

Parish of St. Margaret Clitherow

Pentecost Sunday (C)

19th May 2013



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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Deacons: Robert Hewertson, Anthony Arrowsmith & Dennis Vint

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter	Week 3
Sunday	Readings - Pentecost Sunday (C)
Weekdays	Readings - Year 1, Week 7
Today	Pentecost Sunday (C)
Saturday	St. Bede the Venerable
Sunday	The Most Holy Trinity (C)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

A group of dispirited followers of Jesus had gathered and locked themselves in an upper room, probably the same room where the Last Supper was held. There was fear and suspicion amongst them all, especially in wondering what was going to happen next. They feared that they would suffer the same fate as their Master. So they listened to every step on the stairs. They waited for the knock of the executioner. They prayed that no one would discover their hiding place and that the world would leave them safe in their secret enclosure.

In contrast to the disciples in the Upper Room, we hear of the powerful image of the Holy Spirit as one who is not shy of the boundaries and the barriers that people put up. The presence of the Holy Spirit makes the disciples open their lives to others: they don't just decorate their sacred enclosure, they leave it and pass over into the lives of others with the gift of the Gospel message along with the peace of Christ and the forgiveness he offers. The disciples go outdoors. They go to the market-place where people gather and there they proclaim to everyone how they have been changed by the power of the Holy Spirit. They tell everyone how God has worked wonders through them. At first the crowds think the apostles are drunk, no doubt because they are sure it takes some kind of spirit to change these men. Whatever it is, everyone acknowledges that something dramatic has happened to change the outlook and behaviour of the followers of Jesus, especially when they can hear them speaking in their own language. The name of this happening is the Holy Spirit and the disciples speak in a new language, breaking all misunderstanding and division and bringing harmony and unity to the people.

After Pentecost, the Church struggles to live the language of the Spirit. In today's Second Reading we hear Paul reminding the divided community at Corinth that their diverse gifts are all for the good of the whole community. It is the one dynamic Spirit that is the source of all the community's many gifts, and the Spirit which fired the apostles and which enthused Paul, is the same Spirit which fires and drives us on us today. The Spirit does this in our own mundane attempts to work at forgiveness and love and understanding. This is the language of the Spirit. In those moments when we feel love or admiration or compassion for someone, when we feel moved to help someone in need, even when we hold the door open for someone or let them in front of us in a queue, this is the Spirit at work today. Forgiveness, compassion, love and understanding form a language that everyone needs to hear today. This is the language we are invited to speak and the promise is that, when we speak it, people will recognise it and respond to the call of the Holy Spirit to do good themselves. They can truly say that we are speaking their language because it is a language that has no boundaries, and no special dictionaries are needed to understand it. It is the language of the Holy Spirit. As we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, may we speak with the language of the Spirit always and share the gifts of God's love with others.

Psalm Response

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

Gospel Acclamation

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful,
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

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

Songs of Praise

Songs of Praise at St Ambrose Barlow Church at 3.00 pm today (Sunday). All are welcome. Our Ecumenical partners will be leaving Astley Independent Methodist Church at 2.20 pm and meeting up with members of St Stephen's at around 2.30 pm and then walking to St Ambrose Barlow Church - as a 'Walk of Witness'. Please feel free to join in at any of those points. After the service, there will be refreshments provided in the Parish Hall.

Churches Together in Boothstown

Fr Dave invites you to a Unity Service which he will lead in St John's, Mosley Common, today (Sunday) at the earlier time of 4.00 pm. The service will last about 35 minutes and will explore the symbols of the Baptism we share with all Christians.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

The prayer group meets each Tuesday evening in St Ambrose Church at 7.00 pm for a period of prayer and reflection. The group is open to all.

News from St Mary's High School

In our last week before half term, we are focusing on the events of Pentecost. We are also waving goodbye to our leavers with services this week to celebrate their time with us. Thanks must go to students who have been involved with the planning of these services. We would like to wish all staff and students a safe half term.

Animals in Distress

Thank you so much to all those who provided old blankets and towels for the rescue charity, "Animals in Distress". Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

CAFOD & Traidcraft

CAFOD and Traidcraft will be open in Holy Family Church Hall after the morning Masses next Sunday, 26th May. All are welcome.

An Invitation from Pope Francis



On Sunday 2nd June at 5.00 pm Rome time (4.00 pm in the UK), the Holy Father will preside at an hour of Eucharistic Adoration in St Peter's Basilica in communion with all Bishops and their local diocesan communities around the world. All Bishops have been asked to celebrate in their own Cathedrals an hour of Eucharistic devotion synchronized in time with the Vatican celebration.

This information and invitation to arrange a service at our Cathedral has come with short notice, but we will respond by holding a service of Choral Evening Prayer, Exposition and Benediction, at 4.00 pm on Sunday 2nd June.

ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYONE



The 'IF' Campaign

Hunger is the greatest scandal and the greatest challenge facing our generation. There's plenty of food for everyone in the world, but not enough sharing. Consequently, one in eight people go to bed hungry each night.

CAFOD, together with over 150 other leading charities, want to make 2013 the beginning of the end of the global hunger crisis with the launch of a huge campaign called "Enough Food for Everyone IF".

The G8 Summit will meet in the UK this year in June. We are invited to join the "Enough Food for Everyone IF" campaign to encourage the world's most powerful leaders to make the changes necessary to end global hunger.

How you can take part:

- 1) Pick up one of the "Hungry for Change" brochures available at the back of church. Sign and send the first card to the Prime Minister. Give the second card to a friend.
- 2) Underneath the first card in the brochure, there is a large 'fish'. You are invited to write a message or prayer for a world free from hunger on the card and return it to church next weekend. Ask your friend to do the same on the 'loaf of bread' attached to the second card. All the cards will be displayed in the shape of a Big "IF" to show our support for the campaign.
- 3) Thousands of people, including parishioners, will gather in London on 8th June to call on the G8 leaders to act for change. Parishioners will take our Big "IF" with them.

For more information: www.cafod.org.uk/bigif

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

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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

Bingo Bring & Buy

St Ambrose Barlow Ladies Group will be holding a Bingo Bring & Buy on Friday 31st May. Monies raised will go to the Alzheimer's Society. Come along and join in the fun!

Emmaus Group

We would like to invite those who have recently been received into the Church to a meeting of the new "Emmaus Group". The Emmaus Group – named after the story of the disciples who recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread – will hopefully give us the opportunity to keep in touch and to continue to grow in faith together. We will hold an initial meeting in the Parish House at St. Richards on Thursday June 6th at 7.00 pm. If the group works out, we will hopefully open it up to others who may be interested in joining us.

Northern Catholic Conference

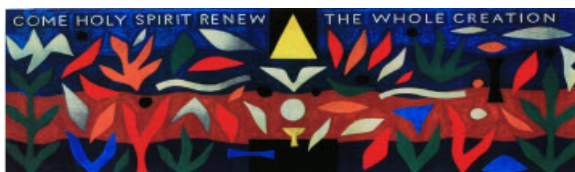
7th - 9th June 2013 at Hope University in Liverpool. The weekend will include wonderful speakers, great fellowship and good food; Mass each day, devotions, Marian procession together with healing and reconciliation services. For full details, please check out the website: www.northerncatholic.co.uk

"The Witness"

The United Christian Singers are presenting a musical "The Witness" in Atherton Parish Church on Sunday June 9th at 6.30 pm. Tickets, priced at £5 each, are available from some of the local churches or from 01942 254426.

"Band and Boogie" Night

Friends of Sacred Heart School, Hindsford, are organising a "Band and Boogie" Night on June 15th in St Richard's Parish Centre. Tickets are £10 and are available through the school or from Liz Rawson. (07504 288372) or Marie O'Donnell (07759 337690).



'Celebrate the Child'

The annual Archdiocesan Children's Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Sunday 30th June at 2.30 pm. Children, their families, catechists, teachers and all who work with children are warmly invited to attend. Fr Dave is thinking of taking a coach and has put a sign-up sheet at the back of churches to gauge interest. If you would like to take an active part in the Mass, please email: celebratethechild@tesco.net

'Come & See' Weekend.

The Irenaeus Group are holding a "Come & See" weekend at Christ the King High School, Southport, on Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th October. Keynote speakers will include Fr Daniel O'Leary and Edwina Gateley, and the prayer sessions will be led by CJM Music. If you would like to go, please contact Jenny at Irenaeus (0151 949 1199) or email her at jenny@irenaeus.co.uk If we get enough people from the Pastoral Area, we could make a group booking which would make it cheaper. If you would like to go, please contact Fr Paul or Bernie Bates at St. Richard's.

"WITH YOU ALWAYS"



Holy Family, Boothstown

Rehearsal for Parents & Children

Group 2: Thursday 23 May at 6.30 pm

Group 3: Thursday 30 May at 6.30 pm

Celebration of Confirmation & First Communion

Group 2: Sunday 26 May at 11.00 am

Group 3: Sunday 2 June at 11.00 am



'Right to Life' Sponsored Walk

This will take place on Bank Holiday Monday, 27th May, beginning at 1.00 pm. The 8 mile circular walk starts and finishes at the same venue as last year - St. Michael and St. John RC Church, Lowergate, Clitheroe BB7 1AG. Archbishop Patrick hopes to attend the start of the walk again this year. Lord David Alton of Liverpool and Jim Dobbin, Labour MP and Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Pro-Life Group will take part in the walk. We are waiting to hear from other MPs as to whether or not they will be able to join us. For sponsorship and booking forms, please contact Moira Billinge on 0151 291 7728.

St Richard's 500 Club May Winners

£100	91	K J Hebson
£50	38	K Gorse
£25	209	L Morris
£15	150	P Wilson
£15	227	R Richardson



LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 726.45
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 306.13
St Gabriel's	£ 195.12
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 633.97
Total Parish Collection	£1861.67

SECOND COLLECTION **World Communications Day**

Holy Family	£ 216.19
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 77.47
St Gabriel's	£ 60.11
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 203.65

Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 19th May 2013	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Kevin Murray 11.00 am Thanksgiving 12.30 pm Baptisms 4.00 pm Unity Service <i>(St John's, Mosley Common)</i>	11.00 am Kathleen Whelan	(Sat) 6.00 pm John Raines	(Sat) 6.00 pm Lilian Welby 9.30 am Mary Charlton 6.30 pm The Hogg Family
MONDAY	12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's, Leigh			
TUESDAY		No Morning Mass 7.00 pm Prayer Group		9.15 am Margaret Rogers
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm For Good Health	9.00 am Year 9 Prayer Service		Exposition 9.00 - 10.00 am
THURSDAY	10.00 am Dorothy Hampson 12.00 noon Funeral at Overdale	11.00 am Year 13 Leavers Celebration		9.15 am Margaret Fahey
FRIDAY		11.00 am Year 11 Leavers Celebration	10.00 am Mgr John O'Connor	9.15 am Patsy Hand
SATURDAY	10.00 am Kevin Murray		6.00 pm People of the Pastoral Area	6.00 pm Jack Kenny
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Ann & Joe Thompson 11.00 am Frank & Margaret Fletcher	11.00 am Gillian Best		9.30 am Harold Haigh 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 family of the Church
through the celebration of Baptism:
Harry & Neive FitzMaurice, Billie Claire Pollitt,
Ellie Kathleen Bradley, Jacob Leo Bithell-Mason
& Thomas Harry Keenan
May God bless them and their families



LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:
Baby Emily Cummings

Those who are sick, especially:

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

SECOND COLLECTION

Today

Next Week

SVP (St Vincent de Paul)
Youth SVP 'Holy Hike'

Next weekend, the Youth SVP will be collecting money for their sponsored 'Holy Hike', which they completed last Sunday in aid of the MacMillan Nurses, who visit so many homes in the parish providing much needed care.



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Most Holy Trinity (C)

First Reading

Proverbs 8:22-31

The reading from the Book of Proverbs praises the wisdom of God which can be seen revealing the mystery of the Trinity.

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-5

Christ made it possible for us all to have a relationship of love with God. This gives us hope and sustains us in times of suffering. The Holy Spirit helps us to recognise God's love for us.

Gospel Reading

John 16:12-15

The Holy Spirit helps the Church to grasp the full meaning of all that Jesus said, especially everything he reveals about God the Father.