

Parish of St. Margaret Clitherow

3rd Sunday of Easter (C)

14th April 2013



Serving
the church
communities of

**St. Ambrose
Barlow
Astley**

**St. Gabriel's
Higher Folds**

**Holy Family
Boothstown**

**St. Richard's
Atherton**

**Sacred Heart
Hindsford**

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.

PASTORAL AREA TEAM

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon
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Priest: Fr. Stephen Cooper
Tel: 01942 673517
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Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood
Tel: 0161 790 2390
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Priest: Fr. Kieran O'Grady
Tel: 01942 673517
Email: shleigh@blueyonder.co.uk

Deacons: Robert Hewertson, Anthony Arrowsmith & Dennis Vint

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 3
Sunday Readings - 3rd Sunday of Easter (C)
Weekdays Readings - 3rd Week of Easter
Today 3rd Sunday of Easter (C)
Sunday 4th Sunday of Easter (C)
(World Day of Prayer for Vocations)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

In polite society, you are not supposed to go around asking people questions like "Who do you say I am?" or "Do you love me?" This is perhaps because we might not like the answer. Questions that go to the heart of the matter, particularly when the matter concerns what you really think of another person, are often best avoided if at all possible. In today's Gospel, however, Jesus is in very good voice when he asks Peter three times if he really loves him. Remember that before the crucifixion Peter had not exactly distinguished himself. Three times he had denied being a disciple of Jesus. Three times he had denied even knowing him. The man who Jesus chooses as the leader of the early Church is the one caught out by a servant girl as he continues to lie through his teeth. He is the man who is arrested by a cock crowing in the darkness.

As we hear from John's Gospel, after the crucifixion, Peter and some of the other disciples return to their old trade of fishing. There is no suggestion that they believed they had a mission to carry on after the death of Jesus. After Jesus had died, their hope went into the tomb and they returned to old, familiar ways. They try their best to cope with the loss of the one who had changed their lives. After a long night fishing, the disciples catch nothing. However, a distant figure on the shore tells them to try again. They pull in a marvellous hall of fish. The Beloved Disciple identifies the figure as Jesus, and Peter in his excitement tries treading water once more to be with him. After the meal, Jesus asks Peter three times about the reality of his love. Three times Peter affirms his love, and three times Jesus insists on asking him the question again. And when Peter professes his love, Jesus commissions him to care for his flock, in other words, the people of God. Loving the Lord is always a call to care for others.

And this is what Peter does, as we hear in today's First Reading. In his ministry of preaching and healing, Peter reaches out to many people, and the authorities become nervous at the ability of Peter and the other disciples to work in the name of Jesus. In spite of the opposition, Peter will continue insisting on his love for Jesus. This insistence will lead him to martyrdom in Rome. In the end, Jesus' question "Simon do you love me?" becomes completely unnecessary. So the question of Jesus is openly directed to each of us today: "Do you love me?" But before Jesus puts the question to us, he goes to enormous trouble to assure us that he really loves us. He died making the point. The question of Jesus stays with us hoping for an answer. The question comes from one who is more interested in our future prospects than our past failures. Jesus doesn't pass the time in bitter recriminations. He is more interested in what can become of us.

As we celebrate our faith in the Risen Lord this weekend, let us pray that, like Peter, we declare our love for God not only in words but in the very way we love our lives of faith.

Psalms Response

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.

Gospel Acclamation

Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.



FUNDRAISING FOR CHARITY

London Marathon 21st April

Paolo Dale (from Holy Family) will be taking part in this year's London Marathon on 21st April. He is raising funds for Breast Cancer Care and would be most grateful if you would consider sponsoring him: www.justgiving.com/Paolo-Dale

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral on Friday 19th April at 7.00 pm to mark the first anniversary of the death of Canon Jimmy Collins. The celebrant will be Fr Peter Morgan.



Invocation in the North 2013

Invocation in the North 2013 is a discernment festival for 16 to 35 year old Catholics which will take place on the weekend of 14th to 16th June at Ampleforth Abbey. It is aimed at helping participants to discover a little more about what God is calling them to do in their lives.

There will be some stimulating keynote talks and a number of thought-provoking workshops on spirituality and evangelisation. In addition, there will be beautiful worship experiences, such as Divine Office with the monks, Adoration in the abbey church, and a nocturnal Blessed Sacrament Procession. In between these activities there will be plenty of time for prayerful reflection, reading, fellowship and confession.

The food will be good and there will be a licensed bar. The cost of the weekend will be £60. Some grants are available on request to students who are without funds and the unwaged. We want everybody to be there who wants to be there! This is a Year of Faith initiative which will help young people in the north of England to make a new radical commitment to Jesus.

For further information:

Facebook: Invocation in the North 2013

Website: www.invocation.org.uk

Email (Liz White): scarboroughcatholicparishes@gmail.com

Telephone: 01723 360358



National Board of Catholic Women

'Living Hope in the Church Today' - A Day of Refreshment & Renewal for Women. Saturday 27th April, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm at LACE. Facilitated by Sister Pauline Darby SCHJ. Keynote addresses springing from 'Gaudium et Spes' by Dr Oonagh O'Brien (Principal Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge). Periods of reflection, prayer and liturgy. Cost is £10 (including refreshments and lunch). For catering purposes, please book a place by contacting: Julie Cassidy (0151 522 1040) or email: j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk no later than Wednesday 17th April.

Justice & Peace Commission

Annual Assembly on Saturday 25th May, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm at LACE, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA. Main Speaker: Sir Bert Massie CBE 'Coping with the Cuts'. Workshops, stalls and lunch will be provided. RSVP to Steve or Maria on 0151 522 1080/1 or s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk

Swimathon 26-28th April

Each year Marie Curie Cancer Care organises a sponsored swim. Kevan Rushton plans to swim 2.5 km (just over 1.5 miles or 100 lengths of the pool) to raise as much money as possible. If you would like to sponsor Kevan, either see him after Sunday Mass at St Ambrose Barlow or go to www.swimathon.org click on 'sponsor a swimmer', then click 'sponsor an individual', then type in **Kevan Rushton**. Many thanks.

Manchester Marathon 28th April

Joanne Burton will be running in the Manchester Marathon on April 28th in aid of the Meningitis Trust. There will also be a fundraising evening at the Royal British Legion in Boothstown on 20th April to raise money and awareness. There will be live entertainment, raffle, hotpot supper and a disco. For more details: www.justgiving.com/moneyformeningitis

becoming a catechist

A Course for New Catechists

If anyone would like to have further training in becoming a catechist, then a special course is being provided at LACE in Liverpool, beginning in June and ending with a full day on July 6th. The dates are Wednesdays 5th, 12th & 19th June at 7.00 pm and July 6th from 9.30 am - 1.30 pm. If you would like to go, please contact Fr. Paul as soon as possible.

PARISH NOTES

Newsletter

Please ensure items for the newsletter are sent in by Wednesday morning.

Clergy Addresses

Fr Paul Seddon

St Richard's Presbytery, Mayfield Street, Atherton, Manchester M46 0AQ

Fr Dave Heywood

Holy Family Presbytery, 208 Chaddock Lane, Boothstown, Worsley, Manchester M28 1DN

Finance

The monies for the five church communities of the Parish of St Margaret Clitherow are now held in one account. So please make all cheques payable to **St Margaret Clitherow** (Please note the spelling of 'Clitherow'). Thank you.

Pastoral Area Website

www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk

Catholic School Websites

www.st-maryshigh.wigan.sch.uk

www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk

www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintambrosebarlow.wigan.sch.uk

www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk

www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk

PARISH NEWS

This Week

Give Blood

Today (Sunday), 10.00 am - 12.30 pm & 2.00 - 4.00 pm, at the Novotel, Manchester.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The prayer group will be meeting at St Ambrose Barlow Church on Tuesday 16th April at 7.00 pm, the feast of St Bernadette. Come and join us for reflection and rosary.

St Margaret Clitherow St Vincent de Paul Society

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th April in Holy Family Church Hall Meeting Room at 7.45 pm. This is an important meeting and we have Mr Alan Crane from the South West Lancashire Central Council coming to speak to us, so it would be good if all members could come along to hear what he has to say. Members of the St Edmund Arrowsmith S.V.P. have also been invited. Please come along if you can.

St Ambrose Barlow Children's Liturgy Group

Many thanks to all those who volunteered to help with the Children's Liturgy at St. Ambrose Barlow Church. As promised, there will be a meeting of all the catechists this Wednesday at 7.30 pm in St. Ambrose Barlow Hall.

"With You Always"

Final Session for Parents and Children this week. Holy Family - Wednesday at 3.30 pm or Thursday at 6.30 pm in church. St Gabriel's - Thursday at 3.15 pm in church.

Guides Bag2School

St Ambrose Barlow Guides are providing you with another opportunity to clear out your wardrobes ready for the new season. They are holding a bag2school event on Saturday 20th April. Bags are available at the back of church after Mass. Please don't worry if you don't pick up a bag as any bin bag will do! If you want us to collect your bags - we will travel anywhere in the Pastoral Area, just contact Delia on 01942 884576. Alternatively, please drop your bags off on Saturday 20th April, 8.30 - 9.00 am. Fill your bags with clothing, shoes, belts, bags, towels, curtains and even soft toys! Many thanks for your support.

St Richard's 500 Club April Winners

£100	90	K Walsh
£50	220	G Toole
£25	332	S Hodgkiss
£15	224	D Mitchel
£15	430	M Peak

Confirmations

Many thanks to all the young people who have returned their forms for Confirmation this year. As previously mentioned, we are going to have a Confirmation Celebration in St. Richard's Church on Tuesday May 14th at 7.00 pm. However, it looks like there will be too many for one service. Therefore, we have decided to have another service, this time in St. Ambrose Barlow Church, on Thursday May 16th at 7.00 pm. Those preparing for Confirmation will be given the choice of which night they wish to attend. This means that all the churches in the Parish will be celebrating Confirmation this year. Please keep them in your prayers at this special time.

Appeal for a Wheelchair

Holy Family are looking for a wheelchair to keep at church to assist a parishioner who comes to Sunday Mass. If you can help, or know someone who can, please contact Fr Dave. Thanks.

Forthcoming Events

St. Ambrose Barlow Meeting

There will be an Open Meeting for those who attend St. Ambrose Barlow Church on Wednesday April 24th at 7.30 pm in the Church Hall.

200 Club Cabaret Evening

As previously publicised, the members' evening at which the £1000 prize will be drawn, will take place on Friday 26th April in the St Ambrose Barlow Hall. Any member who would like to claim their tickets for this event should see Steve at the back of church after the 11.00 am Mass or give him a call on 876487.

Ambrosians

The next meeting of the Ambrosians will take place on Thursday 25th April at 2.00 pm in St Ambrose Church Hall. New members always welcome.

There is a trip to Llandudno planned for 14th May. The cost per person is £12.50 payable in full to reserve a place. A refund of £2.50 will be returned should you need to cancel. Due to the increase in the cost of hiring a coach, we will only be taking the smaller one for trips now. Seats will be reserved on a 'first come first served' basis. Please contact either Jean T on 871109 or Kay on 749348 to reserve your place.

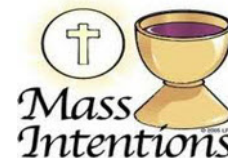
Job Vacancies at St. Richard's School

Two job vacancies have become available at St. Richards School, Atherton:

- Key Stage 2 Class Teacher with subject responsibility. Contract: Permanent full time from September.
- Key Stage 1 Class Teacher. Temporary full time from September.

For more details and application pack, contact the school on 01942 882980 or email:

headteacher@admin.sainrichards.wigan.sch.uk



Just a reminder that, if you wish to have a Mass Intention celebrated on a specific date, then you will need to inform us in good time. Even then we cannot completely guarantee that the Mass will be said on that date – for example, a Funeral Mass may come in or the Mass itself may have to be changed for a variety of reasons. It would also be helpful if, when you hand in your Mass offering, you write down your contact details on the envelope so that we can contact you if there is any problem giving you the date that you wish to have.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 729.93
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 286.64
St Gabriel's	£ 192.10
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 776.27
Total Parish Collection	£1984.94

SECOND COLLECTION

Friends of the Holy Land

Holy Family	£ 139.44
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 21.41
St Gabriel's	£ 49.73
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 143.79

Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 14th April 2013	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am McHugh & Lyth Families 11.00 am William Walsh 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Lucy O'Connor	(Sat) 6.00 pm Nicky Wilson	(Sat) 6.00 pm Helen Bennett 9.30 am The Cleary Family 6.00 pm Rex Baxter
MONDAY	<i>12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's, Leigh</i>			
TUESDAY		9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Eileen Clancy		9.15 am Peter Keenan
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Mgr John O'Connor		9.30 am Funeral Mass for Michael Dunne	Exposition 9.00 - 10.00 am
THURSDAY	10.00 am Joyce Smith			9.15 am Michael Swanton
FRIDAY	1.00 pm Wedding Service Amy Swanton & Paul Traynor		10.00 am Ted Hamer	9.15 am Jack Langshaw
SATURDAY	10.00 am Sheila Swift		6.00 pm Frances Blake	6.00 pm A Wedding Anniversary
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Mr Mobsby 11.00 am Neil Doherty 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am John Raines		9.30 am John O'Malley 6.00 pm Shaun Pendlebury

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

This Saturday

10.30 - 11.00 am at Holy Family
After 6.00 pm Mass at St Richard's
(or by appointment with one of the priests)

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of the Church
through the celebration of Baptism:

Florence Abigail Patricia Denham
& Harry Steven Dalton

May God bless them and their families

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Neil Edwards	Michael Dunne
Brian McCool	Michael McCrory

Those who are sick, especially:

Anne Broad	Joan Clegg
Teresa Cooney	Norah Atkinson
Maureen Warren	Margaret Dixon
Margaret Langan	Joan West
Alan West	Gillian Best
Fr George Russell	Mary Hall

Children who are missing, especially:

Madeleine McCann	April Jones
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SECOND COLLECTION

Today
Next Week

Friends of the Holy Land
Priests' Training Fund

Next Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. The second collection will be the annual collection for the Priests' Training Fund which is the chief source of income that enables the Archdiocese to train our future priests. It takes six or seven years to train a priest and costs approximately £100,000. Gift Aid envelopes will be available at the back of each church.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

4th Sunday of Easter (C)

First Reading

Acts 13:14,43-52

Paul and Barnabas meet local Jewish opposition to the message of Christ and so widen their audience to proclaim to the pagans the hope of eternal life.

Second Reading

Revelation 7:9,14-17

The Lamb of God enthroned in the new Jerusalem leads those who believe to springs of living water where they find peace and joy.

Gospel Reading

John 10:27-30

Jesus the Good Shepherd promises the gift of eternal life to those who trust in him.