

# St Margaret Clitherow & St John Rigby

Parishes In Leigh Pastoral Area

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

16th February 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  
**Tel:** 01942 673517 or 731280  
**Emails:** kjmogrady@hotmail.com  
stjosephs@live.com  
**Deacon:** Rev. Dennis Vint

### St Margaret Clitherow

**Priest:** Fr. Paul Grady  
**Tel:** 0161 790 2390  
**Email:** frpaulmgrady@hotmail.com  
**Enquiries:** stmargaretclitherow@rcaol.org.uk  
**Deacon:** Rev. Robert Hewertson

### St Catherine & All Saints & St Lewis

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

Deanery website: [www.leighdeanery.co.uk](http://www.leighdeanery.co.uk)

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week 2  
**Readings** 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)  
Weekdays - Ordinary Wk 6

**Sunday** 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time(A)  
**Saturday** Feast of the See of St Peter the Apostle  
**Next Sunday** 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)  
*Day for the Unemployed*



### 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

In today's Gospel, from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus brings us back to the basics of our faith: love of God and love of others. Jesus says he is not contradicting the Jewish Scriptures or the Ten Commandments. However, he is opposed to the legalistic style of religion that the Scribes and the Pharisees have built upon themselves. They were full of petty rules and regulations which had little or nothing to do with God's Law. "If your virtue goes no deeper than that of the Scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven," he warns. Jesus healed on the Sabbath which, according to the religious leaders of the time, was against the Law. He spoke to a woman in public, which was not the "done thing" for a potential Messiah in his day. Jesus says that the Pharisees have so defined the Law in their own terms that they have missed the point. And so he begins to expound the Law as it relates to six subjects: murder, adultery, divorce, oath-making, retaliation, and love for one's enemy. Instead of a litany of more commandments, Jesus looks at the spirit of the Law. The presence of God's life within us is the real reason the Law commands us not to kill others, and not to lie about them or steal from them. In other words, we are called to love like God loves. It is the challenge presented by the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus himself lived up to this ideal. His life of love and compassion is the kind of life we are called to live.

Today's First Reading suggests that there is a choice to be made, and it is between what gives life and what brings death. Being a Christian is more than just following rules, including simply attending Mass. Jesus is setting us free to make choices that support, sustain, grow and nurture life for ourselves and for others. We choose life when we care for those who are poor, respect the dignity of every human being and protect God's creation. We choose life when we are generous with our time, compassion, money and resources. Would anyone looking at us and listening to us know that God is at the centre of our lives? Jesus says we should love others and the world as God does. The Beatitudes call us to humility, simple living and peace, which often oppose many prevailing values in our modern world. Our human lives are capable of transformation when we reflect something of God's glory and love in our daily lives. A commitment to justice and peace has long been one of the hallmarks of how the Catholic Church operates on a global, national and local level. We could look into giving greater support to Christian organizations that have been doing the work of peace and social justice for decades. The potential of the Church to be a model of Good News in our world is immense. But only we can make that happen by living out our faith each day in whatever way we can.

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**Psalm Response:** They are happy who follow God's law!

**Gospel Acclamation:** Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.

## 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. 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.

**Synod Theme 4 - Building community, nurturing belonging** This is the fourth and last Theme and it runs from Sunday February 16th until Sunday 15th March. During this time, you have the opportunity to submit your proposals as part of the parish by placing them in the box in church or, alternatively, online. Details of this and reflections on the theme will be found in the leaflet that you'll be given at Masses this weekend. The opportunity to contribute for the proposals for the fourth theme for **St Margaret Clitherow** will be:

- after the Tuesday 9.15am Mass on **18th February** in St Ambrose Barlow, or
- after the 7.00pm Mass on Wednesday **19th February** in Holy Family.

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](http://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](http://www.synod2020.co.uk/lectures)



### Reflect

In today's Gospel we hear that It is not enough to do the bare minimum required of us. Jesus teaches us that we should go beyond the letter of the law in the way that we interact with others. All our interactions should be grounded in love of God and love of all people.

### Pray

Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,  
that I may follow it to the end.  
Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law  
and obey it with all my heart.  
Direct me in the path of your commands,  
for there I find delight.  
Turn my heart toward your statutes  
and not toward selfish gain.  
Turn my eyes away from worthless things;  
preserve my life according to your word.

*Psalm 119 vv33-37*

### Act

Certain laws seem to be inscribed in the human heart. When we encounter these there is a sense of rightness about it. What are the laws inscribed in your heart? What are the fundamental principles that you think are true and will always be true? This week be true to that innermost understanding of the law that comes from the heart of God. *(Adapted from 'Pray As You Go' Saturday 15th / Sunday 16th February)*

### Challenge

A couple of weeks ago, on a clear January night, in a remote area with very little light pollution I looked up to the sky and saw myriads of stars and planets gleaming in the night and the Milky Way winding its path through the universe. Yet an estimated 85% of the UK population has never seen the Milky Way due to the rapid rise of light pollution. Dark skies are integral to the tranquillity and distinctiveness of our landscapes. They are important to our wellbeing, and for the feeding, breeding and pollinating habits of nocturnal animals. How can you reduce the amount of light pollution you cause?

### 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](http://www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk)  
[www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk)  
[www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk](http://www.saintambrosebarlow.co.uk)  
[www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk](http://www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk)  
[www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk)  
[www.Hindleygreensacredheart.co.uk](http://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.

### LAST WEEK'S PARISH COLLECTIONS

#### St Margaret Clitherow

Offertory £1,026.64  
Survive Miva £ 517.43

#### St John Rigby

Offertory £1,122.66  
Survive Miva £ 111.27  
CAFOD Box £ 41.00

### SECOND COLLECTIONS

#### Today

Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes  
+ Survive Miva Appeal at St Richard's and SHHG

#### Next Week

Church Action on Poverty

**Church Action on Poverty** is an ecumenical charity, based in Manchester, committed to tackling poverty in the United Kingdom. CAP works in partnership with churches and with people in poverty themselves to find solutions to poverty, locally, nationally and globally. Website: [www.church-poverty.org.uk](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk)

## 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](mailto:stmargaretclitherow@rcaol.org.uk). Emails sent to the old email address will be forwarded automatically to the new one for the time being.

### **A reminder!**

Please could all items for the newsletter be sent to the office at Holy Family or the above email by Wednesday evening.

### ***Survive Miva Appeal***

**This weekend** there will be an appeal on behalf of **Survive Miva** at the Masses in Sacred Heart, Hindley Green and St.Richard's, Atherton. Survive Miva are a Liverpool based charity who help the work of missionaries overseas.

### ***H.C.P.T.***

There will be a raffle to raise funds for HCPT **this Sunday, 16th February at Holy Family.**

### ***RCIA***

The next meeting for those preparing to become Catholics in St Margaret Clitherow parish is on **Wednesday 19th February** at 7.45pm after the evening Mass.

### ***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.

### ***Sacred Heart Hindley Green Gift Aid Benefit***

Thank you to all who Gift Aid. We (SHHG) have received £7068.20 from the Tax Man.

### ***Padre Pio Prayer Group***

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

### ***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 Susan Mines (07952822440) or any member of the Legion.

### ***CAFOD Family Fast Day***

There will be a Family Fast Day on **Friday 6th March** for CAFOD. Envelopes will be available at the back of Church and the retiring collection will be after Mass on the 7th March. See posters in church porches.

### ***Archdiocese Trip to Lourdes***

If anyone is interested in going to Lourdes with the Archdiocese the dates are **24th - 31st July**. You can book online at [joewalstours.co.uk](http://joewalstours.co.uk) or call 0151 909 2871 for more information.

### ***Food Bank Collections***

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

### ***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](mailto:stmargaretclitherow@rcaol.org.uk) by Wednesday evening.

## 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. See 'Lenten Services'.

### ***Ash Wednesday (26th February)***

An early notice regarding Mass times in the area on Ash Wednesday. Most of the Junior School children in the area will be receiving Ashes in school during special services, but Mass times for this side of the Deanery are as follows:-

- **9.15 am – St.Ambrose Barlow, Astley**
- **10.00 am – Sacred Heart, Hindley Green**
- **12.00 noon – St.Richard's, Atherton**
- **7.00 pm – Holy Family, Boothstown**

### ***Lenten Services***

On Ash Wednesday we begin the season of Lent. Every year we try to offer different devotions and services for people to attend so that together we can prepare for the great Feast of Easter. Please try your best to do something extra during Lent and make time for God and for more prayer.

### **Stations of the Cross:**

- Tuesday at 7.00pm – St.Richard's Atherton.
- Wednesday at 7.30pm – Holy Family, Boothstown.
- Friday at 6.30pm – Sacred Heart, Hindley Green.

### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:**

- Wednesday at 9.00am – St.Richard's, Atherton.
- Wednesday at 6.30pm – Holy Family, Boothstown.

### **Early Morning Lenten Masses:**

- Wednesday at 7.30am – Ambrose Barlow, Astley.
- Friday at 6.30am – Holy Family, Boothstown.

### ***"CAFÉ" Meetings at Sacred Heart***

During Lent there will be a series of CAFÉ Meetings at Sacred Heart, Hindley Green. The meetings are designed to help us think about our faith during Lent and involve discussion groups, DVD presentations, and prayer. They will take place in the meeting room at Sacred Heart on the following Saturday afternoons at 2.00pm – **March 14th, March 21st, March 28th** – with the final session taking place on **Sunday April 3rd** at 2.00pm. Please try your best to come along if you can.

### ***St John Rigby Parish Forum Meeting***

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***

Many thanks to all those who have already booked places on the Parish day-trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon on **June 4th**. Tickets for the theatre are now completely SOLD OUT. There are still a handful of places on the coach for those who are not bothered about going to the theatre – if you would like one of these places then please leave your name and contact number for Fr.Paul at St.Richard's and you will be put on a reserve list. We will share further details concerning transport and pick-up times and places after Easter. The cost for the coach will be £10 per person.

### ***Sacred Heart Hindsford Parish Centre***

#### ***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 16th 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 <b>+ Addition this week</b> Maureen Kelly</p> <p>Bernadette Boardman Doreen Smith. Eileen McAlister. Eileen Watkinson. Elsie Byron. Jean Culkin. Jean Rafferty. Jedd Balmer. Joan Baines. Joan Cavey. John Atkins. Joyce Gorton. Martin Culkin. Maureen Blears. Michael Gallagher. Nora Smith.</p>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.30 am In Thanksgivng For 65 Years of Marriage Margaret & Norman Lyth	(Sat) 6.00 pm Martha & Frank Ryan  11.00 am Annie & Willie Leonard	(Sat) 6.30 pm Margaret Aspden  9.30 am Eileen McKiernan	(Sat) 5.00 pm Anthony Kane	
	<b>MONDAY</b>					7.00 pm Chloe Tatlock Int.
	<b>TUESDAY</b>			9.15 am John Lane	9.15 am Yvonne Mellin	9.15 am A.Franklin  2.00 pm Funeral Service Robert Barron
	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		7.00 pm Richard Christie		<b>No Exposition this week</b>	10.00 am Thomas & Elizabeth Cooke
	<b>THURSDAY</b>		10.00 am Christine Bingham		9.15 am Margaret Dawson	<i>No Service</i>
	<b>FRIDAY</b>		10.00 am Norah Heavey <i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i>			7.00 pm Ints. of Robert O'Connor <i>Confessions 7.30pm</i>
	<b>SATURDAY</b>		10.00 am Seamus McNulty	(Sat) 6.00 pm Deceased Family and Friends of McGrath Beresford Family	(Sat) 6.30 pm Joan Doyle	(Sat) 5.00 pm Frank Ingram
	<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>		9.30 am Ernest & Ena Thompson	11.00 am Tony Bousfield	9.30 am Len Sandelands	

### BAPTISMS

*We welcome into our family of Faith:*

**Scarlett Isabella Sherrard**  
**Ella Audrey Chambers**  
**Nelly Autumn Jackson**  
**Rose Ada Millin**

*May God bless them and their families.*

### 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.

### READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

**Seventh Sunday of the Year**

First Reading – Leviticus 19:2,17-18

We imitate the holiness of God when we refuse to exact vengeance or bear a grudge against another.

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Paul gives us a profound reason why we should respect one another: we are the Temple of God.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 5:38-48

What makes the disciples of Jesus different from anyone else is their willingness to love as God loves.

### Anniversaries (Sacred Heart, Hindley Green)

Madeline Burke, Elizabeth Cooke, William Dickinson, Peter Smith, Catherine Kelly, Edward Foster, John Halliwell, Bernard Fairhurst.

**+ Recent Anniversaries** (former Parish Priests, St Margaret Clitheroe Parish)

Fr Kevin Snape (7/2/17), Fr Richard Coughlan (16/1/06), Fr James Beirne (9/2/99)



### LATELY DEAD

*Please pray for those who have died recently:*

**Leonard Sandelands**  
**Patricia Hughes**  
**Bridie Phillips**

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