

Parish of St. Margaret Clitherow

Easter Sunday (C)

31st March 2013



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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Deacons: Robert Hewertson, Anthony Arrowsmith & Dennis Vint

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 2
Sunday Readings - Easter Sunday (C)
Weekdays Readings - Easter Octave

Today **Easter Sunday (C)**
Sunday **Second of Easter (C)**



GOSPEL REFLECTION

On Easter morning, the women went to the tomb where Jesus had been buried. They had a sad task to perform – to complete the embalming of his body. But this was not the only reason they were going to the tomb. They wanted to be near the one who had filled their lives and whose death plunged them into inconsolable grief. We've often done the same ourselves. When someone we love dies, we find it hard to accept that they have gone from us forever. We feel a need to maintain a link with them. One of the ways we try to do this is by visiting their graves. However, far from easing the pain, this can sometimes increase it. If things had gone as expected on that first Easter morning, the women would have embalmed the body of Jesus, closed the tomb again, and come away more convinced than ever that what happened on the Friday was not a bad dream but a terrible reality. But things did not go that way.

At the tomb, they met two angels who said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here. He has risen!" It was to these faithful women that the Easter message was first given: Jesus is NOT dead, he is alive! So they must not waste their time looking for him at the tomb.

All of us probably associate graveyards and cemeteries with death. Yet, it was precisely in such a place that the resurrection was first proclaimed. It was fitting that it was here, where death seems to reign supreme, that the Good News of Jesus' resurrection was first announced to the world. Through the Alleluias we sing this weekend, in the readings we listen to, in the praise we give to God, our faith in Jesus' resurrection is proclaimed today. May our very lives stand as witness to our faith in the resurrection of the Lord, a resurrection we hope to share in one day with God and all our loved ones in Heaven.

Psalm Response

This day was made for the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

Gospel Acclamation

Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.



A massive thank you to everyone who has played a part in making Lent and Easter so very special this year. Thanks to everyone who made all the churches in the Parish look so beautiful; to cleaners, flower arrangers, sacristans, musicians and singers, readers, eucharistic ministers, greeters and everyone else who played their part in making the liturgies come to life in such a wonderful way. And, of course, thank you so much to everyone who came along to the celebrations.

A very happy Easter to you all,
Fr Paul, Fr Dave & Rev Bob

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.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Easter is the time when we renew our own baptismal commitment. Easter is also the traditional time for welcoming new adult members into the Christian community. So, at the Easter Vigil in St Richard's, we welcome **Rebecca** and **Simon** - Simon will be baptised, and both he and Rebecca will celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion. At the Easter Vigil in St Gabriel's, we welcome **Dawn**, **Natalie** and **Kathy** - Dawn will be baptised and then confirmed, along with Natalie and Kathy, before all three share communion with us for the first time. So a very warm welcome to Rebecca, Simon, Dawn, Natalie and Kathy. We hope you will feel very welcome in our parish family of St Margaret Clitherow.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS



ThirtySomethings

Are you in your 30s? Would you like to meet other Catholics your age? If so, we would like to meet you on Saturday 6th April at St Joseph's Church, 1 Tatton St (off St Petersgate), Stockport SK1 1EJ (parking available behind the church). Mass at 5.00 pm, and then an opportunity to chat and socialise afterwards. For further details, or to get on our mailing list, please contact Sarah on sarahheaton@uwclub.net or text/phone Hugh on 07977 904479, or just turn up.

Discovering God's plan for you!

On Sunday 7th April at 2.00 pm the Vocations Team will be holding its monthly discernment meeting at St Mary's Lowe House, St Helens. 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 Father James Preston on 0151 727 2493.

Healing Mass

There will be a Healing Mass at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral on Friday 19th April at 7.00 pm to mark the first anniversary of the death of Canon Jimmy Collins. The celebrant will be Fr Peter Morgan.

The Catholic Bishops' Mental Health Project

This project, funded from Day for Life, offers support and resources to local Catholic communities as they respond to those facing difficulties in mental health. It seeks to identify and highlight good practice in pastoral care for those with mental health needs, their families and their carers. The project aims to develop a network of those within the Catholic community in England & Wales with a special interest in locally-based mental health support. Reports from the project, examples of good practice and further resources can be found at the project's website: www.mentalhealthproject.co.uk



FUNDRAISING FOR CHARITY

London Marathon

Paolo Dale (from Holy Family) will be taking part in this year's London Marathon on 21st April. He is raising funds for Breast Cancer Care and would be most grateful if you would consider sponsoring him: www.justgiving.com/Paolo-Dale

Swimathon 26-28th April

Each year Marie Curie Cancer Care organises a sponsored swim. Kevan Rushton plans to swim 2.5 km (just over 1.5 miles or 100 lengths of the pool) to raise as much money as possible. If you would like to sponsor Kevan, either see him after Sunday Mass at St Ambrose Barlow or go to www.swimathon.org click on 'sponsor a swimmer', then click 'sponsor an individual', then type in **Kevan Rushton**. Many thanks.

Manchester Marathon

Joanne Burton will be running in the Manchester Marathon on April 28th in aid of the Meningitis Trust. There will also be a fundraising evening at the Royal British Legion in Boothstown on 20th April to raise money and awareness. There will be live entertainment, raffle, hotpot supper and a disco. For me details: www.justgiving.com/moneyformeningitis

PRAYING FOR OUR ARMED FORCES

Let us pray for those in the Armed Forces currently serving overseas, whether on land, at sea or in the air.

For those who have returned home, injured or maimed, and who are suffering in mind, body or spirit, and for their families. For the families and friends of those bereaved by the loss of a loved one on active service.

For all those in the Armed Forces whose task it is to use their professionalism and skills in support of our soldiers, sailors and airmen.

Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

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

PARISH NEWS

Ladies Meeting

The next meeting of the Ladies Group will take place on Wednesday 3rd April at 7.30 pm in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Tea rota: Susan Gaskell & Norma Quinn. Raffle Rota: Christine Bousfield & Maria Chilman. All welcome.

Craft Class

The next class will be on Thursday April 4th in St Richard's Parish Centre.

CAFOD & Traidcraft

CAFOD & Traidcraft will be open in Holy Family Parish Hall after the 9.00 & 11.00 am Masses next Sunday, 7th April.

Happy Easter

It's ABBA Again!

By popular demand, an evening of Abba is being staged at Atherton Formby Hall on Friday April 12th at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £10. The important thing about the evening is that it is a fundraiser for the Atherton & Leigh Foodbank which is much needed in our area at this present time.

Offertory Envelopes

If you use envelopes to make your offering each week, please ensure that the envelope is sealed properly. Recently, some envelopes have been empty because they weren't sealed properly - the money wasn't lost because it became part of the 'loose' collection. However, if you Gift Aid your offering, we need to be able to record the total for each envelope.

Saint Ambrose Barlow 200 Club

A date for your diary - the Cabaret Evening when the £1000 prize Draw will take place will be in the Hall on Friday 26th April. Watch this space for more details and for information about tickets. The winners of the March draw were: £100 (107) Anne Carey, £50 (111) Bill Green.

Balls of Wool

If anyone has any odd balls of wool (any colours will do) for the crochet of baby blankets for the baby special care unit at Bolton and Wigan hospitals, please leave them at the back of any of the churches. The blankets can only be used for the one baby and are sent home with the baby, so a continuous supply needed. Thank you for your kind help.

Gift Aid Envelopes

The new Gift Aid envelopes for the next tax year are now available. Parishioners from St Richard's and Sacred Heart who Gift Aid their offering are asked to call into St Richard's Parish Centre this weekend to collect their new envelopes.

Guides Bag2School

St Ambrose Barlow Guides are providing you with another opportunity to clear out your wardrobes ready for the new season. They are holding a bag2school event on Saturday 20th April. Bags are available at the back of church after Mass. Please don't worry if you don't pick up a bag as any bin bag will do! If you want us to collect your bags - we will travel anywhere in the Pastoral Area, just contact Delia on 01942 884576. Alternatively, please drop your bags off on Saturday 20th April, 8.30 - 9.00 am. Fill your bags with clothing, shoes, belts, bags, towels, curtains and even soft toys! Many thanks for your support.

Thank You

"Thank you everyone for all your prayers and get well cards. Your kindness has helped my recovery. Colette."

A True Story to Warm the Heart



A dog has been attending Mass every day at a church in Italy where its owner's funeral was held. People who attend the church in southern Italy say the German shepherd, named Tommy, was rescued by 57-year-old Maria Margherita. Tommy would walk to church with Margherita every day until her death last November. Since then, the devoted German shepherd has been adopted by the community. Residents say Tommy runs to mass when the church bells ring. "He's still coming to Mass even after Maria's funeral," explained Father Donato Panna. "He waits patiently by the side of the altar and just sits there quietly."

More about Pope Francis



"Through Pope Francis, Christ has sent us a fresh spring wind in the Church," said Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna. One senses that "Christ is with us along the way." The Cardinal summarised his impressions of the first days of the new pope in Rome, saying that what so moved the people in St Peter's Square about Pope Francis is his "simplicity, humility, and straightforwardness." He added, "Humility makes us free." Schönborn said that the pope's freedom, sovereignty, and spontaneity comes from a deep source, from prayer. At table in St. Martha's House, Pope Francis told the Viennese archbishop that he gets up at 4.30 every day in order to have two hours of "quiet time" for prayer.

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 815.15
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 320.59
St Gabriel's	£ 186.26
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 665.11
Total Parish Collection	£1987.11

SECOND COLLECTION CAFOD's Syria Crisis Appeal

Holy Family	£ 342.83
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 209.82
St Gabriel's	£ 148.69
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£1015.96

Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 31st March 2013	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Eric White <i>(Children's Mass)</i> 11.00 am A Special Intention <i>(Baptism Mass)</i>	11.00 am Jim Duffy	(Sat) 7.30 pm Derek Singleton & People of the Pastoral Area	(Sat) 8.00 pm Catherine, Emmett & Terry Fitzmaurice 9.30 am Pat Fanning 6.30 pm Josephine Cora Oddie
MONDAY	12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's, Leigh			
TUESDAY	11.00 am Funeral Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary	No Mass today		9.15 am Maria Baxendale
WEDNESDAY	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Bill & Mary Freeman			No Exposition today
THURSDAY	10.00 am Private Intention (LISC)			9.15 am Jimmy & Kathleen Howarth
FRIDAY			10.00 am Margaret Hudson	No Mass today
SATURDAY	10.00 am Sheila Swift		6.00 pm Vera Dean	6.00 pm Lilian Welby
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Veronica Walsh 11.00 am Mark Smith-Kenyon 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Thanksgiving for the safe delivery of Jack Louis Long		9.30 am Martin Wall 6.30 pm Paddy Furey

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:

Freya Elizabeth James & Matilda Florence Roberts
May God bless them and their family

LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Neil Doherty	Brian Edge
Rebecca Duffy	Jack Langshaw
Jade Lomas-Anderson	Canon Bill O'Sullivan
John Raines	Jade Anderson
Mary Flynn	

Those who are sick, especially:

Anne Broad	Joan Clegg
Teresa Cooney	Michael Dunn
Norah Atkinson	Maureen Warren
Margaret Dixon	Margaret Langan
Joan West	Alan West
Gillian Best	Fr George Russell

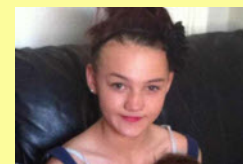
Children who are missing, especially:

Madeleine McCann	April Jones
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SECOND COLLECTION

Today
Next Week

No collection
Friends of the Holy Land



Please pray for Jade Anderson, the young girl who was tragically killed in Atherton last Tuesday. Pray too for her family and her young friends, especially those from Fred Longworth High School. May she rest in the peace of the risen Lord.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Second Sunday of Easter (C)

First Reading *Acts 5:12-16*

The apostles are held in high regard by the ordinary people of Jerusalem. Many people are cured by the miracles they perform.

Second Reading *Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19*

St John is asked to write a message – one which has great meaning for the Church until the end of time.

Gospel Reading *John 20:19-31*

By seeing and touching the wounds of the Risen Lord, Thomas is cured of his unbelief.