

Parish of St. Margaret Clitherow

The Most Holy Trinity (C)

26th May 2013



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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Deacons: Robert Hewertson, Anthony Arrowsmith & Dennis Vint

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter	Week 4
Sunday	Readings - The Most Holy Trinity (C)
Weekdays	Readings - Year 1, Week 8
Today	Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (C)
Monday	Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury
Friday	Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday	St. Justin, Martyr
Sunday	Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Christ (C)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

There is an African story about God. One day, as he travelled up and down this great continent, God noticed that one particular African tribe was losing its faith. So God manifested himself in a field where four men were working, one in each corner. The men saw God standing in the middle of the field, looked closely at him, and then fell to their knees in adoration. God then vanished from their sight. The four men ran back to their village, assembled all the people, and proclaimed that there could be no doubt: God truly existed, and cared for them, since he had come down to visit them. They all started to worship God and they received the news with great excitement. They could see that these men had had a holy vision. Then one of the villagers asked, "What was God wearing?" "A red cloak", replied the first man. "No, he was wearing a blue cloak", replied the second man. "You're both wrong", replied the third man, "it was a green cloak." "You're all crazy", shouted the fourth man, "he was wearing yellow cloak." And with that they started to argue. The argument soon turned into a fight. In the end, they despised and hated each other, and split up into four groups, with different people following them. With a little reflection, they might easily have reached agreement. Each had been given a glimpse of God. Instead of insisting that each had the complete vision, they might have admitted that they had only had a partial vision and had not seen the complete picture. Had they been open to the other person's point of view, and learned from each other, they could have ended up with a more complete image of God.

God is greater than us all. We can never comprehend him or understand everything there is to know about him. We can struggle to understand earthly things so how can we truly understand everything there is to know about Heaven? Only the gift of wisdom and the gift of God's Spirit himself can help us understand the ways of God. People can come to an understanding of scripture or theology but still not really know God. The only real answer to this is through prayer. Yet how can we pray to God or have a relationship with him if we have a false idea of what he is really like?

To tell what God is like, all we have to do is look at Jesus. In the words of St. Paul, "He is the image of the invisible God." Of all the images we have of Jesus, one of the most wonderful is that of the Good Shepherd. It was Jesus himself who used it. Jesus IS the Good Shepherd who gave his life for his sheep. In Jesus, we see the Father's love for us. And what of the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is the bond of love between the Father and the Son, and between them and us.

The mystery of the Holy Trinity, which we celebrate today, is not something to argue about or even study. It is more important to pray about the Trinity and to know that we live in the love that exists between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. As we celebrate this great feast, let us pray that we may share this love with others so that they too come to believe in God's love for them.

Psalm Response How great is your name, O Lord our God, through all the earth.

Gospel Acclamation Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come.

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

CAFOD & Traidcraft

CAFOD and Traidcraft will be open in Holy Family Church Hall after the morning Masses today (Sunday). All are welcome.

Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research

Dom, Paul, Wyn and various other Goggins family members are running the Greater Manchester 10km this weekend in aid of LLR. They will be grateful for moral, spiritual and/or financial support. To find out why they are doing it or to sponsor them, please go to www.justgiving.com/familyparty Thank you.

'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.

Ambrosians Group

The next meeting of the Ambrosians will take place at 2.00 pm on Thursday 30th May in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Newcomers always welcome.

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!

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.

For those who would like to join in this worldwide prayer but can't get to the Cathedral, there will be a Holy Hour at Holy Family, Boothstown, next Sunday (2nd June) at 4.00 pm. All are welcome.

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 at the latest**. 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 Clitheroe are now held in one account. So please make all cheques payable to **St Margaret Clitheroe** (Please note the spelling of 'Clitheroe'). 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

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 group 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).

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. For more information: www.invocation.org.uk

National Board of Catholic Women

AGM on Saturday 22nd June, 10.30 am – 4.30 pm in the The Gibberd Room at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral with Christine Allen (Director of Policy and Public Affairs, Christian Aid).

Friends of St. Richard's

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Fashion Show. The evening was a great success and enjoyed by everyone who attended. We raised £355 on the night. All money will go to benefit the children of St. Richard's School. The School is holding their annual Summer Fair on Saturday June 22nd. If you would like to book a stall at a cost of £20, please contact Pauline on 07717 580949 or contact the school office on 01942 882980.

'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 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

WOOLWICH MURDER



Archbishop Emeritus of Southwark and Chair of the Bishops' Conference Office for Interreligious Dialogue, the Most Rev Kevin McDonald, has released this statement on the shocking murder in Woolwich on 22nd May:

"The events in Woolwich yesterday have shocked us all. At this time it is vital for people of all faiths to show real solidarity in their rejection of violence and in their commitment to peace. In particular it is vital that we build on the excellent relations we have between faith communities in this country, not least with the Muslim community.

The words of Pope John Paul II in 1986 resound more clearly than ever: 'Dialogue between Christians and Muslims is today more necessary than ever. It flows from our fidelity to God and supposes that we know how to recognise God by faith, and to witness to him by word and deed.' That spirit of mutual respect is vital for the future."

+ Kevin McDonald

Chair of the Bishops' Conference Office for Interreligious Dialogue

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 812.52
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 269.75
St Gabriel's	£ 252.56
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 803.01
Total Parish Collection	£2137.84

SECOND COLLECTION

SVP (St. Vincent de Paul)

Holy Family	£ 151.73
St Gabriel's	£ 71.41
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 256.81

**St Ambrose Barlow
Donation in Thanksgiving £ 250.00**

Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 26th May 2013	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Ann & Joe Thompson 11.00 am Frank & Margaret Fletcher	11.00 am Gillian Best	(Sat) 6.00 pm People of the Pastoral Area	(Sat) 6.00 pm Jack Kenny 9.30 am Harold Haigh 6.30 pm Shaun Pendlebury
MONDAY	<i>12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's, Leigh</i>			
TUESDAY		9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am In Thanksgiving 7.00 pm Prayer Group		9.15 am Robert Carter
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Ambrose Higgins			10.00 am Funeral Service for Renee Holt
THURSDAY	10.00 am Joan Heath			9.15 am Margaret Rogers
FRIDAY			10.00 am Darren Greenhalgh	<i>No Service today</i>
SATURDAY	10.00 am Fr John Short		6.00 pm Catherine Kelly	6.00 pm Arthur Thomas
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Daniel & Nellie Conneely 11.00 am Patrick McCafferty 4.00 pm Holy Hour	11.00 am Kateryna Batrak		9.30 am Frances Neal 6.30 pm Ted & Angela Harrison

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:
Jessica Cooke, Ellie Aldred,
Cayden Banks & Tommy Mitchell
May God bless them and their families

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Renee Holt
Baby Emily Cummings
Theresa Gallagher

Those who are sick, especially:

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

Children who are missing, especially:

Madeleine McCann

SECOND COLLECTION

Today

Next Week

Youth SVP 'Holy Hike'
Priests in Retirement

This weekend, the Youth SVP will be collecting money for their sponsored 'Holy Hike', which they completed in aid of the MacMillan Nurses. Next weekend is the annual collection to support priests who have retired.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Body & Blood of Christ (C)



First Reading

Genesis 14:18-20

Melchizedek, a pagan priest-king, gives gifts of bread and wine to Abraham.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

When we celebrate the Eucharist, Christ is present among us, as we remember all the events of his life, including his death and resurrection.

Gospel Reading

Luke 9:11-17

Jesus provides a meal for those who follow him into the desert. In the Eucharist, we continue the mission of Jesus as we continue to celebrate his life amongst us.