

# Parish of St. Margaret Clitherow

2nd Sunday of Easter (C)

7th April 2013



## PASTORAL AREA TEAM

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

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

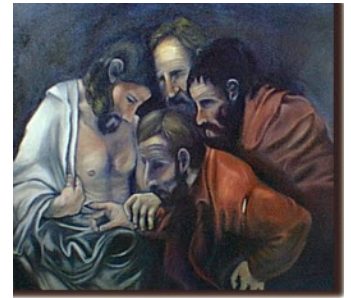
**Priest:** Fr. Stephen Cooper  
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**Deacons:** Robert Hewertson, Anthony Arrowsmith & Dennis Vint

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

**Psalter** Week 2  
**Sunday** Readings - 2nd Sunday of Easter (C)  
**Weekdays** Readings - 2nd Week of Easter  
**Today** 2nd Sunday of Easter (C)  
**Monday** Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord  
(Transferred from 25th March)  
**Thursday** St Stanislaus  
**Sunday** 3rd Sunday of Easter (C)



## GOSPEL REFLECTION

It's perhaps easy to make the mistake that believing was easier for those who saw Jesus than it is for us today. The Gospels show that there were many people who saw Jesus and yet didn't come to have faith in him. Seeing is not necessarily believing. The act of faith involves a decision to believe. In fact, the Gospel shows that even the apostles had their problems believing. Thomas wasn't the only apostle to doubt the resurrection. All of them did. St. Mark tells us that, when Jesus appeared to them on Easter Sunday, "he upbraided them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen." We can sympathise with the apostles. The crucifixion of Jesus dealt them a devastating blow. They had invested an enormous amount in Jesus. They had left their homes and families, their jobs, everything to follow him. And suddenly he was gone. The more the reality of his death came home to them, the greater their loss appeared. The value and meaning of everything they held dear was threatened: their comradeship, their faith, their whole lives. And then the incredible happened. He rose from the dead and was once more in their company. The first thing he did was to show them his wounds. The wounds helped to identify who he really was. They were also the proof of his love for them. He invited them to see and to touch.

The example of Thomas is particularly enlightening for us today. He showed a refreshing honesty. He made no attempt to hide his doubts. Doubt is sometimes looked on as a sign of weakness. We tend to feel guilty about having doubts. But having doubts can be a point of growth, a stepping stone to a deeper understanding and a deeper level of faith. It certainly was for Thomas because he went on to give expression to the highest statement of faith in Jesus in the entire Gospel of John: "My Lord and my God." Every community could do with a character like Thomas, that is, someone who has the courage to ask the questions no one else dare ask. Such people are truthful, and they help to keep others truthful too. Having overcome his crisis of faith, Thomas went on to bear courageous witness to Jesus and became one of the greatest missionaries of the early Church. According to tradition, he brought the Gospel to Persia, Syria and India, where he was martyred.

Jesus invites us today to come closer to him and to make him "visible" to others. This is the way it was with the first disciples. Once they had seen the Risen Jesus, they felt compelled to make him known to others. As we try our best to do that today, may we be counted as those who are "blessed", namely, "those who have not seen and yet still believe."

**alleluia!**  
*Christ has Risen!*

### Psalm Response

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

### Gospel Acclamation

Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me.  
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

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.



## FUNDRAISING FOR CHARITY

### **London Marathon 21st April**

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](http://www.justgiving.com/Paolo-Dale)

### **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.



### **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. It is aimed at helping participants to discover a little more about what God is calling them to do in their lives.

There will be some stimulating keynote talks and a number of thought-provoking workshops on spirituality and evangelisation. In addition, there will be beautiful worship experiences, such as Divine Office with the monks, Adoration in the abbey church, and a nocturnal Blessed Sacrament Procession. In between these activities there will be plenty of time for prayerful reflection, reading, fellowship and confession.

The food will be good and there will be a licensed bar. The cost of the weekend will be £60. Some grants are available on request to students who are without funds and the unwaged. We want everybody to be there who wants to be there! This is a Year of Faith initiative which will help young people in the north of England to make a new radical commitment to Jesus.

For further information:

**Facebook:** Invocation in the North 2013

**Website:** [www.invocation.org.uk](http://www.invocation.org.uk)

**Email** (Liz White): [scarboroughcatholicparishes@gmail.com](mailto:scarboroughcatholicparishes@gmail.com)

**Telephone:** 01723 360358



### **National Board of Catholic Women**

'Living Hope in the Church Today' - A Day of Refreshment & Renewal for Women. Saturday 27th April, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm at LACE. Facilitated by Sister Pauline Darby SCHJ. Keynote addresses springing from 'Gaudium et Spes' by Dr Oonagh O'Brien (Principal Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge). Periods of reflection, prayer and liturgy. Cost is £10 (including refreshments and lunch). For catering purposes, please book a place by contacting: Julie Cassidy (0151 522 1040) or email: [j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:j.cassidy@rcaol.co.uk) no later than Wednesday 17th April.

### **Justice & Peace Commission**

Annual Assembly on Saturday 25th May, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm at LACE, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA. Main Speaker: Sir Bert Massie CBE 'Coping with the Cuts'. Workshops, stalls and lunch will be provided. RSVP to Steve or Maria on 0151 522 1080/1 or [s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk](mailto:s.atherton@rcaol.co.uk)

### **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](http://www.swimathon.org) click on 'sponsor a swimmer', then click 'sponsor an individual', then type in **Kevan Rushton**. Many thanks.

### **Manchester Marathon 28th April**

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](http://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](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)

## PARISH NEWS

### This Week

#### CAFOD & Traidcraft

CAFOD & Traidcraft will be open in Holy Family Church Hall after the 9.00 & 11.00 am Masses TODAY (Sunday). All welcome.

#### Scripture Group

The next meeting of the Scripture Group will be held on Thursday 11th April at 2.00 pm in Holy Family Church Hall Meeting Room. Our focus will be on the Acts of the Apostles, Chapters 16 - 19. Please bring along a Bible. All welcome.

#### 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.



**Sunday 14th April**  
10.00 am - 12.30 pm & 2.00 - 4.00 pm  
The Novotel, Manchester

### Forthcoming Events

#### Padre Pio Prayer Group

The prayer group will be meeting at St Ambrose Barlow Church on Tuesday 16th April at 7.00 pm, the feast of St Bernadette. Come and join us for reflection and rosary.

#### St Margaret Clitheroe St Vincent de Paul Society

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th April in Holy Family Church Hall Meeting Room at 7.45 pm. This is an important meeting and we have Mr Alan Crane from the South West Lancashire Central Council coming to speak to us, so it would be good if all members could come along to hear what he has to say. Members of the St Edmund Arrowsmith S.V.P. have also been invited. Please come along if you can.

#### St Ambrose Barlow Children's Liturgy Group

If you would like to get involved with the running of the Children's Liturgy at St Ambrose Church, please come along to the meeting on Wednesday 17th April at 7.30 pm in St Ambrose Church Hall, to find out what it is all about.

#### 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.

#### Saint Ambrose Barlow 200 Club

A date for your diary - the Cabaret Evening, when the £1000 prize Draw will take place, will be held 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.

### Sacred Heart Monthly Draw

Date of Draw 31 March 2013  
£200 - 47, £50 - 378, £25 - 947  
£10 - 1017, 353, 819, 245  
£5 - 627, 405, 761, 812, 629

## THE WEEK IN PICTURES

### EASTER SUNDAY

*Just imagine if mobile phones had been invented!*



### POPE FRANCIS

made headlines this week. While greeting people in St Peter's square, he stopped to hug this young boy who is very disabled.



## LAST WEEK'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Holy Family	£ 941.76
St Ambrose Barlow	£ 374.64
St Gabriel's	£ 274.37
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£1189.15
<b>Total Parish Collection</b>	<b>£2779.92</b>

## SECOND COLLECTION

Holy Places (Good Friday)

Holy Family, St Gabriel's & St Ambrose Barlow	£ 467.37
St Richard's & Sacred Heart	£ 97.34

## EASTER FLOWERS

Holy Family	£ 339.00
St Gabriel's	£ 134.00

*Thank you so much for your generosity*

# PARISH MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

WEEK BEGINNING 7th April 2013	HOLY FAMILY	ST AMBROSE BARLOW	ST GABRIEL'S	SACRED HEART & ST RICHARD'S
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am Veronica Walsh 11.00 am Mark Smyth-Kenyon 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Thanksgiving for the safe delivery of Jack Louis Long	(Sat) 6.00 pm Vera Dean	(Sat) 6.00 pm Lilian Welby 9.30 am Martin Wall 6.30 pm Paddy Furey
<b>MONDAY</b>	12.00 noon Mass at St Joseph's, Leigh			
<b>TUESDAY</b>		(Mass at St Gabriel's)	10.30 am Funeral Mass for John Raines	9.15 am Jack Langshaw
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Kathleen & Harry Hilton	9.00 am Reconciliation Service with Y8 (St Mary's)		No Exposition today
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10.00 am Anthony Jones			10.30 am Funeral Mass for Michael Swanton
<b>FRIDAY</b>		10.00 am Jim Duffy	(Mass at St Ambrose Barlow)	9.15 am Maureen Hartley
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10.00 am Mary Gagan		6.00 pm Nicky Wilson	6.00 pm Helen Bennett
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am McHugh & Lyth Families 11.00 am William Walsh 12.30 pm Baptisms	11.00 am Lucy O'Connor		9.30 am The Cleary Family 6.00 pm Rex Baxter

## 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:  
Emelia Cammish, Sophia Hunter,  
Thomas Storey, Harry Niemiec, Amelie Mia Chan  
& Maxwell Joshua John Mulligan  
May God bless them and their families

## LET US HOLD IN PRAYER

Those who have died, especially:

Rebecca Duffy                      Jack Langshaw  
Jade Lomas-Anderson              John Raines  
Michael Swanton

Those who are sick, especially:

Anne Broad                              Joan Clegg  
Teresa Cooney                           Michael Dunne  
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

## SECOND COLLECTION

Today

Next Week

Friends of the Holy Land

Friends of the Holy Land

Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) is a charitable organisation supporting the Christians of the Holy Land, who are suffering greatly. The work of FHL is entirely non-political and is carried out with the backing and blessing of Anglican and Catholic Bishops in England and Wales. Have a look at the website: [www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk)

**STOP PRESS!**

**Pastoral Area Justice & Peace Group**

Meeting this Wednesday, 10th April, at 7.45 pm  
Holy Family, Boothstown

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

3rd Sunday of Easter (C)

**First Reading**

*Acts 5:27-32,40-41*

The apostles courageously witness to the resurrection of Jesus and go through suffering for it.

**Second Reading**

*Revelations 5:11-14*

John writes a hymn in praise of the crucified and Risen Christ.

**Gospel Reading**

*John 21:1-19*

The Risen Jesus appears to seven of his apostles on the shore of the Lake Gennesareth.