

Parish of St. Margaret Clitherow

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)

4th August 2013



PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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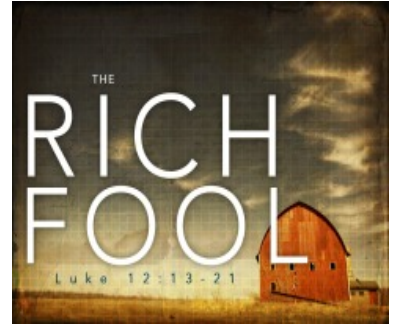
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Deacons: Robert Hewertson, Anthony Arrowsmith & Dennis Vint

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Psalter Week 2
Readings Sunday - 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
Weekdays - Year 1, Week 18
Today 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
Tuesday Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
Thursday St Dominic
Friday Feast of St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
Saturday Feast of St Lawrence, Deacon
Sunday 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Like the famous story of the Prodigal Son, the young man in today's Gospel wants his share of the inheritance that should be divided between himself and his brother. He brings his request to Jesus since rabbis were expected to give judgement on a whole range of subjects concerning law. This included civil, criminal and religious questions. But Jesus refuses to take up the role of the judge. Instead, he communicates as a storyteller, inviting the young man to take his wisdom from the story rather than his rights from the law. Instead of dividing the inheritance between the two brothers, Jesus focuses on why the inheritance has divided the two brothers. Where Jesus is, a story is sure to follow. A rich farmer is blessed with an abundance of crops. His reaction is not to rejoice with others but to talk to himself until he has worked out a way to store all this abundance and keep it secure. In looking after himself, he focuses on what he owns rather than on what he can share. His life is governed by his own possessions: his crops, his barns, his grain, his goods. He thinks that he owns his future and that nothing can spoil it in any way. His world is seen in terms of what he owns rather than who he is. The rich man, in Jesus' story, is dead already. He is buried up to his neck in his own grain. His world is unrelated to the fortune or fate of any other human being. He thinks that his possessions will insure his future when in fact they will go to anyone but him. The rich man dies twice: he dies in life and he dies leaving it. His funeral only confirms what has happened a long time ago.

God very rarely appears in parables, but he appears in this one and calls the rich man a fool. The rich man is a real idiot in the truest sense of the word. The word idiot comes from the Greek "idiotes", meaning "the one who is alone." Although he is made in the image of his creator, he does not live as the creator does. As St. Paul says in today's Second Reading, our new self must be renewed in the image of our creator. God's creativity moves out to touch the lives of others. He shares his richness with others. In the end, God gives himself away; and that is why the rich man is alone - he does not share any of his goods, or himself for that matter, with anyone else. In contrast to the rich man in Jesus' story, Jesus spends himself. He spends his whole life sharing his talent for forgiveness, his insight, his love, his energy, his imagination, his prayer, his stories. The list is endless. All these qualities create new life for others. Jesus keeps nothing to himself because he regards nothing as his: he says that everything he is and has comes from the Father. What Jesus owns, God owns too. This way of living creatively is something Jesus hopes for in his own disciples. As his disciples, the inheritance that Jesus has given us is not to divide brother from brother, or sister from sister, but to unite people in the gifts God has given to us and for us all. The inheritance we have received from God is one we are pledged to give away. In Gospel terms, this makes us rich and blessed and can make our world, and the world of those around us, a better place.

Psalm Response O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Gospel Acclamation Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.

**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.**

LEADING LIGHT CAMPAIGN

Many of you will know Dom Goggins from Holy Family. I received an email from him last week and thought it was worth sharing. Fr Dave.

Dear Friends,
It's just over 12 months since we launched the Leading Light Campaign: an attempt to raise £1 million for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research between the London and Rio Olympics. 3 year to go and we're at 3-4%.

I want to thank you for your ongoing support, with special thanks to those who have participated, donated, tweeted, whatever. It's been a hard year and there have been some difficult truths. One thing has become crystal clear – I cannot do this on my own. So I have 2 requests:

1) Please take 3 or 4 minutes out of your day to read this blog. Please help me to spread the word about this campaign by sending it to anyone you think might be interested, and social media, etc.

<http://leukaemialymphomaresearch.org.uk/news-item/leading-light-campaign-one-year>

2) If it resonates, please think about whether there's anything you can do to help. You don't have to run a marathon! If you think you could open a few doors to people who might be prepared to make a major donation, or get 'Leading Light' considered as your company's charity, or organise a collection, or write an article, or anything – please get in touch. I really need your help. And you can run a marathon if you like!

As you may know I work for CAFOD, and it's very close to my heart, but working with Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research is the greatest privilege in my life. It's a wonderful charity, a wonderful cause and we have a big job to do. Blood cancers will be beaten but we need your help to do it. And we have a bit of fun along the way... <http://vimeo.com/68244498>



A warm welcome to visitors, those who have come home for the summer, and guests of parishioners. This week, a greeting in French:

“Chers amis qui venez passer vos vacances chez nous, nous sommes heureux de vous accueillir parmi nous.”

REFLECTIONS

People are often unreasonable,
illogical and self-centered;
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind,
people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful,
you will win some false friends and true enemies;
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank,
people may cheat you;
Be honest anyway.

What you spend years building,
someone could destroy overnight;
Build anyway.

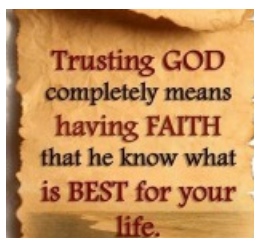
If you find serenity and happiness,
they may be jealous;
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today,
people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have,
and it may never be enough;
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis,
it is between you and God;
It was never between you and them anyway.

(Mother Teresa)



The goal of our life is to live with God forever. God, who loves us, gave us life. Our own response of love allows God's life to flow into us without limit. All the things in this world are gifts from God, presented to us so that we can know God more easily and make a return of love more readily. As a result, we appreciate and use all these gifts of God insofar as they help us to develop as loving persons.

St Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)

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

This Week

Save a life - give blood

Tuesday 6th August: 1.15 - 3.30 & 5.15 - 7.30 pm at the Novotel.

Padre Pio Prayer Group

This takes place every Tuesday evening at 7.00 pm at St Ambrose Barlow Church. St Pio's advice to "Pray, Hope and Don't Worry" could not be more well-timed for us all. The Prayer Groups are the most direct response to this message of hope and love that we can spread, by putting our hand trustingly into the hand of God and the Holy Family, as our spiritual father Saint Pio, has taught us. *Rev Bob.*

Ladies Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Ladies Group will take place on Wednesday, August 7th at 7.30 pm, in St Ambrose Barlow Church Hall. Tea Rota: Mary Barton & Margaret Rushton. Raffle: Maureen Hilton & Joan Rigby. Remember to bring a gift (value around £2). New members always welcomed. Give us a try – we're a friendly bunch!

Sacred Heart Monthly Draw

Date of Draw 28 July 2013

£200 - 596, £50 - 924, £25 - 387

£10 - 88, 157, 603, 655

£5 - 238, 1108, 469, 758, 712

Many thanks for your support.

Forthcoming Events

Walsingham Pilgrimage

The Walsingham Pilgrimage takes place between August 19th-22nd. The balance is now due for payment.

Annual Pilgrimage to St Edmund Arrowsmith

The annual pilgrimage to venerate the holy hand of St Edmund Arrowsmith will take place on Sunday 25th August at St Oswald and St Edmund's Church, Ashton-in-Makerfield. Mass will be celebrated at 4.00 pm, followed by veneration of the holy hand. The preacher at Mass will be Fr Kevin Kelly.

Parish Feast Day

There will be a special Mass to celebrate the Parish Feast Days of St Margaret Clitherow and St Edmund Arrowsmith. This year, the celebration will take place at Twelve Apostles, Westleigh, on Thursday 29th August at 7.30 pm. More details nearer the time.

Emmaus Group

The next meeting of the Emmaus Group will be on Wednesday September 4th at 7.30 pm in the Parish House at St. Richard's. The meeting is open to anyone who has recently joined the Catholic Church and to anyone who is thinking of joining. It is a very relaxed meeting where we share our feelings about how we feel as new members of the Church and where we can share our questions and thoughts about our faith.

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 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 on 0151 949 1199 or email her at jenny@irenaeus.co.uk If there are enough people from the Pastoral Area, we could make a group booking which would make it cheaper. If you would like to go to this, please contact Fr. Paul or Bernie at St. Richards.



Churches Together in Boothstown PILGRIMAGE TO LIVERPOOL'S TWO CATHEDRALS Saturday 31st August 2013

An opportunity for members of the various churches to spend a half-day together visiting the two Cathedrals in Liverpool.

Proposed Timetable

11.00 am	Depart Holy Family Car Park and travel by coach to Liverpool
12.00 noon	Short Tour and free time at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral
1.00 pm	Lunch at the Piazza Cafe Bar <i>(at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral)</i>
2.00 pm	Short Tour and free time at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral
3.30 pm	Depart
4.30 pm	Arrive at Holy Family Car Park

The sooner we have an idea of numbers, the sooner we can book a coach and reserve places for lunch. So, if you are interested in coming on the pilgrimage, please sign the sheet at Holy Family as soon as possible, or email Fr Dave, no later than 12th August 2013. *Many thanks.*



Congratulations go out to **Janine Murphy & Gareth Paine**, who were married at St. Richards last weekend, and also to **Fiona Stansfield & Michael Gibson**, who were married in St. Blaise RC Church, Croatia, a few weeks ago. We pray that they will be very happy together.

Faith
makes things possible ... not easy

LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 679.19
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 238.90
St Gabriel's	£ 195.35
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 553.67
Total Parish Collection	£1667.11

SECOND COLLECTION Day for Life

Holy Family	£ 174.32
St Ambrose Barlow	£
St Gabriel's	£ 72.50
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 238.38

Thank you so much for your generosity

PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 4th August 2013	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
SUNDAY	9.00 am Austin Meighan Jr 11.00 am Charles Legg	11.00 am Ian Close	(Sat) 6.00 pm Christine Nolan	(Sat) 6.00 pm Bernadette Sproston 9.30 am Mary Charlton 6.30 pm Margaret Harrison
MONDAY	<i>12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's, Leigh</i>			
TUESDAY		9.15 am <i>Mass at St Richard's</i> 7.00 pm Prayer Group		9.15 am Maria Baxendale
WEDNESDAY	12.00 noon <i>Mass at St Joseph's</i>			9.00 - 10.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
THURSDAY	9.15 am <i>Mass at St Richard's</i>			9.15 am Margaret Harrison
FRIDAY			9.15 am <i>Mass at St Richard's</i>	9.15 am Dawn Crowther
SATURDAY			6.00 pm Brian Mills	6.00 pm Helen Bennett
NEXT SUNDAY	9.00 am Madeline Meighan 11.00 am Private Intention (LISC) 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Edward & Mary Ellison		9.30 am Marie Langin 6.30 pm Roddy Flaherty

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

This Saturday

Please note:

*No morning Confessions at Holy Family
After 6.00 pm Mass at St Richard's
(or by appointment with one of the priests)*



LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Nicola Jayne Lee Dawn Crowther

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
Veronica Marsden Mavis Smith
Elizabeth Oldershaw Joyce Nuttall
Lynda Daly

Children who are missing, especially:

Madeleine McCann

SECOND COLLECTION

Please Note

There will be NO Second Collection
during August



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

19th Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)

First Reading

Wisdom 18:6-9

Just as God came to the rescue of the Jews in Egypt, so he will save those who put their trust in him.

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19

We are called to imitate the faith of the patriarchs, especially the faith of Abraham, "our father in faith".

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:32-48

The parable of the waiting servants urges us to be constantly watching and ready.