

St Margaret Clitherow & St John Rigby

Parishes In Leigh Pastoral Area

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (A)

12th January 2020

DEANERY TEAM



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Deanery website: www.leighdeanery.co.uk



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 1
Readings Sunday – Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (A)
Weekdays - Ordinary Wk 1
Sunday **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (A)**
Tuesday St Kentigern (Secondary Patron of the Archdiocese)
Friday St Anthony
Next Sunday **2nd Sunday Ordinary Time (A)**
Peace Day
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

LEIGH DEANERY

Parish of St. John Rigby

Sacred Heart

Hindley Green

Sacred Heart

Hindsford

St. Richard's

Atherton

Parish of St. Margaret

Clitherow

St. Ambrose Barlow

Astley

St. Gabriel's

Higher Folds

Holy Family

Boothstown

Parish of St. Edmund

Arrowsmith

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sacred Heart

St. Joseph's

Twelve Apostles

Leigh

Parish of St. Catherine of Siena

and All Saints

Golborne

Parish of St. Lewis

Croft

Gospel Reflection

Jesus was approximately 30 years old when he began his public ministry. How did he come to this decision and why did it take him so long to begin this work for which he was sent into the world in the first place? The answer is that he is simply wasn't ready. It may seem strange to say this about the Son of God, but it was true. He had to learn and get ready for the real world just like anyone else. Jesus was a teacher, not of subjects such as history or math's which can be learned out of books, but of religion and spirituality. Spirituality has to be lived before it can be taught effectively. This is why time is important. Before the age of about 30, what experience did Jesus have to draw on? In Nazareth he was able to grow quietly in the shadows. There were no pressures, no burden of expectations. There was no hurry. The main influences in his life would have been home, family, school (if there was one) and the local synagogue. The first 30 years he spent at Nazareth were not a waste of valuable time. They were of crucial importance to him. During those years he was growing, maturing, and getting ready for his public ministry. The day he was baptized by John, he didn't suddenly become a different person. On that day he began to reap the harvest of all that had been growing within him. On that day he answered another call. The desire to give himself to serving his brothers and sisters in the wider community didn't come to him suddenly, from nowhere. This desire had been beating inside him during all those years in Nazareth. Nevertheless, his baptism was a very special moment in his life. It marked a new beginning, a new start in his journey of faith with God the Father.

Today's feast of the Baptism of the Lord reminds us that we are part of this journey of faith too. We must not think that any parts of our lives have been useless or a waste of time, as each day helps us to become the person that God wants us to be. Everything gives us an opportunity to grow. Life calls for a lot of patient waiting. But we need not wait for something great to happen. We must live the present moment to the full. The future is contained in the present. The future will be the blossoming of the present. We too are called to grow in wisdom and grace. It took Jesus 30 years to reach maturity and to acquire the wisdom that he needed to begin his public ministry. It can take us all a lifetime to grow in the way God wants us to, as we are called to be his followers. The feast of Jesus' Baptism reminds us of our own baptism too. It provides us with an opportunity to commit ourselves once again to living out of Christian calling, which is essentially a life of service. We are not called to save the world, or to solve all its problems. Nevertheless, each of us has our own unique call, in our families, in our work places, in our world. We need God's help to be able to be faithful to this call. We cannot do it without the help of God. As we continue on our journey in this New Year let us pray that we may live out our Baptism calling to the full and allow God's Spirit to work through us each day and make our world a better place.

Psalm Response

The Lord will bless his people with peace

Gospel Acclamation

The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded:
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to Him'

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.



Synod 2020 Update

SYNOD 2020 - The Story So Far

Please make sure you take home a Synod leaflet and prayer card if you have not already done so. In his Pastoral Letter Archbishop Malcolm mentioned that over 20,000 people had responded so far in the Synod process. So we are going to continue our response by looking at the Synod themes that have emerged from all the sharing:-

- **How We Pray Together**
- **Building Community, Nurturing Belonging**

For each one of the above themes there will be a listening session and, in the Parish of St John Rigby, we will present each theme at the weekend Masses every month, where you will have an opportunity to share your thoughts and opinions. So please take one of the leaflets and one of the prayer cards home with you today.

Please remember to return your responses to the third theme, "How We Pray Together" as soon as possible.

Don't forget if you wish to forward your proposal online it's www.synod2020

A reminder that you are welcome to attend any or all of the SYNOD 2020 talks.

A Message from The Synod Office Team

Dear friends,

Having reflected on the experience of both our Synod Talks at Hope and the Reflective Evenings led by Irenaeus on the Synod Themes, we have made the following venue changes for these events in 2020.

Our **Synod Talks** on 13 January, 17 February, 9 March, and 20 April will now be held at LACE (Croxtheth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA) [Moved from Liverpool Hope University].

The **Reflective Evenings** will now be as follows:

Tuesday 21 January and Thursday 27 February at St Joseph's, Wrightington [Unchanged].

Wednesday 29 January and Wednesday 4 March at Our Lady Help of Christians Portico (L34 2QT) [Moved from St Philomena's].

Full details of these changes are on the Synod Website.

Best wishes,

Fr Philip, Fr Matthew, Jacqui, and Matt
The Synod Office Team

Note: The text of our second Synod Talk - Faith & Theology in Later Life by Dr Ros Stuart-Buttle - is now available on the Synod Website. www.synod2020.co.uk/lectures

PARISH NEWS

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY.

Unity Service, Sunday 19th January at Holy Family. 3.30pm refreshments with service beginning at 4pm. Rev Karen will be preaching. Ecumenical Compline (Night Prayer) on Tuesday 21st January at Boothstown Methodist Church at 7pm. All welcome to both events.

Exposition at St.Richard's Church

For the time being we will not be having Exposition in St.Richard's Church on Wednesday mornings. In recent months numbers attending have dropped quite a lot. Also, with the change in the structure of the Parish and the Deanery, there are a number of other things taking place on Wednesday mornings, especially in the different schools.

We will have Exposition again during Lent along with a similar time of evening prayer in different churches once a month. We will let you have more details about this as soon as possible.

St Ambrose Barlow 200 CLUB 2020

There is still Time First Draw Mid January

Steve is now collecting names for this year's 200 Club. If you would like to join see Steve after Mass, contact your usual agent or ring Steve (07952 152371). For people joining for the first time the 200 Club operates as follows:

There is a one-off payment of £20. For that you will be entered in a monthly draw in January, February, March and April for a £100 and a £50 prize. Towards the end of April there will be a cabaret night in the Parish Hall (free to members) with entertainment and a buffet. At this event the big draw takes place. You could win £1000, £100, £50 or £25.

St. John Rigby Parish Forum

A reminder that the next meeting of the Parish Forum for St.John Rigby will take place on **Thursday January 23rd** in the meeting room, "The Gordon Room", at Sacred Heart Church in Hindley Green. All welcome.

500 Club Winners January

£100	190	- E Cooke
£ 50	127	- J Nestor
£ 25	259	- D McKierman
£ 15	229	- MHiggins
£ 15	41	- P J Arrowsmith

Ladies Group

The next Ladies Group meeting will be on Tuesday 14th January at 2pm in St Ambrose Church Hall
Raffle: Jean Tchibukdjian & Margaret Flaherty
Please note - No Secret Santa

Many hands make light work

On Saturday 18th January from 10.00am we will be building the stage in St Ambrose Barlow parish hall for this year's pantomime - Dick Whittington. If you can spare any time at all to help with the carrying and shifting your help would be greatly appreciated.

There will be an appeal at Masses in St Margaret Clitherow this weekend by SPUC

Food Bank Collections

Please continue your generous donations to the food bank. Thank you for your support

New Parish Email

A new parish email has been issued by the Archdiocese. Please make use of this new address when contacting the parish office. stmargaretclitherow@rcaol.org.uk.

Emails sent to the old email address will be forwarded automatically to the new one for the time being.

Newsletter Deadlines

Please send all St Margaret Clitherow parish items for the newsletter to the office at Holy Family or email stmargaretclitherow@rcaol.org.uk by Wednesday evening

Sacred Heart Hindley Green - Mass Intentions

People have asked about Masses which have not been said. Best efforts are made to accommodate when someone asks for a specific date. With there only being a Saturday Mass at weekend it's quite hard to fit these Masses in when people only want Saturday. Now the Christmas period is over there might be a better chance for these Masses to be said.

St John Rigby Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is available to visit the sick and say the Rosary if requested, also at the Chapel of Rest. Approach myself Susan Mines (07952822440) or any member of the Legion.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

WITH YOU ALWAYS

Next sessions for Holy Family and St Gabriel's are this week: Tuesday 2.30 pm in St Gabriel's School, Thursday either 3.45 pm or 6.00 pm in Holy Family Church.

Burns Night 2020

Friday 17th January at St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall at 7.45pm. Including "HAGGIS" supper and a "wee" dram or soft drink – £7.50. As this is a popular night please contact Des 07973 114365 for reservations.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Very soon in the New Year we celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Churches Together In Atherton are organizing a special prayer service to mark the week. This will take place in St. Richard's Church on **Sunday January 19th** at 4.00 pm. Please come along and join us in prayer.

Sacred Heart Hindsford Parish Center

Quiz Nights - Every Thursday

Doors open at 8.00 pm for a 8.30 pm start. All welcome.

Sacred Heart Hindley Green Club (Behind the Church)

Bingo: Tues + Sun at 9:00 pm Concerts every Saturday

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



Reflect

The baptism of Jesus is like another epiphany in that Jesus is revealed to us as accepting the mission that his Father gave to him – to redeem mankind and to reveal God's love for us all. Similarly, our own Baptism marks the start of our own mission to reveal Christ's love to those around us.

Pray

Lord we pray that we may be true to the promises made on our behalf at Baptism. May we always support each other in our quest to be your disciples. May we always remember the example that your son, Jesus, gave to us when he lived amongst us.

Act

We often forget to tell those we are close to what they mean to us and their importance in our lives. Find ways in which you can affirm a member of your family, both in God's eyes and in your family life. This could be by a written message or by just praising them for something they have done.

Challenge

Instead of throwing leftovers away after a meal use them up the next day. For example, if you have a roast dinner on Sunday and there is meat and veg left, use the leftovers on Monday to make a tasty stir fry.

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

St Margaret Clitherow

Offertory	£ 1026.62
Crib Offerings	£ 37.49

St John Rigby

Offertory	£ 733.21
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SECOND COLLECTIONS Today

Monthly SVP Collection

Next Week

Pax Christi

The work of **Pax Christi – the Peace of Christ** – is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in any form. Pax Christi is rooted in Catholic Christianity but is open to all who share its values and work.

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


Schools

www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk
www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk
www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk
www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk
www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk
www.Hindleygreensacredheart.co.uk
<http://stmaryschs.org.uk/>

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	Week Beginning 12th January	Holy Family	St. Ambrose Barlow	St. Richard's	Sacred Heart Hindley Green	
 <p>All Cancer Patients Aneleyse Lewis Anne Broad Arthur Leggett Baby George Baby Grace Baby lyla Faith Baby Luke Bernard O'Donnell Brenda Southern Bridie Molyneux Catherine Jones Christopher Browne Clare Barlow Clifford Browne Eddie Shaw Elizabeth Hulmes Elizabeth Levien Emma Oldham Enid Kenwright Freda Peake Gerald Hackett Guy Ryan Hannah Delargy Hilda Almond Irene McIntyre Jack Rothwell Jean Tchibukdjian Jennifer Langin Jess Garrett Jessie Lucas Joan Wilkinson John Neary John Wall Kathy Kenyon Margaret Case Margaret Ross Margaret Wall Mary Bird Mary Tiernan Maureen Halliday Michael Wright Rev Jim Melia Sandra Jones Shelagh Welsby Stephen Howell Terence Flanagan Terry Barlow Thelma Humble Theresa Stanley Thomas McLoughlin</p>	SUNDAY	9.30 am Peter Gavin	(Sat) 6.00 pm Mary McHugh 11.00 am Tony Williams	(Sat) 6.30 pm Hilda Grundy 9.30 am The Donelan Family	(Sat) 5.00 pm Margaret & Thomas Morris	
	MONDAY				7.00 pm	
	TUESDAY			9.15 am Patricia Latham & Len Hunt	9.15 am Mass in St Ambrose	9.15 am
	WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm Michelle Callan			No Exposition this week	10.00 am
	THURSDAY	10.00 am The Higgins Family			9.15 am Eileen McKieran	No Service
	FRIDAY	10.00 am Michael Grady <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>				7.00 pm Confessions 7.30pm
	SATURDAY	10.00 am Our Lady's Intentions		(Sat) 6.00 pm Brenda Egan	(Sat) 6.30 pm Pat Shaw	(Sat) 5.00 pm
	NEXT SUNDAY	9.30 am Peter Gavin		11.00 am Elizabeth Kirwin	9.30 am John Pearson	


Bernadette Boardman
 Bridie Phillips
 Doreen Smith
 Eileen McAlister
 Eileen Watkinson
 Elsie Byron
 Jean Culkin
 Jean Rafferty
 Jedd Balmer
 Joan Baines
 Joan Cavey
 John Atkins
 Joyce Gorton
 Leonard Sandelands
 Martin Culkin
 Maureen Blears
 Michael Gallagher
 Nora Smith
 Robert Barron

BAPTISM

We welcome into our family of Faith

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday Confessions after 10.00 am Mass at Holy Family and after 6.00pm Mass at St Ambrose & 6.30 pm Mass at St Richard's.
 Friday Confessions, 7.30 pm at Sacred Heart, Hindley Green
 Confession also available where possible by request / appointment.



LATELY DEAD

Please pray for those who have died recently:

**Joan Doyle
 Kathleen Gilhooley
 David Wigman**

*Eternal rest grant unto them
 O Lord, and let perpetual light
 shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace.
 Amen.*

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND
Second Sunday of the Year

First Reading – Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
 In this reading from Isaiah, the second of the “Servant Songs”, a mysterious servant is called upon to be a light to the nations.

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 1 :1-3
 At the start of his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul sends greetings to “the holy people of Jesus Christ.”

Gospel Reading – John 1:29-34
 John the Baptist points to Jesus as the one who “existed before me” and who is to “baptize with the Holy Spirit”.

Anniversaries *(Sacred Heart, Hindley Green)*