

# St Margaret Clitherow & St John Rigby

Parishes In Leigh Pastoral Area

Second Sunday of Lent (A)

8th March 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 Margaret Clitherow

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

### St Edmund Arrowsmith

**Priest:** Fr. Kieran O'Grady  
**Tel:** 01942 673517 or 731280  
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**Deacon:** Rev. Dennis Vint

### St Catherine & All Saints & St Lewis

**Priest:** Fr Gordon Abbs  
**Tel:** 01942 273851  
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**Deacon:** Rev. Derek Morris

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



## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week 2  
**Readings** Second Sunday of Lent (A)  
Weekdays - Week 2, Lent

**Sunday** Second Sunday of Lent (A)

**Next Sunday** Third Sunday of Lent (A)

### 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

Experiences can sometimes influence us much more profoundly than talks and lectures. Even though we may not always be able to analyse them, we know that they can affect us, for good or ill, and can continue to do so for many years afterwards. The experience on Mount Tabor had great significance, first of all for Jesus himself. It came at a crucial moment in his public life – at the start of his journey to Jerusalem. He knew that the same fate awaited him there that awaited many of the prophets, namely, a violent death. Naturally he recoiled from such a fate. In order to reflect on it and pray about it, he climbed to the top of Mount Tabor, taking Peter, and James, and John with him. As soon as they reached the top, Jesus began to pray. During his prayer, Moses and Elijah appeared to him and spoke to him about his forthcoming passion. More important, he experienced the presence of God. And he heard again the wonderful words of affirmation he had heard at his baptism, "You are my beloved Son; I am pleased with you." On Mount Tabor Jesus felt himself comforted, reassured, affirmed and strengthened for the ordeal ahead. It wasn't that everything suddenly became easy. He still had to face a dark and threatening future. But he knew that somehow it was what God wanted from him, and that God would somehow give him the strength to face it. But the experience was also of great importance for the three apostles who were with him on the mountain. It confirmed their faith in Jesus and helped them to face that dark future with him.

Even for Jesus life was a journey of faith. On Tabor he had a wonderful experience of the closeness of God the Father. This strengthened him for the journey on which he was about to embark – the journey down the mountain to Jerusalem where a violent death awaited him. The Mount Tabor experience could be called a "peak experience". We too can have peak experiences or moments of transfiguration. We can have intense experiences of light, peace, unity, joy, exhilaration, meaning...and of the presence of God. These can be true moments of grace which can be triggered not just by prayer, but by anything, such as poetry, music, nature. But they can often be the fruit of suffering or the end of some painful struggle. In his love for us, God allows us sometimes to taste on earth the joys of the world to come. He gives us glimpses of the Promised Land towards which we are travelling in faith. We too can experience moments of light and joy. These moments are given to us so that we can remember them when God seems far away, perhaps, and life feels dark and empty. But like Abraham in today's First Reading, we travel in the darkness of faith. May our Tabor experiences give us the faith and hope to carry on.

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**Psalm Response:** May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, O Christ!  
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:  
"This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!"  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

## 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

We are going to continue our response by looking at the Synod themes that have emerged from all the sharing:-

#### • Building Community, Nurturing Belonging

We will be focusing on this final theme in the next few weeks. So please take one of the leaflets and one of the prayer cards home with you. Please remember to return your responses to the final theme as soon as possible.

You have the opportunity to submit your proposals as part of the parish by placing them in the box in church or, alternatively, online. 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.

The **Synod Talks** on **9 March** and **20 April** will now be held at LACE (Croxeth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA) [Moved from Liverpool Hope University].

### 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.

### With You Always

A reminder to all parents and children who are preparing for First Holy Communion that the next session at St.Richard's will take place **this Wednesday, March 11th**, at 5.30pm in St.Richard's Church. This session is entitled "Called By Name". Please keep all the children in your prayers at this special time.

### RCIA

The next meeting for those preparing to become Catholics in St Margaret Clitherow parish is on **Wednesday 11th March** at 7.45pm after the evening Mass. Please pray for those from our area who are preparing to be received into the Catholic Church at Easter.

### St Ambrose Barlow Pantomime

The week of performances raised an amazing £2128.24. A huge Thank You to all involved in any way – you know who you are – and to all those who attended the performances.

### Coronavirus

#### Updated information from the Archbishop and Trustees of the Archdiocese.

In addition to the guidance issued on Friday, holy water stoups should be emptied until further notice. No pastoral visits should be undertaken to people who are self-isolating until isolation ends. However, do offer phone support. Visits to people in care homes or hospitals should follow advice from the staff on infection control. As a reminder:

- It is strongly advised that the shaking of hands at the sign of peace during Mass should be suspended.
- Holy Communion under both kinds should be suspended.
- The faithful should be encouraged to receive the sacred host in the hand rather than on the tongue.
- Priests should sanitise their hands before Mass and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should wash / sanitise their hands discreetly before Communion.
- Priests and extraordinary ministers should also wash / sanitise their hands after Mass.



#### Reflect

Today's Gospel reminds us that we are often happy to live in our comfort zone, but to be a Christian is to journey constantly, to accept the challenges we face in our quest to follow Jesus's steps.

#### Pray

Lord, give us the courage to allow our lives to be transformed by your love, that in doing so we may reveal your goodness to all we encounter.

#### Act

How can you be instrumental in transforming the lives of others? Even a small act of kindness or consideration can have an effect on the person to whom it is bestowed. Look for opportunities to be transformative this week.

#### Challenge

Spring is a time of transformation as the earth awakens from its winter slumber. Take the time to appreciate the signs of new life and new growth around you, thanking God for the wonders he has created for us, recognising that we are the custodians of the wonderful environment that surrounds us.

### 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.

### 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.boothstownholymfamily.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.boothstownholymfamily.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             | £1,105.26 |
| SVP                   | £ 110.72  |
| Lenten Alms           | £ 70.86   |
| St John Rigby         |           |
| Offertory             | £1,278.83 |
| SVP                   | £ 157.31  |
| CAFOD Box             | £ 18.00   |

### SECOND COLLECTIONS

#### Today

#### CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day

See the item on the CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day for details.

#### Next Week

#### HCPT

**The Pilgrimage Trust** is a UK based charity which takes children with special needs on pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter. Website: [www.hcpt.org.uk](http://www.hcpt.org.uk)

**Sacred Heart Hindley Green:** Next weekend the retiring collection is for Lenten Alms. This is a traditional work of charity during Lent as we "give something up". The Bishop uses it to provide for the poor and the needy. (Elsewhere, the Lenten Alms collection will be on 29th March.)

## PARISH NEWS



### Lenten Services

Every year during Lent 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 6.30pm, before Mass – Holy Family, Boothstown.
- Friday at 6.30pm, before Mass – Sacred Heart, Hindley Green.
- Friday at 7.00pm - St Ambrose Barlow

#### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

- Wednesday at 9.00am – St.Richard's, Atherton.
- Saturday after 10.00am Mass – Holy Family, Boothstown.

#### Early Morning Lenten Masses:

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

### CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day

**CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day on Friday 6 March** was the 60th anniversary of the first Family Fast Day led by our founding mothers and, as it has been for sixty years, is an opportunity to reach out and support highly-skilled local experts around the world who help the poorest members of our global family. Please return your Family Fast Day envelope this week and give whatever you can to help experts like Sister Consilia - a nun and trained pharmacist who treats people in rural Zimbabwe - continue their vital work. Collections after Masses this weekend.

### Lent "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.

### Lenten Day Retreat

A Lenten Day Retreat has been organized by the people from Sacred Heart, Hindley Green. The Day Retreat will take place at Sacred Heart Church, on Swan Lane, Hindley Green on **Thursday March 19th**, the feast of St.Joseph, from 10.30am to 3.30pm. The cost for the day – which includes lunch – will be £6 per person. Please see the poster at the back of Church. If you would like to go then please contact Susan on 07952822440.

### CAFOD Lenten Reflections

Once again this year we will be having our CAFOD Lenten Reflections. Each week we will look at a different theme, relating to the Gospel of the weekend and the writings of Pope Francis and use reflections provided by CAFOD from all the places throughout the world that they try to help. Please try your very best to join us every Wednesday during Lent in St.Richard's AFTER Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

### Lent Stations and Early Mass at Holy Family

Sign up sheets are at the back of church for anyone willing to lead Stations on a Wednesday, or read or minister at the early Friday Masses.

### Lent Uplifted – Churches Together in Atherton

Churches Together In Atherton are organizing a series of gatherings in the different churches of the area to focus on Lent and on sharing our faith with each other. The gatherings, which will include reflections and prayers, will take place **every Sunday afternoon at 4.00pm** as follows:

- Sunday March 8th – Independent Methodist Church.
- Sunday March 15th – St.Richard's Church.
- Sunday 22nd March – St.Philip's Church.
- Sunday 29th March – Atherton Baptist Church.
- Sunday 5th April – Salvation Army Chapel.

## PARISH NEWS

### St Margaret Clitherow SVP

Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 18th March** at 7.45pm in Holy Family after the 7.00pm Mass. This is for all members so please 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.

### Over 60's Afternoon – 21st March 2020

Every year, St Ambrose Barlow Church Community welcomes persons over 60 years of age to an afternoon commencing with Mass at 2.00pm 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.

With the recent changes to Mass times we are welcoming many more people to the church so please make yourself known if you wish to attend this very enjoyable afternoon. Please contact Jackie B. (07732 756971), Steve (01942 876487) or Des (07973 114365) **before 10th March**. If we are oversubscribed, names will be drawn in a lottery and invitations then issued.

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

### Easter Flowers at St Richard's

Names and donations for the Easter memorial at St Richard's may now be handed in to the flower ladies or posted through the letter box of the Presbytery. Closing date for inclusion of names in the list is Palm Sunday.

### Easter Cards to Parishes in the Holy Land

Parishes in the Holy Land have commented on how supported they feel when they receive cards from our parishioners. A selection of cards, produced by the Carmelite Sisters, together with information sheets which include details of four parishes, will be available in St Margaret Clitherow parish next week.

### Chrism Mass at the Cathedral, Wednesday 8th April

Please sign the list at the back of church if you wish to go on the coach asap. Time and places of pick up TBC.

### Walsingham Pilgrimage 2020

For those who have booked on the pilgrimage this year all remaining balances are now due. Please contact Teresa Thompson on 07780064502.

The Pilgrim Mass this year will be held at 9.00am on Easter Monday at St Richard's Church Atherton prior to departure for Walsingham.

### Archdiocese Trip to Lourdes

Anyone interested in going to Lourdes with the Archdiocese, **24th - 31st July**, can book online at [joewalshtours.co.uk](http://joewalshtours.co.uk) or call 0151 909 2871 for more information.

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### Sacred Heart Hindsford Parish Centre


Quiz Nights, Thursdays, doors open at 8.00pm for a 8.30pm start. Friday & Sunday evening is Bingo Night, eyes down 9.00pm. Function room available for Birthdays, Baptisms, Bereavements, meetings, Kids Parties etc. Ring: 07932 404556 or 01942 882464.

### 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 8th March | Holy Family                     | St. Ambrose Barlow  | St. Richard's  | Sacred Heart Hindley Green  |  |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| <br>All Cancer Patients<br>Anelyse Lewis<br>Anne Broad<br>Arthur Leggett<br>Baby George<br>Baby Grace<br>Baby Iyla Faith<br>Baby Luke<br>Bernard O'Donnell<br>Bill Burke<br>Brenda Southern<br>Bridie Molyneux<br>Catherine Jones<br>Christopher Browne<br>Clare Barlow<br>Clifford Browne<br>Eddie Shaw<br>Elizabeth Hulmes<br>Elizabeth Levien<br>Emma Oldham<br>Enid Kenwright<br>Freda Peake<br>Gerald Hackett<br>Guy Ryan<br>Hannah Delargy<br>Hilda Almond<br>Irene McIntyre<br>Jack Rothwell<br>Jean Tchibukdjian<br>Jennifer Langin<br>Jess Garrett<br>Jessie Lucas<br>Joan Wilkinson<br>John Neary<br>John Wall<br>Kathy Kenyon<br>Margaret Case<br>Margaret Wall<br>Mary Bird<br>Mary Tiernan<br>Maureen Halliday<br>Maureen Kelly<br>Michael Wright<br>Phil & Christine Costello<br>Rev Jim Melia<br>Sandra Jones<br>Shelagh Welsby<br>Stephen Howell<br>Terence Flanagan<br>Terry Barlow<br>Thelma Humble<br>Theresa Stanley<br>Thomas McLoughlin<br>+ Additions this week<br>Jack & Doreen Travis | SUNDAY                   | 9.30 am<br>Teresa Unsworth      | (Sat) 6.00 pm<br>Karen McCaffrey<br><br>11.00 am<br>Private Intention   | (Sat) 6.30 pm<br>Austin Foy<br><br>9.30 am<br>Arthur Leggett | (Sat) 5.00 pm<br>Margaret Delaney   |  |
|   | MONDAY                   |                                 |   |  |   | 7.00 pm<br>Isabella Mills  |
|   | TUESDAY                  |                                 |   | 9.15 am<br>David Hughes                                      | 9.15 am<br>Eric Selfe<br><br><i>7.00 pm – Stations of the Cross</i>   | 9.15 am<br>Kathleen Murphy   |
|   | WEDNESDAY                | 6.30 pm – Stations of the Cross | 7.00 pm<br>Doreen & Jack Travis   | 7.30 am<br>Mary Sharples                                     | 9.00-10.00 am<br><i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i><br><br>10.00 am – CAFOD<br><i>Lenten Reflection</i> | 10.00 am<br>Thomas Delaney   |
|   | THURSDAY                 |                                 | 10.00 am<br>For the children of St Margaret Clitherow Parish  |  | 9.15 am<br>Wyn Wright   | <i>No Service</i>  |
|   | FRIDAY                   |                                 | 7.30 am<br>Phil & Christine Costello<br><i>Mass in Church</i><br><br>10.00 am<br>Parishioners<br><i>Mass in St Gabriel's School</i> | <i>7.00 pm – Stations of the Cross</i>                       |   | 6.15 pm – Stations of the Cross<br><br>7.00 pm<br>Bridie Phillips<br><br>7.30 pm<br><i>Confessions</i> |
|   | SATURDAY                 |                                 | 10.00 am<br>Bill Burke<br><i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (during confessions after Mass)</i>                                | (Sat) 6.00 pm<br>Anne Freeman                                | (Sat) 6.30 pm<br>Shaun Pendlebury   | (Sat) 5.00 pm<br>(Wedding Anniversary)<br>John & Maureen Blears  |
| NEXT SUNDAY   |                          | 9.30 am<br>Amelia Webb          | 11.00 am<br>Margaret Ross   | 9.30 am<br>Fred Rothwell                                     |   |  |

Bernadette Boardman  
 Eileen McAlister.  
 Eileen Watkinson.  
 Elsie Byron.  
 Jean Culkin.  
 Jedd Balmer.  
 Joan Baines.  
 Joan Cavey.  
 John Atkins.  
 Joyce Gorton.  
 Martin Culkin.  
 Maureen Blears.  
 Michael Gallagher.  
 Nora Smith.

BAPTISMS

*We welcome into our family of Faith:*

*May God bless them and their families.*

LATELY DEAD

*Please pray for those who have died recently:*

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

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  
 Third Sunday of Lent

[First Reading – Exodus 17:3-7](#)  
 Despite their ingratitude, God shows his care for his people by providing water for them in the desert.

[Second Reading – Romans 5:1-2,5-8](#)  
 God has proved his extraordinary love for us by the fact that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

[Gospel Reading – John 4:4-42](#)  
 Jesus encounters a woman from Samaria and offers her living water.

Anniversaries *(Sacred Heart, Hindley Green)*

Robert Green, Margaret Delaney, Mary Doris Berry, Thomas Harrison.