

St Margaret Clitherow & St John Rigby

Parishes In Leigh Pastoral Area

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

26th January 2020

DEANERY TEAM

St John Rigby

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
Tel: 01942 883395
Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk
Deacon: Rev. Kenneth Holding
(Tel: 255834)

St Edmund Arrowsmith

Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady
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Deacon: Rev. Dennis Vint

St Margaret Clitherow

Priest: Fr. Paul Grady
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Deacon: Rev. Robert Hewertson

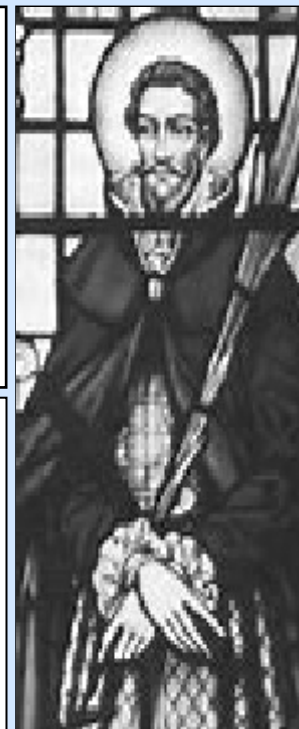
St Catherine & All Saints & St Lewis

Priest: Fr Gordon Abbs
Tel: 01942 273851
Email: lgcadmin@rcaolp.co.uk
Deacon: Rev. Derek Morris

Deanery website: www.leighdeanery.co.uk

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 3
Readings Sunday – 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Weekdays - Ordinary Wk 3
Sunday Sunday – 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)
Sunday of the word of God
Tuesday St Thomas Aquinas
Friday St John Bosco
Next Sunday Feast of the Presentation of the Lord



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

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

The Scriptures use the contrast between darkness and light to describe our relationship with God. "The people that walked in darkness" were the people of Israel, who, on account of their infidelity to God, found themselves in exile in Babylon, longing to return to their own land, their homes and their religious practices. They could see no end to their predicament. The future was dark for them until the prophet Isaiah started to shine the light of hope. Their exile did come to an end. They did return to their own land. Their Temple was rebuilt and religious practice was restored, but they were still in the power of a succession of foreign invaders from Persia, Greece and Rome. By the time of Jesus, it was the Romans keeping the Jewish people as a subject nation, and they did so with the collaboration of the local king, Herod, and greedy, self-serving tax collectors. People still longed for real freedom, which they understood to be the light promised by Isaiah 700 years earlier.

In his Gospel St. Matthew describes the coming of Jesus in these same prophetic terms, "The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light." But the light that Jesus reveals is not some new political dispensation. The darkness is not merely the darkness of oppression. It is not just the people of Israel who have been subjected to a foreign power. It is the whole of humanity. Jesus is the light of the world that exposes the true darkness as sin, which is preventing all human beings from fulfilling their true destiny as sons and daughters of a loving Father in the everlasting Kingdom of Heaven. The revolutionary project that Jesus starts is far from a political revolt. It involves a real change of heart and it starts with faith: faith in God but, first of all, faith in ourselves. Do we really believe that God loves us? Do we really believe that he is calling us into a relationship of love with him and with each other? This is the project of Jesus, to change the world by changing one person at a time, enabling everyone to believe that they are beloved sons and daughters of God. and so, in today's Gospel, we see Jesus at the beginning of his project to bring this new light, this new revelation, into the world. He calls the fishermen, Peter and Andrew, James and John, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." With this small group, which gradually increases to twelve, Jesus goes around proclaiming the Good News, teaching and healing. Their mission is to capture the hearts and minds of people, opening up to them the promise of eternal life.

This is still the mission of Jesus' disciples today, to help all people discover that their true identity is to live in love with God and with each other. The challenge for us today is to recognize the real darkness. There are so many artificial lights that blind us to the reality of what God wants for us. If we really believe that we are beloved daughters and sons of God, then we must ask ourselves, "What does God want me to be?" When Jesus is the light in our lives, are we going to see ourselves as he sees us? Are we going to view the world in a very different way? So let us take up the invitation to follow Jesus, as the disciples did in today's Gospel. Let us pray for eyes to see as he sees, and for the courage and faith to respond to the needs of our world with HIS love and compassion.

Psalm Response
Gospel Acclamation

The Lord is my light and my help
Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the Kingdom and cured all kinds
of sickness among the people



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

• Meeting Sacred Heart Club 2 -3.30 pm Sat 1st Feb 20

The opportunity in St. Margaret Clitherow
St Ambrose Barlow After Mass 9.15 am Tues 28 Jan 20
Holy Family after mass Wed 7.30 am 29th Jan 20

• 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 17 February, 9 March, and 20 April will now be held at LACE (Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA) [Moved from Liverpool Hope University].

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



Reflect

In today's Gospel, the Apostles made a leap of faith in their decision to follow Jesus when he called them. Is dropping everything to follow Jesus a realistic proposition in today's world? Perhaps our task is to balance being 'fishers of men' in our own lives, living each day as a follower of Jesus, even in the simple tasks of everyday family life.

Pray

Lord, you called and your disciples answered.

Give me the courage to turn and follow you when I hear you call.

Let me not be afraid to do your will and so reveal your goodness to others.

Act

How do I respond when I am interrupted? What do I see as the priorities in my daily schedule? Does my schedule include time to listen to God so that my life is lived in harmony with God's way rather than in my way?

Challenge

Over the last few days we've had a fair bit of rain, with lots of opportunities to gather water. This can then be used in the summer months to water the garden. United Utilities currently have a special offer on water butts, making them more affordable to buy.

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.

Newsletter Deadlines

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

LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

St Margaret Clitherow

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Offertory | £ 1038.39 |
| Pax Christi | £ 113.64 |
| Xmas | £ 5.00 |
| Crib Offerings | £ 8.75 |

St John Rigby

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Offertory | £1289.53 |
| Pax Christi | £ 115.09 |
| CAFOD Box | £ 17.00 |

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

H C P T

Next Week

Monthly S V P

PARISH NEWS

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

St Ambrose Barlow

The Pantomime "DICK WHITTINGTON"
The St Ambrose Barlow Players are happy to present this fairytale for your pleasure and enjoyment!!!

Performances:

Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th February at 7.30pm

PLUS

Saturday 29th February• Matinee at 2.30pm and

Evening Show at 7.15pm

Tickets: Adults £6.00, Seniors £5.00 and Primary School

Children £4.00

The GREATEST SHOW in town - Don't miss it!!!

Tickets are available by contacting Des on 07973 114365.

ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW

The first meeting of the Parish Council for the newly reorganised St Margaret Clitherow Parish will be on Wednesday 5th February in Holy Family at 7.45 pm following the evening Mass. Parishioners from the communities of St Gabriel's, St Ambrose Barlow, and Holy Family are welcome to attend. This will follow a similar format to the previous parish forum.

HCPT

There will be a raffle to raise funds for HCPT on
16th FEBRUARY 2020 at Holy Family

WITH YOU ALWAYS

Letters for application have been given out in t Ambrose School to be returned by this coming Friday.
Dates of meetings will be distributed as soon as possible.

ST. MARGARET CLITHEROW 200 CLUB - January

£100 185 - Marjorie Atherton
£ 50 167 - Lourdes Barnes

RCIA

The next meeting for those interested in journeying towards becoming a Catholic is on

Wednesday 29th Jan 202 at 7.45 pm at Holy Family

PARISH NEWS

Eucharistic Ministers

If anyone is interested in becoming a minister please speak to one of the priests to be included in the training session on

1st February at St Ambrose Barlow.

This begins with Mass and adoration with confession available

from 10 am -11 am. There will then be tea and coffee before starting the training which should be concluded around 1 pm.

This is also open to existing ministers to be refreshed in what we do and why.

Please let Fr Paul know if you intend to come ASAP.

Food Bank Collections

Please continue your generous donations to the food bank.
Thank

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 simlartime of evening prayer in different churches once a month. We will let you have more details about this as soon as possible.

St.Richard's Card Class

Resumes on Thursday 6th February 2020 10 am -12 pm
in St Richard's Club

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.

Prostrate Cancer Badges

Thanks to all who donated £107 was raised

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

| Please pray for those who are Sick | Week Beginning 26th January | Holy Family | St. Ambrose Barlow | St. Richard's | Sacred Heart Hindley Green | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
|  <p>All Cancer Patients AneLyse Lewis Anne Broad Arthur Leggett Baby George Baby Grace Baby lyla Faith Baby Luke Bernard O'Donnell Bill Burke 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 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 Joseph Delaney | (Sat) 6.00 pm Stephen Hampson 11.00 am Anthony Bousfield | (Sat) 6.30 pm Yvonne Mellin 9.30 am Tony McKeirnan | (Sat) 5.00 pm Rachel & Dominic Cane | |
| | MONDAY | | | | 7.00 pm Kathleen Murphy 2.15 pm Funeral Service Peter Wild | |
| | TUESDAY | | | 9.15 am Esther Reid & Deborah Gornally | 9.15 am Kathleen Gilhooley | 9.15 am Joseph Clarkson |
| | WEDNESDAY | 7.00 pm Andy Barry | | | No Exposition this week | 10.00 am Private Intention (V) |
| | THURSDAY | 10.00 am Pat McCafferty | | | 9.15 am P J Finn & Max Vitali | <i>No Service</i> |
| | FRIDAY | 10.00 am Mary, Ellen, Eddie Connelly <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i> | 12.30 pm Funeral Mass Margaret Ross | | | 7.00 pm Ann Kalmus <i>Confessions 7.30pm</i> |
| | SATURDAY | Mass & Confessions at St.Ambrose Barlow This week only | <i>10 am</i> Keith Lewis (Sat) 6.00 pm McSharry Family | | (Sat) 6.30 pm John Neary | (Sat) 5.00 pm Liam Dalton |
| | NEXT SUNDAY | 9.30 am Madelaine Sighe | 11.00 am Ray Hilton | | 9.30 am James & Annie Leonard | |

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

**Evan Williams
Myla Rimmer**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday Confessions after 10.00 am Mass at Holy Family and after 6.00 pm 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:

**Peter Wild
Margaret Ross**

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

First Reading – Malachi 3:1-4.
 The prophet Malachi prepares the way for today's feast: the Lord will enter his Temple.

Second Reading – Hebrews 2:14-18.
 Jesus has come to confront the powers of evil.

Gospel Reading – Luke 2:22-40.
 Joseph and Mary fulfil the requirements of the Law and present Jesus in the Temple. It provides an opportunity for two aged people who have remained faithful to God to speak prophetically about the Child Jesus, who came to save all the nations.

Anniversaries *(Sacred Heart, Hindley Green)*

Mary Heaton.Linda Bullock, Terence Edward McHugh. John James Hunter.Henry Scott.,William Hooton.,Bernard Chapman Joseph Clarkson.