

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

33rd Sunday of the Year (C)

17th November 2013



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 1
Readings Sunday - 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
Weekdays - Year 1, Week 33
Today **33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)**
(Day of Prayer for Prisoners & their Dependents)
Thursday The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday St. Cecilia
Sunday **Solemnity of Christ the King (C)**
(National Youth Sunday)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Anne Frank was a teenage Jewish girl who lived in Amsterdam during the early years of World War II. When the Germans started rounding up all Jews, Anne and her family went into hiding. Seven people in all, they hid for two years in the attic. There they waited in daily fear of being discovered by the Nazis. During that time, Anne kept a diary, which her father found after the war ended. Translated into many different languages, it has been read by millions of people. In it, Anne expressed her thoughts and feelings with a maturity way beyond her years. In one remarkable passage, she wrote the following:

"It's twice as hard for us young people to hold our ground, in a time when all ideals are being shattered and destroyed, when people are showing their worst side, and do not know whether to believe in truth and right and God. It's really a wonder that I haven't dropped all my ideals, because they seem so absurd and impossible to carry out. Yet I keep them, because in spite of everything I still believe that people are good at heart. I see the world being turned into a wilderness. I hear the ever-approaching thunder, which will destroy us too. I can feel the sufferings of millions and yet, if I look up into the heavens, I think that it will all come right, that this cruelty too will end, and that peace and tranquility will return again."

It's an amazing expression of faith and hope at a time of such horror and upheaval. Anne never saw peace and tranquility return. One day, the dreaded knock came to the door. She and her family were taken to Belsen Concentration Camp where she died in 1944.

What is it that enables a person to endure? The rightness of one's cause can give a person great strength. The example and support of others is also a great help. And then there is the best help of all – faith. Faith can help us believe that goodness will triumph in the end, and that God will have the last say. Gandhi once said, "A person with a grain of faith in God never loses hope, because they believe in the ultimate triumph of the truth." In a world of so much social and political turmoil, people of faith will sometimes be seen as naïve and ineffective or irrelevant. However, we must not be afraid of scepticism and cynicism, but truth that God will give us the strength to hold our ground and remain faithful. Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid." We would not be human if we didn't feel fear when danger threatens us. It is not the fear but the overcoming of fear that is the question. The story of Anne Frank and the message of Jesus' life on earth remind us how important it is to have faith, especially when all around us seems to be falling apart at the seams. It is BECAUSE God loves us that he will ultimately save us from death and fear. Even though, like the early Christians, we may face times of trial, it is only with the help of God that our faith will endure. So let us trust him with all our hearts.

Psalms Response The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.

Gospel Acclamation Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

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.

PARISH NEWS

This Week

A 'Do' for Senior Citizens

The Youth SVP invite Senior Citizens to a bit of a 'Do' at Holy Family this afternoon (Sunday), 2.30 – 4.30 pm, in the Large Hall. They will be providing some entertainment, singing, a game of bingo, a quiz, sandwiches and cake, tea and coffee, and a glass of sherry as you arrive.

Parish Visitors

If you are a Eucharistic Minister, member of the SVP or the Bereavement Teams, or undertake some other form of ministry and visit people in their homes, then you are invited to a **Safe-guarding Awareness** meeting on **Tuesday 19th November**, 7.00 – 9.00 pm, at Holy Family, Boothstown. The meeting will be led by the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Team and will involve information on elder abuse as well as how to keep yourself safe when carrying out your ministry.

"With You Always"

2nd Meeting for Parents & Children

St Ambrose Church Hall

Thursday 21st November at 6.00 pm

3rd Meeting for Parents & Children

St Gabriel's School

Tuesday 19th November at 6.00 pm

Holy Family School

Thursday 21st November at 6.30 pm

St Richard's School

Wednesday 27th November at 3.30 pm

Sacred Heart School, Hindsford

Wednesday 27th November at 6.30 pm

St Ambrose Barlow Hall

Thursday 28th November at 6.00 pm

Family Quiz Night

The annual Quiz will be held in St Ambrose Church Hall at 7.00 pm on Friday 22nd November. Tickets are £3 each or £10 for a family of four and includes a hotpot supper. Tea and coffee will be available, but please bring your own alcoholic and soft drinks. Tickets available after Mass, or ring Steve (876487).

CAFOD & Traidcraft

CAFOD and Traidcraft will be open in Holy Family Church Hall after the morning Masses next Sunday, 24th November.

Synod of Bishops on the Family 2014

Pope Francis has announced an extraordinary general session of the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican between 5-19 October 2014. The purpose of the Synod is to discuss the "pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelization".

This is only the third 'extraordinary' synod since Pope Paul VI reinstated synods in 1965. According to the Code of Canon Law, an "extraordinary general session" of the synod is held to "deal with matters which require a speedy solution."

We have been given an opportunity to participate in preparing for the Synod by completing a questionnaire, which you

can find on the website of the Catholic Church in England and Wales www.catholicchurch.org.uk Although the questionnaire is quite complex and long, PLEASE have a look at it and complete what you can – don't worry if you can't complete it all. It is wonderful that we are all being given an opportunity to take part in this important discussion.



ADVENT COLLECTIONS

17th November - 15th December



In place of the Second Collections during Advent, there is the opportunity to help those in need in four practical ways:

- 1) The **Barnabus Project** in Manchester is looking for winter clothing for men and women living on the streets of Manchester. If you have suitable items (e.g. hats, coats, scarves, gloves, 'new' underwear, etc.), please bring them to any of the churches.
- 2) The **Windsor Drop-In Centre** in Salford is looking for tinned food for the homeless over the Christmas period. These items can be left at any of the churches.
- 3) The **Royal Manchester Children's Hospital** is looking for 'new' gifts for those children who will not receive a gift or a visit on Christmas Day. If you would like to buy a 'new' gift for one of these children, please bring it to any of the churches. Children range from babies up to 18 years of age. The hospital staff sort and wrap the gifts, so there is no need for us to do that, but they do welcome contributions of wrapping paper. Gifts should bear the British Standards Kite Mark and the European Standards CE Mark.
- 4) The economic situation means that an increasing number of animals are being abandoned, so **Animals in Distress** in Irlam would welcome donations of cat or dog food. Again, these items can be left at any of the churches.

Thank you so much for your kindness.

Christmas Card Campaign

For over 25 years now, we have sent Christmas Cards to Prisoners of Conscience and, more recently, to our Christian sisters and brothers in the Holy Land. This year's Christmas Card Campaign will take place on the First Sunday of Advent, 1st December, at each church in the parish.

PARISH NOTES

Newsletter

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

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



Annual Mass to Remember Children

There will be a special Mass to remember children who died before birth, at birth, or anytime afterwards, on Wednesday 27th November at 7.00 pm at Holy Family. All are welcome. If you know someone who might appreciate an invitation, please let them know about the Mass. Many thanks.

Bring & Buy Bingo

Come along and join in the fun on Wednesday 27th November at 8.00 pm in St Ambrose Church Hall. Monies raised will go towards funding the Ambrosians outings.

Emmaus Group

The next meeting of the Emmaus Group will take place at St. Richard's on Thursday November 28th at 7.30 pm. The group is mainly to provide on-going support to those who have recently become members of the Church. The meeting normally lasts about an hour. Please come along if you can and bring any questions you may have.

Charity Body Shop Party

Friday 29th November at 7.00 pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall to raise money for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research. Tickets are £5 per person payable on the evening. Bring your own refreshments. There will be a raffle of as well as the opportunity to purchase Body Shop products in time for Christmas. RSVP by text to Thirza on 07936 526295.

Old Gregorian's

Annual Mass for deceased former pupils and teachers of St Gregory's RC High School, Ardwick Green, Manchester to be celebrated at St. Kentigern's Church, Wilbraham Road, Fallowfield M14 7DW at 7.30 pm on Friday 29th November, followed by a gathering in St Kentigern's Social Club. Further information from Terry O'Neil (0161 442 6839) or terry.oneil43@ntlworld.com

Parish Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair will be held at 12.00 noon on Sunday 1st December at St Ambrose Barlow. Father Christmas will be present and there will be lots of stalls. There is a notice in the church porch asking for donations for the Christmas hamper. If you can provide any of the items on the list, please pop your name on the list. We would also appreciate donations of good quality items for the books, toys and White Elephant stalls. Tinned or packaged food items are needed for the food stall (but please check that goods are in date). If you are a whiz in the kitchen, donations of homemade cakes would be appreciated. New items suitable for raffle prizes would also be welcome, as well as bottles for the bottle tombola.

Advent Carol Service

An early notice that an Advent Carol Service will take place in Atherton Baptist Church on Sunday December 8th at 6.30 pm. Please come along and join us in prayer.

St. Richard's Christmas Fayre

You are all welcome to come along to the Christmas Fayre at St. Richard's School on Saturday December 14th between 12-4.00 pm. We will have donkey rides, a falcon display, face painting, arts & crafts and many stalls including jewellery, flowers, toys, bottle stalls, play your cards right, and much more. There will be refreshments and food provided by the Far Pavilion Restaurant. There will also be a visit by Father Christmas. Please come along and support us.



OPEN EVENING

Thursday 28th November 2013

5:30 – 8:00 pm

Results reach a new high!

99.7% A*-E and 49% A*-B at A Level
100% pass rate in all BTEC courses with
70% of students gaining Distinction/Distinction*

Talks will take place at 6.00 & 7.00 pm.

Subject staff will be available to discuss
and promote their courses.

Contact us on 01942 884144 or e-mail

sixthformenquiries@smchs.org.uk

PRESENTING JACK TOPPING



Decca Records and Save The Children are proud to present Jack Topping. Jack is an 11-year old Catholic choirboy from St Ambrose Barlow, Astley. He was spotted while singing with Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir and is now the youngest ever singer appointed as an Ambassador for the charity. The Save the Children charity Christmas TV advert is the bookies' second favourite behind *The X Factor* winner in the race for the top slot. "Wonderful World" - Jack's debut album - is out 2nd December. A minimum of 40p from the sale of every physical single and 50p from the sale of every digital single ("Tomorrow") will be donated to the Save the Children Fund. You can view the official single on YouTube.



**Sunday 24th November at the Novotel, Worsley:
10.00 - 12.30 pm & 2.00 - 4.00 pm.**

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 767.81
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 213.60
St Gabriel's	£ 180.05
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 711.93
Total Parish Collection	£1873.39

SECOND COLLECTION

The Royal British Legion

Holy Family	£ 136.31
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 71.60
St Gabriel's	£ 83.96
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 189.05

Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 17th November	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Kathleen Morton 11.00 am Peter Topping 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Mary Coleman	(Sat) 6.00 pm Judith O'Dowd	(Sat) 6.00 pm Lilian Welby 9.30 am Peter McCoy 6.30 pm Madeleine McCann
MONDAY	12.00 noon at St Joseph's, Leigh			
TUESDAY		9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Joyce Nuttall		9.15 am Ron & Megan Jones
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Marsden Family	9.00 am St Mary's Y8 (In Thanksgiving)		9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition
THURSDAY	10.00 am Celia Berrisford			9.15 am Marjorie Skade
FRIDAY			Mass at St Richard's	9.15 am Mary McDonagh
SATURDAY	10.00 am Peter Gavin	10.30 am Padre Pio Prayer Group	6.00 pm Frank Hudson	6.00 pm Helen Bennett
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Ann & Joe Thompson 11.00 am Shelagh Delaney	11.00 am Anna Bartoszek	1.00 pm Baptism	9.30 am Eileen Veronica Moran 6.30 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 Church, God's Family,
through the celebration of Baptism:
**Kitty Maria Brown, Harry Littlewood,
Daniel James Seddon, Casey Michael Taylor,
Jacob Alexander Newton, Summer Lily McCready
& Kane Ross MacDonald**
May God bless them and their families

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

John Stridgeon **Marion Woodward**

Those who are sick, especially:

Anne Broad **Norah Atkinson**
Alan West **Gillian Best**
Joyce Nuttall **Lynda Daly**
Mary Hall **Rev Jim Melia**
Elizabeth Oldershaw **Connie Crilly**
Thomas Laing **Jean Neary**
Fred Lyth **Ken Gorse**
James Keith Lewis **Margaret Hurley**

Children who are missing, especially:

Madeleine McCann

SECOND COLLECTION

Today

Next Week

**Emergency Appeal for the Philippines
National Youth Sunday**



Today there will be a special collection after all Masses for CAFOD's emergency response to the extensive damage and suffering caused by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. CAFOD is working with local Church partners to provide emergency shelter, food and water. You can also donate online at cafod.org.uk/typhoon, or by calling CAFOD on **0500 85 88 85**. Cheques should be made payable to CAFOD. If you can gift aid your offering, there are forms available at the back of church.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Feast of Christ the King (C)

First Reading

2 Samuel 5:1-3

We hear how David became king of a united country. His kingship prefigures the universal Kingship of Jesus.

Second Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

Christ is not only head of the Church but Lord of all creation.

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:35-43

Christ reigned from the cross, and brought salvation to one of the thieves crucified with him.