

ST MARGARET'S PAGE

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 24 December 2023 - Year B



Fr Peter writes:

The last newsletter of the year gives me the opportunity to thank all those parishioners who have contributed to the life of the Parish; in the celebration of the Liturgy; in the provision of sacramental courses and other catechetical endeavours; in sustaining and promoting the community life of the parish; in maintaining our outward mission to the wider community and world; and to those who help maintain the Church, buildings and grounds. All together your contribution has nurtured and expanded the mission of the Parish to make present the Church in St Margaret-on-Thames.

Continuing Parish life is our collective expression of hope, largely un-vocalised, but one that comes from our common faith in Jesus Christ: His identity and His mission to give and sustain life in its fulness. The Prophet Isaiah writes that, 'the people that have walked in darkness has seen a great light,' pointing, for Christians, towards the birth of Jesus, and the celestial happenings on that holy night which are about to celebrate. This is the foundation for our joy, and to celebrate the Solemnity of the Nativity is once again to reaffirm the joy that comes from stepping out of the darkness and into the light.

None of us can be immune from the multiple images of death and destruction that populate our tv screens especially those from Gaza and the Ukraine. To the pessimist these conflicts and other political issues sum up the human condition that makes

Christmas Mass times

Christmas Eve Mass—5 pm **Mass of the Night**—
Carols & Readings 9.30 pm and Mass at 10.00 pm

Christmas Day Mass—Feast of the Nativity 8.30
am & 10.30 am

Weekday Mass in the Christmas Octave, will take place at 12.00 noon.

Vigil of The Epiphany - Saturday 6th, 6.00 pm

Solemnity of The Epiphany - Sunday 7th January at 8.30 am, 10.30 am
and 6.30 pm



war inevitable. To the optimist they are stumbling blocks are reconcilable if only people could see sense by denying their faith and history. To the Christian neither is war inevitable but neither are secular political attempts successful. To resolve conflict requires the conversion of hearts to bed down amongst waring peoples.

This dynamic of peace between peoples is ultimately the gift of God this peace because to be effective requires a change of heart. Our celebration of Christmas gladly receives the gift of peace brought by the Christ child as well as well as the grace for the transformation of our hearts, to embed the gift of peace in our shared lives. We can be 'lights to the world' through embracing the glory of this night and letting the glory transform our lives. May I wish you all a very blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. Fr Peter

Feast of the Epiphany

Shared Supper

Saturday 6th January 2024

Fr Peter and the Pastoral Council

would like to invite you to an Epiphany Supper.

Please join us after 6 pm Mass for a culinary Indian themed treat to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany.

Main meal will be provided; please bring side dish (eg. Naan, poppadums, dahl) or salad or dessert to share.

Please let us know you can make it - sign up sheet is available at the back of the Church.

Cash donations are welcome.

Film for children will be shown in the basement after the meal.



New parishioners meeting online

Are you new to the parish and would like to find out more about what is going on?

Would you like to find out about how to be more involved?

Meet Fr Peter and some of the parish team on Zoom.

Monday 29th January 2024 at 8 pm

Email the parish office for the invitation and link.

Stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk



St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrccchurch.co.uk • Phone - 020 8892 3902

Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes

Office Hours: Closed for Christmas break from 22nd December - 1 January 2024

CAPTURE OF 2023 - A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE PARISH

The Advent Giving Tree 2023—Thank you

Thank you so much from everyone at The Passage for the wonderful donations that you have given to us this Christmas. The wonderful delivery of clothes and toiletries will be used to support some of the most at-risk people in our society as they work to end their homelessness for good and we work with them to ensure they never spend another night on the streets. Your donation means that people experiencing or threatened by street homelessness will be able to have clean clothes and sanitary items this Christmas. While this is often sometimes something we take for granted, it cannot be overstated how important this is for people to have access to clean clothes and toiletries. Once again, I want to express The Passage's deepest gratitude and thanks to everyone who contributed to the donation. Please have a Merry Christmas and know that you have made a big difference to the lives of people in our community this Christmas.

Max Elgot Community Fundraising Manager

Outdoor Crib 2023



Epiphany super 2023

Thank you Event for all the volunteers



Palm folding - Saturday 25th March

Our very popular Afternoon tea, every 2nd week



Lenten Project 2023—SPEAR and Sr Josefin's Madagascar school project



Confirmation 2023

First Holy Communion 2023



Coronation of King Charles III May 2023



Altar Servers 'Thank you' BBQ in June



Quiz Night June



The Bug Hotel—Nov



Afternoon tea - Fr Hilary 60th Anniversary of ordination



Bingo Night in November



Patronal Feast of St Margarets – BBQ



RCIA in December

