

Parish of St Margaret Clitherow

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)

22nd September 2013



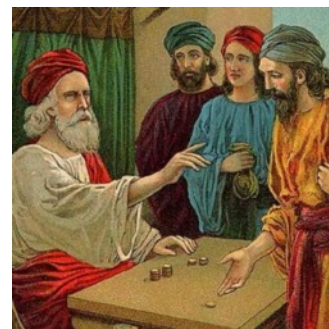
PASTORAL AREA TEAM

Priest: Fr. Paul Seddon	Priest: Fr. Dave Heywood
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Email: paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk	Email: frdave@virginmedia.com
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Deacons: Robert Hewertson, Anthony Arrowsmith & Dennis Vint

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter	Week 1
Readings	Sunday - 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C) Weekdays - Year 1, Week 25
Today	25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C) <i>(Day of Prayer for Thanksgiving for Harvest)</i>
Monday	St. Pius of Pietrelcina (<i>Padre Pio</i>)
Tuesday	Our Lady of Walsingham
Friday	St. Vincent de Paul
Sunday	26th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's First Reading, we hear the story of Amos. He lived in a small town called Tekoa, just five miles from Bethlehem. He received a call from God to leave his flock and become a prophet. It is not the career he would ever have chosen for himself, but he does it because he believes that it is God's call. He is sent to the northern kingdom of Israel, a society that is sharply and cruelly divided between the rich and the poor. Through the mouth of Amos, the invisible God speaks to his people. Amos confronts the vast problem of social injustice by publicly criticising those who cannot wait for the religious festivities to end so that they can get back to their real devotion of exploiting the poor. What is the point of impressive liturgies that feed the egos of the rich and powerful when the poor are left as the permanent victims of an unjust system? When liturgy becomes the ally of oppression, it becomes an affront to God. When the worship of God remains wholly uncritical of what is happening in an unjust society, it becomes a privileged theatre signifying nothing. For the prophet Amos, the best liturgical music is when justice sounds through the land.

The same point is made by Jesus in today's Gospel. He comes from the same area as Amos and has a similar message: "You cannot be the slave both of God and of money." Jesus expresses his belief that people who cannot be trusted with money can hardly be trusted with the genuine riches of the Kingdom of God. Jesus tells his listeners an unusual story which seems to support dishonesty. A steward who manages his master's estates is accused of wasting his employer's goods. He is dismissed, but before he goes, he must submit his final account. This gives the steward time to plan his future. He is about to join the ranks of the unemployed and he wonders how he will survive. He doesn't waste much time looking at digging and begging as job-creation schemes. Instead, he calls in those who owe his master money and deals with them one by one. As a smart operator, he knows the value of secrecy. He gives the debtors offers that they cannot refuse by reducing the amount that they owe. By the time he has finished, all these merchants owe him a huge favour for his inventive arithmetic. Now, his job prospects look healthy. His future is looking good. In a time of crisis, the steward takes firm and immediate action to ensure his own future will be good. He is praised, not for his dishonesty, but for his resourcefulness in coping with an emergency with such speed. If a dishonest man can use his employer's money to ensure there will be people to welcome him and employ him when he is out of a job, how much more should honest people use all that they have to ensure that they will be welcomed into the Kingdom of God. This is not to argue that anyone can buy their way into God's Kingdom. They can't. The story acknowledges that if the use of money and wealth is unrelated to the values of God's Kingdom then usually people get hurt. And the people who usually get hurt most are the poor.

Whenever God speaks to us, a reminder about the poor and the needy is never far away. Amos and Jesus both voice God's concerns for social justice and personal responsibility to look after others. The worship of God HAS to influence the way we live and care about others. Our love for each other indicates our worthiness of the gift of God's Kingdom. It's all tied together.

Psalms Response Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.

Gospel Acclamation Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.

**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.**



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, ASTLEY

Lay Chaplain

Salary: G7 £22,443 - £26,536 pro rata
Contract: Permanent, full-time, term time + 4 weeks
Hours: 37 hours per week (8.00 am start, some evening and weekend work may be required)

This is a challenging and exciting opportunity to join this oversubscribed, outstanding high school (Ofsted, 2009), leading and developing the liturgical and spiritual life of the whole school in the next stage of our faith journey, while supporting the Catholic Ethos and Mission Statement of the school. It is essential that the successful candidate is a committed and practicing Catholic with a thorough understanding of the Social teaching of the Church, and has experience of working with young people or young adults. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the school to meet with students and colleagues.

Full details of the post, including a CES Lay Chaplain application form and associate documents, are available to download from the school web site (click on 'Staff' for Job Vacancies): www.st-maryshigh.wigan.sch.uk

Closing date: 12.00 noon on 9th October 2013.

Interviews: Thursday 17th October 2013.

This post is subject to Enhanced Disclosure Procedures and a Children's Barred List check.

ST JOSEPH'S PLAYERS

A number of productions are being performed by the St. Joseph's Players over the next few months. They will all take place in St. Joseph's Concert Hall, Chapel Street, Leigh. "Billy Liar" by Keith Waterhouse & Willis Hall - 15th to 19th October at 7.30 pm. "Beauty & The Beast" written and produced by Doreen Johnson - 22nd January to 1st February at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £8 each and are available at the door or from Ratcliffe's Bike Shop, Bradshawgate, Leigh.

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

Divorced? Separated?

Friday evening, 27th September to Sunday, 29th September 2013. A welcoming and affirming weekend offering a chance to reflect share and pray together at Loyola Hall Jesuit Spirituality Centre, Prescott, Merseyside. This can be attended on a residential or non-residential basis. Contact www.loyolahall.co.uk or phone 0151 426 4137.

"It's still ME Lord"



A one day conference on Wednesday 2nd October 2013 in the inspiring surroundings of St Francis Xavier Church in Liverpool with Fr Daniel O'Leary as the keynote speaker. The conference will explore how we can understand and meet the spiritual needs of people with advancing dementia in our parishes and faith communities. Book early to guarantee your place. For the conference programme and booking form, please visit the website: www.welcomemeasiam.org.uk *If anyone wants to go to the conference and needs a lift, please contact Fr Dave.*



The Irenaeus Group are holding a "Come & See" weekend in Christ the King High School, Southport, on Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th October. Keynote speakers 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 on 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. So please also let Fr Paul know.

Creating the Environment for Prayer

A Skills Workshop with Fr Chris Thomas at St John's, Kirkdale, Liverpool L4 1QL on Monday 7th October, 6.30 - 9.00 pm. See noticeboard for further details or the Archdiocesan website: www.liverpoolcatholic.ork.uk/Courses



Britten Centenary Concert

Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral on Saturday 28th September at 7.30 pm. English choral music by Britten, Tallis and Tavener sung by Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir. Tickets 0151 708 7283. Further details, email: music@metcathedral.org.uk

PARISH NEWS

This Week

Justice & Peace Group

The next meeting of the Justice & Peace Group will take place at St. Richards Church this Tuesday, September 24th, at 7.30 pm. The meeting is open to anyone who would like to get more involved in Justice & Peace. It would be great if we could have representatives from each of the churches in the area at the meeting so that they can share what is happening with all the different Church communities. Everyone welcome.

Bethany Group Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th September at 2.00 pm in Holy Family Church Hall. This is for anyone who has lost a loved one, either recently or otherwise. We share some prayer, music, readings, and there is opportunity to share experiences, for anyone who wishes to. It is a very relaxed, friendly meeting and we hope you will find it helpful. If you would like more information, please contact Pat Williams on 01942 875730 or have a word with Fr Dave.

Bereavement Care Teams

There will be a meeting for the parish Bereavement Care Teams at St Richard's on Thursday 26th September at 7.00 pm to plan November's Remembrance Masses.



World's Biggest Coffee Morning

For Macmillan Cancer Support

† **Thursday 26th September**, 10.00 - 12.00 noon, in St Richard's Parish Centre. Tickets £2. Donations of items for a Tombola and Stalls would be much appreciated.

† **Friday 27th September**, 10.00 - 12.00 noon, in Sacred Heart Parish Centre. Please come along for a drink, a cake and bingo.

† **Saturday 28th September** in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall.

CAFOD & Traidcraft

CAFOD & Traidcraft will be open in Holy Family Church Hall after the morning Masses next Sunday, 29th September. All welcome.

Walsingham Pilgrimage

We need volunteers to help plan and organise next year's Pilgrimage. If you wish to volunteer, please speak to Fr. Paul as soon as possible and we will arrange a meeting so that Pauline and John, who are stepping down, can hand over the organisation and explain everything that needs to be done.

Ambrosians - Francis House

Following on from the Bingo Bring and Buy held at the end of August, a further £47 was raised through the raffle, £20 given in donation and £20 from the Ambrosians making a final total of £300 raised for Francis House. Many thanks to all who supported this event.

St Richard's 500 Club Sept Draw Winners

£100	160	J Morrison
£50	304	M Hancock
£25	253	E Schofield
£15	104	M Walker
£15	289	M McCanna

Thank you for your continued support

Forthcoming Events

Ambrosians

The last outing for the year takes place on 4th October, going to the Bourne Poacher. The price is £25 including a non-returnable £10 deposit when booking. Please phone Kay on 749348. The Ambrosians would like to thank all those who supported the Francis House Bingo Night. The amount raised on the night was £199.09, with the raffle still to come. Many thanks.

St Ambrose Guides

A chance to sort out your wardrobe! St Ambrose Guides will be having a Bag2School collection on Saturday 19th October – 8.30 to 8.45 am drop off. This is one of our most successful fundraisers, so please start now by collecting your old clothes, shoes, bedding, towels, bags, etc. We can store them in the Guide shed, so you can drop them off on any Guide night. We raised over £500 last year from the two collections!

“WITH YOU ALWAYS”

Preparing for Confirmation & Communion September 2013 - June 2014



St Ambrose, St Richard's & Sacred Heart

All the Year 4 children in school will have received a letter inviting them to sign up for this year's preparation for Confirmation and First Communion. If your child attends a different school, please contact Fr. Paul on 01942 883395 or paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk to get an application form. A number of Parent's Meetings will take place in different schools this week:

St. Ambrose Barlow – Tues Sept 24th at 3.45 pm.

St. Richard's School – Tues Sept 24th at 6.00 pm.

Sacred Heart School – Wed Sept 25th at 6.30 pm.

Holy Family & St Gabriel's

First Meeting for Parent's & Children (in church):

St Gabriel's - Tuesday 1st October at 6.00 pm

Holy Family - Thursday 3rd October at 6.30 pm

Please come to whichever meeting is most convenient.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 682.50
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 224.02
St Gabriel's	£ 194.81
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 640.81
Total Parish Collection	£1742.14

SECOND COLLECTION

Home Mission Sunday

Holy Family	£ 128.57
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 23.76
St Gabriel's	£ 53.14
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 58.76

Mission Boxes

St Ambrose Barlow	£ 66.53
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Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 22nd September	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Margaret Dixon 11.00 am Margaret Langan	11.00 am Mykola Batrak	(Sat) 6.00 pm Tony Dean	(Sat) 6.00 pm Lilian Welby 9.30 am Arthur Hennessy 6.30 pm Mary Morrison
MONDAY	<i>12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's, Leigh</i>			
TUESDAY		9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Seamus McNulty & Margaret Langan 7.00 pm Prayer Group		9.15 am Leo Dillon
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Ann Thompson		11.00 am Funeral Mass for Michael Dunne	SORRY No Exposition today
THURSDAY	9.15 am Service of Welcome for Reception Class 10.00 am Barbara Johnston 11.30 am Funeral Service for Pauline Armstrong			9.15 am Archie Hamilton
FRIDAY			10.00 am Seamus McNulty	9.15 am Monica Bibby
SATURDAY	10.00 am Nellie Gregory		6.00 pm Eamonn Leavy	6.00 pm Ronnie O'Hara
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Margaret Dixon 11.00 am Irene Fogarty	11.00 am Lynda Daly		9.30 am Francis Latchford 6.30 pm Leo Dillon

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

Welcome into the family of the Church
through the celebration of Baptism:
Lily Mary Robinson & Willow Rose Rotheram
May God bless them and their families

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:
Michael Dunne Pauline Armstrong

Those who are sick, especially:

Anne Broad	Joan Clegg
Connie Crilly	Norah Atkinson
Mary Hall	Joyce Nuttall
Alan West	Mavis Smith
Veronica Marsden	Winnie Brierley
Lynda Daly	Elizabeth Oldershaw
Rev Jim Melia	Gillian Best
William Bennett	

SECOND COLLECTION

Today The Medaille Trust
Next Week SVP National Raffle

*"This must be what
they call Autumn!"*



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)

First Reading *Amos 6:1,4-7*
Amos speaks against the wealthy of both Judah and Israel,
insisting that they should share their wealth with the poor.

Second Reading *1 Timothy 6:11-16*
As Jesus was faithful to his call in the face of hostility that led
to his death, so Christians facing persecution should be
faithful to God's call.

Gospel Reading *Luke 16:19-31*
We hear Jesus' story of a very rich man who ignored the
plight of a beggar sitting at his gate.