

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 5 February 2023- Year A

In Peter writes:

Last week I spent an enjoyable time reading a book about the religious setting of the Mass during the first centuries of the Catholic Church. I was and was surprised to read that these early Christians did not always meet in a believer's house but were more likely to meet in a shop, workshop or even factory. Recent archaeological evidence is pointing in a different direction and confirms what was thought extra-ordinary that St Paul along with Prisca and Aquila met in their family workshop for the celebration of Mass and the communal meal. Why does it matter that they met in a workshop rather than a house large enough to hold the little congregation?

A number of reasons come to mind, firstly the church community in Corinth and elsewhere was established in an urban environment with multiple people, tradesmen and the poor with the occasional wealthy or powerful member. The Church was never simply a pristine, family or domestic society. This rose-tinted view of the earliest years was made to stand in contrast to what happened when the Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity making it the official religion of the Empire. The personal and intimate morphed to cold and institutional. Such a view was idolised in the years after the Second Vatican Council by activists who sought to return the Church back to the sunny uplands of her earliest years, a project that would remained beyond grasp. By presenting the first centuries as pristine, every subsequent age would feel in the expression of William Shakespeare, 'out of joint.'

Christianity has never been a pristine religion. It is an urban religion originally practiced in houses, factories and workshops located in towns and cities throughout the Roman Empire and beyond. More often liturgical celebrations took place in these inauspicious circumstances in the teeming building complexes that made up ancient cities. These towns and cities were populated with peoples from everywhere, what would be described today as multi-national societies. Something of the international flavour can be seen in the accounts of Pentecost and the letters of St Paul. Urban environments are much less obviously connected with the cycle of the seasons, time is experienced as linear heading forward rather than just the cyclical time and fertility cults of the country. Urban environments are places of struggle, success and resistance with regard to life. Cities sustain associations that extend beyond the nuclear family. They become melting-pots of peoples.

This is the rich soil in which the Gospel was preached, and the images given by Jesus of the Church as provid-

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Weekend Mass	Saturday	10.00 am
	Sunday	8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Mass	Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri	10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Thursday	10.00 am
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00 – 10.20 am

ing the flavour of salt and of being a city built on a hill sustain the role of the Church in the city. Seeing the Church in this way, a multi-national urban visible and spiritual society gives solid foundation to contest many of the more outlandish claims of those who promote Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion, LGGQTI+ or Black Lives Matter to detriment of everything else. These groups start, probably unconsciously, from the modern secular premise of the individual as the fundamental building block of society rather than the person, the individual in relation. The person, to the Christian, is always in relation predisposed to sharing life with others while the individual needs to be cajoled to interact with others who do not share social or economic ties. An attitude of antagonism pervades all these identity groups because, like the mystery religions of the past, regard themselves as the sole purveyors of revealed truths.

Instead, the Christian recognising that the city, shared with others, is something to be built, never complete at any one moment in history. The life of the city, both collectively and individually, requires constant spiritual and moral renewal. Recognising that existing personal and collective relationships need constant renewal is part of faith. Accepting the dynamic of conversion demonstrates that the attempts to legislate about these issues always starts in the wrong place.

Because of the erroneous understanding of the human person, there is no connection with the past, nor appreciation of the conversion stories of every culture, stories of those who stood up and contributed to forming the culture of the time. Whatever the lacunae of this country's past history, conscience is never fully eradicated. To think that it was, except for the illuminati of these modern alliances that populate every organisation, is deny the power of God, the gift of grace, the reality of conversion, the prior relationship between peoples. They cast the city into darkness, so the mission of the Church, to protect the person, becomes as it ever was the light on the hill top and the salt that gives flavour.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrcchurch.co.uk • Phone - 020 8892 3902
Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes
Office Hours: Monday to Friday (9.30 am - 12.30 pm) Emails are not checked out of office hours.

Mass Intentions Sat 4 Feb – Sun 12 Feb

04/02	Sat	10.00 am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church
		6.00 pm	The families of St Margarets Parish
05/02	Sun	8.30 am	For you the people
		10.30 am	John McHugh RIP Mary McHugh
		6.30 pm	Kathleen Cassidy RIP Margaret Roberts
06/02	Mon	10.00 am	Peter Tansey RIP recently deceased
07/02	Tue	10.00 am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish
08/02	Wed	10.00 am	Bernard Sharratt RIP 2nd anniv Maria Sharratt
09/02	Thu	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service
10/02	Fri	10.00 am	The families of St Margarets Parish
11/02	Sat	10.00 am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church
12/02	Sun	8.30 am	Eithne Whelan recently deceased Su Slattery
		10.30 am	Sheila Roghan recently deceased Catherine Sugrue
		6.30 pm	Thanksgiving Mass for Alexandra D'sa Barbara de Souza

Entrance Antiphon: O come, let us worship God

and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

Response to the Psalm:

The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

Mass Schedule - We will not have Saturday 6 pm Mass on 11th, 18th & 25th February. Saturday Mass will resume on 4th March 2023.

Prayer for Racial Justice Sunday

God of our past, present and future,
You created each one of us in your image and likeness.
Help us to recognise you in each person
as we pray for an end to suffering caused by racism.
Lead us this day
to walk with one another,
pray with one another,
and work together
so that we will create a future based on justice and
healing
and fulfil the hope you have for all peoples.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Cathy McKendry, Rose Blackman, Rachel Rose, Arthur Mathewson, Pat Friel, Mary Regan, Pauline Slawson, Ben, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter Coughlan, Hilary Sudell, Rose Lorden, William Hamilton, Mary Arnold, Cesar Juan Urrutigoity, Mary Ethel Arnolda, Sydney Parkes, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Carmen Ruibal, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Judith Thomas, Allan de Souza, Tony Tucker, Dr Christopher Khoo, John Wood-Collins, Eleanor Drew & Theresa Bulpitt (sister of Margaret Crowe)

Anniversaries - Edwin Atkinson, Veronica Pierce, Rosamund Chalkley, Gertrude Mason, John McHugh, Alexander McDonnell, Dan Kavanagh, Margaret Tobback, Julia Mangan, Frank Morgan, Emma Jarman, Charles Nutall, Edith Fowler, Mona Keegan, Mary Newman

Recently deceased - Patricia "Mary" Picton RIP (Vicky Phelan's mum), Clare Gillis RIP, Michael Roper RIP & Michael Barnes RIP

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

Holy Hour

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on Friday evenings at 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm and all are welcome to attend. For those not able to attend we will be starting a book of intentions in which you are welcome to write your intentions. Those attending Adoration will present your intentions before the Blessed Sacrament.



Funeral for Patricia 'Mary' Picton

The Phelan family would like to warmly invite friends and parishioners to the funeral of Patricia 'Mary' Picton, Vicky's mother. It will be held at St. Margaret's on **Wednesday 15th February at 11.30am**, followed by a cremation service at Mortlake crematorium at 1.20pm.



There will be refreshments in our church hall at 2pm following to celebrate Mary's life.

5TH SUNDAY IN OT - 5 FEB 2023

Isaiah 58:7-10

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Matthew 5:13-16

6TH SUNDAY IN OT - 12 FEB 2023

Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

Psalm 118

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Matthew 5:17-37

Richmond Sunday lunch scheme 2023

We will continue to host occasional Sunday lunches this year for people in need of a healthy home cooked meal and some company. Can you spare some time to help us? We are part of a rota with other Richmond churches, catering for around 20 guests each time.

Sunday lunch dates:

- ◆ 19th February
- ◆ 2nd April
- ◆ 25th June
- ◆ 6th August
- ◆ 17th September
- ◆ 29th October
- ◆ 10th December



Jobs include:

- Welcome and chat
- Making a veg soup
- Cooking a main meal for 6-8 people (eg shepherds pie, pasta bake, lasagne (meat plus veg option)
- Making a dessert
- Clearing and washing up

Food may be prepared off site and guidance will be given as needed.

Please join our easy signup sheet <https://volunteersignup.org/R7HMJ> to join us on any of the dates, or feel free to call me on 07754 893 846 and I will add you to our group of amazing volunteers.

Thank you in advance for continuing to help make this happen. Cath Brizzell (on behalf of Fr Peter & The Parish Pastoral Council)

Mob - 07754893846

Email - Cathmcdee@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEER



St Margaret's Parent & Toddler group

The long-awaited Parent & Toddler group will commence on **Thursday, 23rd February, 10.30 am to 12.00 noon.**

This will then take place at the same time every week on a Thursday morning (term time only). We look forward to welcoming everyone. Please spread the word and let your friends and family know about this.

We have a committed core team, but to help us make it a truly warm and welcoming space, we are looking for more volunteers to help set up and run the sessions volunteering from 10.00 am till 12.30 pm.

There are also other ways you could support the group if you have time: could you

- come along and share your experiences of parenting
- be there for a reassuring chat with the mums or dads
- help out on the craft table for about an hour (10.30 am—11.30 am) on a rota basis

No previous experience of working with children is needed. Just turn up for a casual chat or contact Kathryn James on 07889 952 111 or email - kathryn@feburman.co.uk

VOLUNTEER



GETA - St Margaret's Soup Lunch

We are very sorry that the Soup Lunch event for Friday 10th February will not now go ahead due to volunteer unavailability. Please join us for the next one on **Friday 10th March**, and add these future dates to your diaries: 14th April, 12th May, 9th June and 14th July.

David Rose charity no. 1167092



Sandra Dos Santos Jimenes, who works as a Chaplain at The Holy Cross School, New Malden needs help finding a 1 bed flat & studio to rent.

Anyone who could possibly help, kindly get in touch with the parish office. Thank you,



REPAIR CAFE

Twickenham Repair Café

THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

- **500 repairs**
- **2.5 tonnes saved from landfill**
- **31 repairers**
- **17 support volunteers**
- **1,000 hours of volunteer time**
- **90 different types of items repaired**
- **£20,000 saved in replacing product**
- **£1,000 raised for charities**
- **And finally**
- **650 cakes consumers and**
- **1,100 cups of coffee / tea**

We were delighted to celebrate Twickenham Repair Cafe's first birthday party with 40 repairers and volunteers - thanks everybody for their wonderful support across the year.



The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

'Expressions of Interest' are sought from all who intend to participate in the Pilgrimage. Please visit to the website <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> as to register 'Expressions of Interest'.

Dates for the Pilgrimage diary in 2022/ 2023:

- *Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes / World Day of the Sick: Mass 2:30pm at Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 11th February 2023*
- *Westminster's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: 21st to 28th July 2023*

Contact the Pilgrimage Office if you want to volunteer as a helper with the Diocese of Westminster in Lourdes. Committed to a culture of Safeguarding <https://rcdow.org.uk/safeguarding/>

Saturday 11th February 2023 is the 31st World Day of the Sick

The Memoria of Our Lady of Lourdes. There will be a Mass for the Sick at the Cathedral at 2.30pm, celebrated by the Cardinal, during which Anointing of the Sick will be offered. To help us with planning for the Mass and the anointing, please can you book tickets through the simple booking system, using the link below.



Tickets are in three categories:

1. Wheelchair users who require anointing
2. Walking sick who require anointing
3. Those assisting the sick, who do not require anointing.

These categories of tickets (which will be differently coloured) will also assist the priests at Mass in determining who requires anointing, and this is something we ask for your help in discerning as people request the tickets through you.

Your tickets will be posted to you directly from the Precincts Office. *Please note that when you have booked your tickets you will see a message saying 'your tickets will be waiting for you at the venue's pick-up location on the day of the event.'* Unfortunately, this a message we cannot remove from the Eventbrite website platform. Again, tickets will be sent to you in the post.

TO BOOK TICKETS CLICK THIS LINK:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mass-of-the-sick-with-anointing-tickets-513878322897>

Congratulations to our 100 Club Winners

Winners for the month of January 2023

1st Prize No. 16 Patricia Friel £100/-

2nd Prize No 39 Mary Hegarty £50/