

St Margaret Clitherow & St John Rigby

Parishes In Leigh Pastoral Area

The Presentation of the Lord (A)

2nd February 2020

DEANERY TEAM



St John Rigby

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Deanery website: www.leighdeanery.co.uk



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 4
Readings Sunday – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (A)
Weekdays - Ordinary Wk 4
Sunday **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**
Wednesday St Agatha
Thursday St Paul Miki and Companions
Next Sunday **5th Sunday of Ordinary time (A)**
Day for Victims of Trafficking
Racial Justice Day

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

This weekend we celebrate the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. This is the day when Jesus, as a child, was taken to the Temple by Mary and Joseph and was recognized by Simeon as the "light of the world". In some traditions today marks the end of Christmastide – indeed the continental custom of leaving the Crib in the Church until this feast day is becoming more widespread. The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel are effectively a Gospel within a Gospel. They are made up of the infancy narratives, which provide us with the Good News that God has become "incarnate", but by including the prophecies of Simeon and Anna in the Temple, they also introduce us to the Passion and the Resurrection of the Lord. The Church reinforces the message of today's feast by using the prophet Malachi to help us see the significance of Jesus entering the Temple, and the Letter to the Hebrews prepares our minds for the ultimate sacrifice, culminating in the Passion of Death which is the destiny of the Child Jesus. In due course we will hear Jesus inviting us to bridge the gap between his people's history and the importance of the Temple because the New Temple will not be a building but will be Jesus himself.

One way in which today's Feast of the presentation of the Lord can come alive for us personally and as a community of faith is to focus on Simeon and Anna, people of a certain age who just happened to be in the right place at the right time. Simeon is the one who waits patiently for the Lord, living in hope that God will fulfil the ancient promises of the Old Testament prophets. Likewise, Anna just happens to pass by at the key moment, but presumably, like Simeon, she had been prompted by the Spirit. They seize the opportunity to proclaim the truth and they point us in the direction of God's saving presence among us. St. John will tell us that Jesus promised the gift of the Spirit to the Church, the Spirit who would lead us in all truth. Like Simeon and Anna we can learn to be patient and attentive and wait for the prompting of the Holy Spirit. We live in the wake of the first coming of Christ and continue to wait in hope for his Second Coming. The theme of LIGHT has always been at the heart of today's feast, which is why Christians have celebrated it by suing candles, hence the other title, "Candle-mass". At our baptism either we or our parents and godparents were entrusted with a candle and the hope that we would "keep the flame of faith alive". What better way for us to celebrate this feast than by reflecting on the fact that Jesus not only declared himself to be the light of the world but reminded us, his followers today, that we too are called to be a light to others. This doesn't need anything very dramatic. It will be sufficient if we can, like Simeon and Anna, be attentive to the promptings of God's Holy Spirit, allowing the Spirit to work within us and through us, as we try to gently point out to those around us the signs of God's presence in our lives each day.

Psalm Response
Gospel Acclamation

Who is the king of Glory
The light to enlighten the Gentiles and give glory to Israel, your people

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 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:

Thursday 27 February at St Joseph's, Wrightington [Unchanged].

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

Simeon and Anna recognised Jesus as the Messiah, the one who had come to save all people, because they were attuned to God through the lives of prayer and fasting which they lived. How attuned are we to God in our lives?

Pray

Lord, may we be filled with your Holy Spirit and so recognise the goodness and holiness in all people and in so doing respond to their needs with courage and compassion.

Act

Simeon had spent his life waiting to see Jesus the Messiah. We too have hopes and longings of our own - for our family; for our children; for our friends; for our community. God can work in small ways. This week open your eyes and hearts to recognise the ways in which the hopes within you are being fulfilled.

Challenge

I was given a brilliant present recently of bees wax wrappers, which can be used to wrap food rather than wrapping in cling film or plastic bags. The wrappers can be washed and used again and again and keep food fresh. Keep an eye out for them.

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.boothstownholymfamily.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk

www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk

www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk

www.Hindleygreensacredheart.co.uk

<http://stmmaryschs.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	£ 1,138.01
H C P T	£ 120.72

St John Rigby

Offertory	£ 1,151.52
H C P T	£ 101.52
CAFOD Box	£ 23.00

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Today

Monthly S V P

Next Week

Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

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.

H C P T

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

WITH YOU ALWAYS

The next sessions are this week: Tuesday 4th February 2.30 pm in St Gabriel's school; Thursday 6th February either 3.45 pm or 6.00 pm in Holy Family Church

Padre Pio prayer Group

Rosary/Exposition is held every Saturday at 10.00 am at St. Ambrose Barlow Church

Ladies Group

The next Ladies meeting will take place on Tuesday February 4th at 2:00 pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall.
Raffle: Maureen Craddock & Jean Tchibukdjan

JUSTICE AND PEACE

Are you horrified by Modern Day Slavery? St Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of victims of human trafficking and those who work to combat it. Join us to celebrate her feast day on Friday 7 February at St Vincent de Paul's, James Street, L1 5JP from 6:30 – 7:30pm. Estelle Blake, the National Chaplain for Anti-Trafficking & Modern Slavery for the Salvation Army will be outlining how we can recognise victims and how we can respond. There will also be time for reflection as well as an opportunity for action. All are welcome!

Food Bank Collections

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

PARISH NEWS

Exposition at St.Richard's Church

For the time being we will not be having Exposition in St.Richard's Church on Wednesday mornings. 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.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.

St John Rigby

Unfortunately there are no Sunday papers as they were not selling, so we have had to cancel the order

Summer Fair

There will be a meeting at Sacred Heart Hindley Green on Monday 10th Feb 2020 after 7.00 pm Mass to discuss the summer fair and events for 2020.

The meeting is open to anyone, any new ideas are welcome

PARISH FORUM MEETING.

Many thanks to all those who came along to the recent Parish Forum meeting at Sacred Heart, Hindley Green. The next meeting of the St.John Rigby Parish Forum will take place on Thursday March 19th at 7.00pm in the Parish House at St.Richard's, Atherton. All welcome.

PARISH TRIP TO STRATFORD.

We are planning a Parish day-trip to Stratford Upon Avon this year on June 4th. Departing at approximately 9.00am we will be heading to Stratford and setting off back home at about 6.30pm. (This is simply to avoid the build-up of traffic during rush hour) We have managed to book 30 seats to see "The Comedy of Errors" in the afternoon. Tickets are at various prices – either £13 or £18 – and are available on a very strictly FIRST COME FIRST SERVED basis. So there will be space on the coach for approximately 20 people to come along with us, who do not want to go to the theatre, but would like to enjoy a day out in Stratford. Hopefully we might have good weather in June! If you would like to go then please contact Fr.Paul (the Elder!) and either leave a message (don't forget to leave your contact number and the number of tickets you would like for the theatre) or email at paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk

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

Function room available for hire.

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Please pray for those who are Sick	Week Beginning 2nd February	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 Madelaine Sighe	(Sat) 6.00 pm McSharry Family 11.00 am Ray Hilton	(Sat) 6.30 pm Jean Neary 9.30 am James & Annie Leonard	(Sat) 5.00 pm Liam Dalton	
	MONDAY				7.00 pm Margaret Pye	
	TUESDAY			9.15 am Margaret & Frank Fletcher	9.15 am In Thanksgiving	9.15 am Irene Ellis
	WEDNESDAY	7.00 pm For the Soul of Dorothy Parry	10.30 am Funeral Service for Jimmy Taylor	<i>No Exposition this week</i>	10.00 am Chloe Tatlock Ints	
	THURSDAY	10.00 am Joseph Mather		9.15 am Olive Wood	<i>No Service</i>	
	FRIDAY	10.00 am Teresa Rowe <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>			7.00 pm A Franklin Confessions 7.30pm	
	SATURDAY	10 am Deceased members Of the McGee & McNulty Families	(Sat) 6.00 pm Kerrin Family	(Sat) 6.30 pm Harry Knotman	(Sat) 5.00 pm Clare Vale Clayton & Delahoyde Families	
NEXT SUNDAY	9.30 am McHugh & Lyth Families Lois & Frank O'Neill	11.00 am Gordon Burrows & Mary Delargy	9.30 am Michael Brooker			


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
Isla Rose Drake*

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:

**Brian Healy
Margaret Ross
Jimmy Taylor**

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

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND
Fifth Sunday of the Year**

[First Reading – Isaiah 58:7-10.](#)
God will hear your prayer, and your light will shine, when you consider the needs of the lowly.

[Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 2:1-5.](#)
For Paul, proclaiming Christ and witnessing to the power of the Spirit are the essence of his testimony.

[Gospel Reading – Matthew 5:13-16.](#)
Good works, done in the name of Christ Jesus, are to be unashamedly put on display for all to see

Anniversaries (*Sacred Heart, Hindley Green*)
Francis Rigby, Kenneth Morris, Michael Doherty, Pauline Hull, Margaret Doherty