone 07484911623. To volunteer for any of the support teams visit the website at [liverpool-lourdes.org.uk](http://liverpool-lourdes.org.uk) Or contact the Lourdes Office at [lourdespilgrimage@rcaolp.co.uk](mailto:lourdespilgrimage@rcaolp.co.uk)

## **HCPT Golf Day**

HCPT are running their annual Golf Day on Thursday May 24th at Westhoughton Golf Club. Fr. Paul has been asked to get together a couple of teams for the "shotgun start" golf day, which begins at 1.00 pm. If you would like to please contact Fr. Paul as soon as possible – strictly on a first come, first served basis. Price is £30 per person including competition prizes and hot food.

## **National Eucharistic Congress - Liverpool**

Many of you may be aware that Liverpool Archdiocese are hosting the National Eucharistic Congress in September this year. Since this is a national event tickets for the Congress are strictly limited. The Congress takes place between September 7th-9th in different venues in Liverpool city centre. Anyone who wishes to go do not have to attend the whole weekend. In fact, this would be rather difficult due to ticket availability. Each Deanery have been allocated just five tickets for the Friday event. We have been allocated 36 tickets for the Saturday – this includes tickets for priests and deacons. Sunday is a celebration of two Masses at the Cathedral (see below) so this is a little more flexible, although you will still need tickets for this event too. Venues and approximate times are as follows:-

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

If you would like to volunteer to represent the Deanery at the National Eucharistic Congress then please contact Fr. Paul (the Elder) as soon as possible. You will be provided with a booking form which you will need to fill in as part of your booking. First come, first served.

## **Reflect:**

'He never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him' – What does each of us reveal to others? Are we the face of Christ? Or are we faces of greed, of hate, of injustice?

## **Pray:**

The live Simply Prayer  
Compassionate and loving God,  
you created the world for us all to share,  
a world of beauty and plenty.  
Create in us a desire to live simply,  
so that our lives may reflect your generosity.  
Creator God,  
You gave us responsibility for the earth,  
a world of riches and delight.  
Create in us a desire to live sustainably,  
so that those who follow after us  
may enjoy the fruits of your creation.  
God of peace and justice,  
You give us the capacity to change,  
to bring about a world that mirrors your wisdom.  
Create in us a desire to act in solidarity,  
so that the pillars of injustice crumble  
and those now crushed are set free.  
Amen.

**Linda Jones / CAFOD**

## **Act:**

Think about the impression you have on other people. Make their experience of you a positive one.

## **Challenge:**

Spring Cleaning? Help protect the environment by using environmentally friendly products. Lemon juice, white vinegar and baking soda can work wonders!

## **Padre Pio Prayer Group**

The Padre Pio Group has resumed its weekly prayer meetings in St Ambrose Barlow Church.

## **Easter Cards to the Holy Land**

Once again this year we will have the opportunity to send Easter cards Easter Cards to the Holy Land

Once again this year we have the opportunity to send Easter cards to our fellow Christians in the Holy Land.

Easter cards, produced as usual by the Carmelite Sisters at Maryton, together with an information leaflet giving the names and addresses of the different parishes in the Holy Land, are available at the back of church today at 50p each.. Please do not post these but instead return signed and addressed cards to church by 11th March so that they can all be posted together in time for Easter. Some of these communities feel isolated and beleaguered and a simple greeting and message of hope means a great deal to them.

Thank you.

## **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



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  
 Jean Tchibukdjian  
 Jess Garrett  
 Joan Wilkinson  
 John Wall  
 Kathy Kenyon  
 Maisie Sweeney (age 9)  
 Margaret Case  
 Margaret Dawson  
 Margaret Hurley  
 Margaret Ross  
 Margaret Wall  
 Marjorie Price  
 Mary Tiernan  
 Maureen Halliday  
 Michael Wright  
 Patricia Wilson  
 Peter Quinn  
 Rev Jim Melia  
 Sandra Jones  
 Shelagh Welsby  
 Sr Megan Haisley  
 Ted & Harriet Langin  
 Thelma Humble  
 Thomas Higgins  
 Thomas McLoughlin  
 Wyn Wright  
 Yvonne Mellin

Week Beginning 4th March	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Madelaine Sighe  11.00 am Bernadette Doherty	(Sat) 6.00 pm John Burke  11.00 am Ellen Hounslea	(Sat) 6.00 pm John Haslam  9.30 am Kevan, Greg & Sam
<b>MONDAY</b>			
<b>TUESDAY</b>		9.15 am Jess Garrett	9.15am Barbara Spain. 10.00am Funeral Service for John Brady.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	7.00 pm Mary Sharples	7.30 am Brian Fayh	9 - 10 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.00am Joan Horton		9.15 am Peter Quinn
<b>FRIDAY</b>	6.30 am Madeleine Sighe <i>Mass in Holy Family Church</i> 10.00 am Liam Slowey <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>		9.15 am Mr. Halford. 11.00am Funeral Service for Adrian Paul Gibson.
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10.00 am Jan Preston	6.00 pm David Hughes	6.00 pm Maria Conneely
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am David Pickering 11.00 am Martin Furey	11.00 am Rachel Hall & Lance Kesson on their wedding day	9.30 am Peter David Long

## LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

Offertory £ 2094.27  
 CAFOD's  
 Lent Fast Day £ 1178.55

Thank you for your generosity.

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today  
 HCPT

Lourdes has been a place for pilgrimage since 1858. Today over five million people per year visit the town. HCPT founder Dr Michael Strode first visited in 1951 and saw the potential to organise a pilgrimage for disabled children at the school where he was working. HCPT itself was founded in 1956. It revolutionised the way that disabled people enjoyed a trip to the famous shrine.

Next Week  
 Lenten Alms

Each year, during Lent, the second collection goes to a charity of the Archbishop's choice. to distribute to those most in need.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions on Saturday - *Subject to change see newsletter*  
 Following the 10.00 am Mass at Holy Family following 6.00 pm Mass at St Ambrose and St Richard's. Also available where possible by request or by appointment.

## READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)

**First Reading** *2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23.*  
 Despite the rejection of God by the leaders of the people, God engineers their return after exile through the unexpected agency of the Persian king, Cyrus.  
**Second Reading** *Ephesians 2:4-10.*  
 God's love is so great that even when we were dead through our sins, God brought us to life in Christ.  
**Gospel Reading** *John 3:14-21.*  
 A simple statement says so much – "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son."

## BAPTISM

We welcome into our family of Faith

Henri Darwell

May God bless him & his family.

## Those who have died, especially

Thomas Lardner.  
 Peter David Long.  
 Thomas Newby.  
 Adrian Paul Gibson.  
 John Brady  
 John West  
 Michelle Gannon  
 Sheila Brookes  
 Stephen Bailey