

# Parish of St. Margaret Clitherow

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)

27th January 2013



## PASTORAL AREA TEAM

**Priest:** Fr. Paul Seddon  
**Tel:** 01942 883395  
**Email:** paul.clitherow@yahoo.co.uk

**Priest:** Fr. Stephen Cooper  
**Tel:** 01942 673517  
**Email:** fathercooper@btconnect.com

**Priest:** Fr. Dave Heywood  
**Tel:** 0161 790 2390  
**Email:** frdave@virginmedia.com

**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 Ordinary Time (C)  
**Weekdays** Readings - Year 1, Week 3  
**Today** **Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)**  
(Education Sunday)  
**Monday** St. Thomas Aquinas  
**Thursday** St. John Bosco  
**Saturday** **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**  
**Sunday** **Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)**



## GOSPEL REFLECTION

This week, we saw the Inauguration of President Obama for his second term of office. It is quite an historic occasion, one which holds a great deal of hope for many Americans and other people throughout the world. Whether we like it or not, the USA is a very important country in world politics and therefore, its leader, the US president, is perhaps one of the most important and powerful people in the world. During his speech, the President outlined his main policies and hopes for the future. In today's Gospel, Jesus did something similar at the beginning of his ministry. In the synagogue, at Nazareth, he read a passage from Isaiah which summed up his mission. He announced that the long-awaited "Day of the Lord" had come at last, and that it would be a day of favour for everyone, especially for the poor and the oppressed.

The following story is similar to some of the stories that Jesus told during his ministry. Once there was a landlord whose tenants fell into arrears with the rent. Very soon they found themselves entangled in a web of squalor and debt. They saw no way out of their predicament. The landlord was a kind and gentle man. Even so, the tenants wondered just how much time he would give them to pay the rent. Then a new bailiff appeared on the scene and began to make his rounds. During his rounds, the bailiff asked how much everyone owed. But, surprisingly, he didn't leave it at that. He visited their homes, he asked about the old, the sick and the disabled. He got to know their worries and their problems. Then, one day, he called them all together. They gathered in fear and trepidation, convinced that the dreadful day of reckoning had arrived. He began his speech by telling them off for getting in a debt they could not possibly pay back, and that the landlord should have no option but to evict them from their homes. This is what the tenants expected him to say. Then he said, "I have good news. The landlord has asked me to tell you that you can forget about all your debts. He is wiping the slate clean. From this day, you can start all over again." There was much rejoicing over such good news.

Such was the Good News announced by Jesus in the Synagogue at Nazareth. He was the new bailiff sent by God to his debt-ridden people. According to the Pharisees, the Day of the Lord would be a day of judgement - and here was Jesus declaring that it was the day of the Lord's favour, not just for those who deserved it, but for everyone. The Lord's favour is not limited to a particular day. It can be given to us on any day. The Good News is that salvation is not achieved through our own merits, but through the goodness of God. This is the heart of the Good News. The only thing to be done is to open our hearts to the Saviour who has come to bring us salvation and joy. Jesus didn't merely announce the Good News and leave it at that, he began to make it a reality in the lives of the people he encountered. God wants us to live out the Gospel message in Word and in Deed. The falseness of the Pharisees lay in the fact that they did not practice what they preached. Ghandi once said, "My life is my message." And so it was with Jesus. And so it could be with us.

**Psalms Response**  
**Gospel Acclamation**

**Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.**  
**The Lord has sent me to bring Good News to the poor,**  
**to proclaim liberty to the captives.**

**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

### CAFOD & Traidcraft

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

### St Margaret Clitherow SVP

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th January at 7.30 pm at St Richard's, Atherton. The meeting is for all members, so please come along if you can.

### The Craft Class

The Craft Class will resume on Thursday 31st January at 10.00 am until 12.00 noon in St Richards Club.



### St. Richard's Race Night

St. Richards Primary School are holding their annual Race Night in St. Richards Parish Centre on Friday February 1st at 7.15 pm – first race at 7.45 pm. Admission by ticket only - £3 per adult, £2 per child. Tickets include a hot supper. Lots of prizes to be won, not forgetting our late evening auction prize. Please ring Pauline on 07717 580949 to reserve your tickets.

### Padre Pio Prayer Group

The group will meet in St Ambrose Barlow Church on Monday 11th February at 2.00 pm to pray the rosary. This is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. All are welcome to attend.

### News from St Mary's High School

This week our theme is Christian Unity. Through exploring and learning about other denominations, we learn understanding and acceptance.

Our science team visited St. Richard's and St. George's Year 5 class recently to conduct some CSI style investigations – they were trying to find out which evil Christmas character stole some presents! Everyone involved really enjoyed the afternoon, and all who took part received a certificate to congratulate them on solving the mystery.

The January exam season comes to an end this week, which will be met with a sigh of relief from many of our students.

Thank You!

Many thanks to all who attended the recent Ecumenical Quiz Night at St Ambrose. The sum of £300 was raised. It will be used to offset the cost of the Ecumenical Christmas Cards distributed to households prior to Christmas.



### Discovering God's plan for you!

(ARE YOU AGED 15-21 AND THINKING ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD?)

On Sunday 10th February at 2.00 pm, the Vocations Team will be holding its monthly discernment meeting at St Charles Borromeo Church, 224 Aigburth Road, Liverpool. This meeting is aimed at young men aged between 15-21. We gather to pray, socialise and learn more about the vocation of the priesthood. If you would like to attend this event or would like more information, then please contact Fr James Preston on 0151 727 2493.

### Over 60's Afternoon March 16th 2013

Traditionally, St Ambrose Barlow Church Community has welcomed persons over 60 years of age to Mass, a meal and entertainment in March. Sadly, we can only accommodate 76 persons with our limited catering facilities.

We are now inviting **those who wish to attend to make your intention clear** so we can issue the invitations, subject to numbers. As always, our first priority must be to sick and housebound members of the community and those over 60 years who attend St Ambrose Barlow Church on a regular basis. We would also like to invite those who have historically attended our church but who now worship in the neighbouring communities, owing to a change in circumstances, plus those who help out at our community events on a regular basis.

If you would like to attend this very enjoyable afternoon, please contact Delia (07753 929476) or Steve (01942 876487) before February 10th, who will pass your request on to the organisers. Invitations will then be issued according to the above criteria and subject to numbers. If we find that we are over subscribed, then the later names will be placed in a draw for selection, but we will try to fit in as many people as possible and hopefully no-one will be disappointed!

You're Invited!

### A Special Service for the Celebration of Marriage & Family Life

at  
Our Lady Immaculate, Bryn WN4 0LZ

on  
Sunday 10th February  
3.00 - 4.30 pm

Refreshments & activities for children available

RSVP Julie Cassidy 0151 522 1040

or [j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk)

### 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](http://www.leighpastoralarea.co.uk)

#### Catholic School Websites

[www.st-maryshigh.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.st-maryshigh.wigan.sch.uk)

[www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.athertonsacredheart.wigan.sch.uk)

[www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.boothstownhollyfamily.wigan.sch.uk)

[www.saintambrosebarlow.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.saintambrosebarlow.wigan.sch.uk)

[www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk](http://www.saintgabrielsprimary.co.uk)

[www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.saintrichards.wigan.sch.uk)

**An Idea for Lent 2013**

The Year of Faith (2012-13) was initiated by Pope Benedict XVI to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Opening of the Second Vatican Council in 1962 by Pope John XXIII. 1962 is also a significant year for the Catholic Church in England and Wales because that was the year the Bishops set up CAFOD – Catholic Association For Overseas Development.

To mark the 50th Anniversary of CAFOD, we would like to suggest that each community in the Parish does something during Lent to highlight CAFOD's work and to raise funds for the charity.

We already have CAFOD's Annual Lent Fast Day on Friday 22nd February. In addition, there will be a Wardrobe De-Clutter Sale in aid of CAFOD on Sunday 3rd March at Holy Family, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm (see flyers at the back of churches). It is also planned to have a Mass in remembrance of Archbishop Oscar Romero towards the end of Lent, and to use CAFOD's Stations of the Cross in each church at some stage during Lent.

Would the other communities like to do something during Lent for CAFOD – either individually or collectively? Please let Fr Paul or Fr Dave know in order to avoid date clashes and so that we can advertise what's happening.

**News for Young People**

**Soul Food** - a social and spiritual Saturday night experience for over 18's at St Mary's, Lowe House, 99 Crab St., St Helens WA10 2BE on the first Saturday of every month.

**Super Sunday** - a new way of celebrating Sunday for young people at St Mary's, Lowe House, on the first Sunday of every month. All welcome for any or all parts of the day: 12.00 noon Group Sessions exploring faith through games, film and music, 2.15 pm Mass Prep, 3.00 pm Mass followed by social time. For further details, see noticeboards at the back of churches or Animate's website: [www.animateyouth.co.uk](http://www.animateyouth.co.uk)



**Catholic Parliamentary & Public Policy Internships**

For the last ten years, the Catholics Bishops Conference has organised Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships for recently graduated Catholics. This year we are looking to offer at least 6 internships: three interns will be placed with Christian MP's at Westminster, two in public policy with CAFOD and one in a media internship in Archbishop's House, Westminster. All internships will run from September 2013 - July 2014 and include accommodation and subsistence allowances. Full details and an application form can be found on our website:

[www.cbcew.org.uk/catholic-internships](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/catholic-internships)

Completed application forms must either be emailed to [interns@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:interns@cbcew.org.uk) or posted to: Michaela Kelly, Head of HR, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX. The closing date is 9.00 am on 25th February 2013 and Assessment days will be 25th and 26th March 2013. If you know anyone who may be interested in this opportunity, please encourage them to apply.

**Education Sunday**

Today is Education Sunday - a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone involved in the world of education. There will be a **Second Collection** at the end of Mass this weekend for the Catholic Education Service, which is an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

**A Prayer for Education Sunday**

God of wisdom,  
 we pray for all those involved in education:  
 for teachers whose work shapes the lives of others;  
 for chaplains who offer pastoral care  
 and seek to interpret the  
 purpose of education in daily life;  
 for children and students, that learning may be a joy,  
 and gaining knowledge a source of happiness;  
 for administrators, that care and efficiency  
 may go hand in hand;  
 for all involved in the whole task of education,  
 that it may be devoted to justice rather than self seeking,  
 equality rather than privilege,  
 and creation of community rather than division.  
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
 Amen.

*Adapted from a prayer by Donald Hilton*



**21st World Day of Prayer for the Sick  
 ARCHDIOCESAN MASS WITH AND FOR  
 HEALTHCARE WORKERS**

**Sunday 10th February  
 at 3.00 pm**

**Holy Name Church, Moss Pits Lane, Liverpool**

**Celebrant: Bishop Tom Williams**

*(followed by refreshments)*

Bishop Tom writes: "Those working in our hospitals, the ambulance service and the medical profession as a whole in whatever capacity, are invited through this day to recognise and value the spiritual dimension of their work. It is also an opportunity for us all to show our appreciation and support for the work they do, particularly now when the health service is facing an uncertain future."

**LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Holy Family	£ 695.99
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 300.17
St Gabriel's	£ 165.58
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 640.80

**OTHER COLLECTIONS**

**Housing Justice**

Holy Family	£ 154.73
St Gabriel's	£ 72.21
St. Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 156.45

*Thank you so much for your generosity*

# PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 27th January 2013	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am McHugh & Lyth Families 11.00 am John Higginbottom 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Evelyn Green	(Sat) 6.00 pm Helen Coppack	(Sat) 6.00 pm Frances Green 9.30 am Mary Charlton 6.30 pm Pat Fanning
MONDAY				12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's
TUESDAY		9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Stephanie FitzGibbon 1.00 pm Funeral Service for Frank Lennon		9.15 am Terry O'Keeffe
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm A Recovery	9.00 am St Mary's Y7 (Arthur Wilson) 12.30 pm Funeral Service for Thomas Unsworth		9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
THURSDAY	10.00 am Joseph Delaney			9.15 am Helen Bennett
FRIDAY			10.00 am Frank Lennon	9.15 am Kathleen Lambert 12.00 noon Funeral Service for Bernard Boylan
SATURDAY	10.00 am Blessing of Candles, Procession & Mass (Lilian Cronin)		6.00 pm People of the Pastoral Area	6.00 pm Mary Flaherty
SUNDAY	9.00 am Peter Lomas 11.00 am Private Intention (LISC)	11.00 am Fr Arthur		9.30 am Angela Gibbons 6.30 pm Winnifred Derbyshire

## 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)

## BAPTISM

We welcome into the family of the Church:  
**Hamlin Marygold Kanichayi**  
May God bless Hamlin and his family

## LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:  
**Beryl Skiffington, Frank Lennon,  
Bernard Boylan, Helen Bennett,  
Thomas Unsworth & Mgr Stephen Louden**

Those who are sick, especially:  
**Anne Broad, Bernard Atkinson, Teresa Cooney,  
Michael Dunn, Archbishop Kelly,  
Maureen Warren & Canon Dick Firth**

Children who are missing, especially:  
**Madeleine McCann & April Jones**

## SECOND COLLECTION

Today

Catholic Education Service

Next Sunday

Church Action on Poverty

**Church Action on Poverty** is an ecumenical charity, based in Manchester, committed to tackling poverty in the United Kingdom. CAP works in partnership with churches and with people in poverty themselves to find solutions to poverty, locally, nationally and globally. Website: [www.church-poverty.org.uk](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk)

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

First Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-5,17-19

Jeremiah is called by God to bring the Good News to his people.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

Paul stresses that the gift of love is so important in the life of every Christian.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:21-30

Jesus shared the fate of every true prophet – he was rejected by his own people.