

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 6th February 2022 - Year C

In Peter writes:

Last Tuesday I conducted the funeral of Irene Starzecki, a 99-year-old parishioner who had regularly attended the 8:30am Mass for many years. Both Irene, and also recently deceased sister, came from another age. They carried within themselves the scars of 20th century Europe. The family had been taken to Siberia after Germany and the Soviet Union had invaded Poland, as had thousands of their fellow compatriots. After the German invasion of the Soviet Union, and Russia's transfer to the Allied cause, all those East Europeans formerly in labour camps were released to make their own way back home as best they could. Irene joined the Polish Army as this made transit easier. They travelled the well-worn route through Persia (now Iran) and took boats to East Africa. On their return journey out of Russia her father died and had to be left next to the railway tracks because digging into the frozen ground was impossible. Such stories about burials and loss were not uncommon.

Eventually Irene travelled to England which she reached after the war and lived for most of her life in West and South West London. Such events through which she lived through had a permanent effect on her character, not in being a victim, though she was victim to great upheavals owing to war. Irene, like many of her generation. Instead she remained strong in her faith because she could see that survival was not something just physical but also spiritual. Space for the exercise of conscience gave purpose to survival, and the catholic faith gave her that space, the secret location for dialogue with God.

The death of Irene and the remaining members of that generation make obvious, in the words of the Queen, that no-one can stop the passing of time. The last few holocaust survivors, young children at the time, are now recording their memories, as that generation of survivors will soon pass into history too. Why does it matter so much that the war generation is passing into history matter? The death and destruction of the Second World War owing to both communist and fascist violence were the seed bed for the renewal of the Church that was brought to fruition in the Second Vatican Council. Starting just seventeen years after the end of the war, memories of the violence and post-war movements of millions of peoples were fresh in the mind.

For comparison, it was nearer to the end of the war at the beginning of the Second Vatican Council, than the Millennium is to today.

Two key themes of the Council reflect that past history, firstly the emphasis on the active role of tradition within the life of the Church and the role of conscience. The post-Resurrection community existed before the Gospels or before any of the New Testament was written down. Church life, especially liturgical life, formed the context for preaching the Gospel which in turn became the foundation for the written texts. Keeping the Gospel message alive embraced keeping the human alive, as the privileged destination for the saving message of Jesus. Preaching the Gospel and respecting the dignity of the person went hand in hand.

Coupled with this dignity was the emphasis placed on the role of conscience. This was sadly misinterpreted in the immediate post-Council years as being the faculty to decide what is right or wrong according to personal taste. Instead it is the spiritual space for the internal resistance to the blandishments of the world. Such resistance to the corrosive effects of totalitarian violence kept Irene's generation free from the contagion of such culture while at the same time allowing for God to speak in the depths of her heart. Did the Council members have an overoptimistic vision of 1960s culture and where it was going? This remains an unanswered question as of now but the subsequent decades, especially the 1970s and 1980s tell another story.

Regaining the spiritual space of conscience has once again become necessary, not because of the violent antagonism of former totalitarian regimes, though Islamic fundamentalism remains antagonistic to Christianity, but because of secular cultures strangulation of conversation. Cancel culture as a term has become grossly overused but all attempts to forestall conversation, such as establishing trigger points and offering content warnings in a way aid the silence of thought. Losing the art of conversation and remaining mute has always favoured the overbearing because conversation can open the mind and heart to see reality as it is, and is the means through which conscience is exercised in relation to God. Though the generation that suffered in the war years have now largely passed, their faith protected their conscience. So for us the same connection holds, faith protects conscience and the Church keeps faith true to its divine origins.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsouthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrccchurch.co.uk

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 5/2 – Sun 13/2

05/2	Sat	10.00am	For you the people	
06/2	Sun	8.30 am	Jo Heffernan RIP anniversary	Su Slattery
		10.30am	John & Rita Lavery and Lynda Ban-Lavery	Gerard Ban-Lavery
		6.30 pm	Margaret Quinn RIP	Geraldine Quinn
7/2	Mon	10.00 am	Elena	
8/2	Tues	10.00 am	Bernard Sharratt RIP 1st Anniversary	Maria Sharratt
9/2	Wed	10.00 am	Veronica McGill RIP	Maz & Bernard
10/2	Thu	10.00 am	Adrian Parsons RIP	
11/2	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
12/2	Sat	10.00am	Joseph Davis RIP anniversary	Davis family
13/2	Sun	8.30 am	For you the people	
		10.30am	Barry McNemara RIP	Su Slattery
		6.30 pm	Bernard Sharratt.R.I.P	Maria Sharratt

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Sue Rolph, Rose Blackman, Stanislaw Wozniak, Adriana Posse de González (Valeria's Mum), Rachel Rose, Fr Paul Bigirwa, 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, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Christopher Cousins, & Judith Thomas

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

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed

through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen



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:

Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

Ash Wednesday Mass at St Margaret's

10.00 am & 8.00 pm



Liturgy at Home

If you, or someone you know will be unable to get to Mass on Ash Wednesday and would like ashes and a service booklet for an at-home liturgy, please let the parish office know.

St Margaret's Youth Choir

Starting 13th Feb, and then on the 2nd Sunday of the month to coincide with Children's Liturgy, Mark Underwood will be developing a Youth Choir for those aged 8 – 13 years.



If your son or daughter would like to join our new venture, please contact the parish office and turn up at 10.00 clock Sunday 13th February.

I really hope this venture will be a success in the years to come.

**COME JOIN US for our much loved
tea afternoons
that take place every alternate
Wednesday from
2.00 pm - 3.30 pm**



HOLD THE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February 9th & 23rd & March 9th & 23rd

All are welcome. Please feel free to bring along a friend or a neighbour.

5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 6 FEB 2022

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 137

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 13 FEB 2022

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Psalm 1

1 Corinthians 15:12. 16-20

Luke 6:17. 20-26

Sacramental Programmes

Baptism

The next available Baptism course is as below:

March 8th & 15th 2022

Should you wish to have your child baptised in this parish, attendance at these courses is compulsory. Please either speak to Fr Peter after Mass or contact the parish office.



First Holy Communion 2022

Sessions are now underway. **Applications have now closed for the year.** Please contact the parish office if you have any queries.



Confirmation 2022

The course has now commenced. If anyone is looking to receive Confirmation, please contact the parish office for more information.



Marriage Preparation



The next course will run at St Margaret's on **Saturday 9th April 2022.** Please contact the parish office to register.

Courses at The Brompton Oratory - **Sat 5th March and Saturday 21st May 2022.** Kindly contact Fr Michael Lang (michaellang@rcdow.org.uk) for further details.

Lenten Project 2022



As part of our programme of outreach activities, every year during Lent, the parish chooses one (or two) charities to be a focus for our almsgiving. Last year the parish raised £6,000 for Richmond Furniture Scheme, to provide essential household basics for those moving into accommodation following homelessness or difficult domestic situations.

The parish pastoral council now invites nominations from charities that would like to be considered as beneficiaries of St Margaret's Lenten Project 2022. The proposer should be a parishioner of St Margaret's and involved in some way with the suggested charity.

Please email the parish office for a nomination form.

Deadline for nominations: Monday 7th February.

The sponsors of the charities that are shortlisted will be required to make a short presentation about their project at all Masses on Sunday Feb 13th. Voting will take place shortly afterwards.

Thank you,

The Parish Pastoral Council

REPAIR CAFE

Twickenham Repair Café

"Twickenham Repair Cafe" in St Margaret's Hall



We are very excited to announce that we are kicking off our new Repair Cafe with a soft launch on Saturday 19th February 2022 in the church hall from 10:30 to 13:30. After that we will be there on the third Saturday of each month.

We will be covering repairs to: clothes, textiles, household and garden electrical, knitting repairs and tips, mechanical, ceramics, radios, bikes - adult and kids, and will have a plant hospital, glueing things station and a "Kids take it apart" table. So dig out all your treasures that you would love to have repaired and bring them along.

Any questions just give me a shout on: colinmessenger1@gmail.com.



We now need volunteers to help us on the day, 19th February as welcomers, guiders, servers at the cafe, overseeing the Kids assembly table etc. Please let us know on the email given above.

On behalf of: Twickenham Repair Cafe Team.
Pat, Gavin, David, Cliff, Joe & Colin

Looking for a party venue?

The newly refurbished church hall, kitchen and bar facilities, with access to the lovely outdoor space, are available for hire during the day and at weekends. £125 for a 4-hour booking for children's birthday parties. Some slots for regular weekday bookings are available - rates on application.

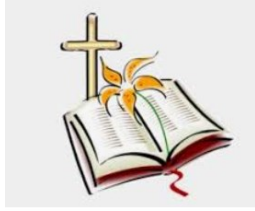
Please contact the parish office: 020 8892 3902

stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk



Our parish online community

As you know, the 10:30 am Sunday Mass is livestreamed. This is an important part of our parish mission to provide spiritual support to those who are at home, whether sick and housebound, or anxious about returning to Mass in person or simply less comfortable about venturing out in the winter months..



In January, between 50 and 90 households viewed the Mass online each Sunday. We would like to make sure we stay in touch with these members of our parish community, but we need to know who you are!

If you are watching online, could you please let us know. Drop a line to Cynthia in the parish office using the email stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk or phone her on 020 8892 3902 to let us know you are watching.

With our prayers and good wishes for your well-being,
The Parish Pastoral Council



RETRouvaille

A LIFE LINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

A Lifeline for Marriage!

Has Covid put you under more stress as a couple?
Is your marriage become stressed, unloving, cold?
Do you argue more?

Do you want to improve your communication?
Have you separated, divorced, are you thinking about it?

Do you want to try again?

The Retrouvaille programme may be just what you need!

The next programme commences with a weekend
3rd-6th March 2022

For more information—Telephone or text—+44 788 729 6983 (Complete confidentiality assured.)
Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com

Bereavement Support

The Princess Alice Hospice works in partnership with community organisations to provide bereavement support training for volunteers. They



have a programme to set up Community Bereavement Cafés that provide drop in sessions (usually once a month) that are open to all bereaved people regardless of how and where their loved one died.

These Bereavement Café's offer a warm welcome and a safe place to share experiences with other bereaved people and the volunteers who have had training from the Hospice.

The parish would like to host a monthly Bereavement Café but needs volunteers who are willing to be trained and then offer an ongoing commitment to run the Café sessions. The training is a two-day training on Fridays and there are dates in March, June and October of this year.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the parish office.

VOLUNTEER



In February half-term we are going to be taking a brand new musical called *Jungle Rumble* to the West End - performing at The Fortune Theatre in Covent Garden from 14-20th February. It's a fast and funny musical suitable for children from 3 upwards and performed by a brilliant West End cast. Lucy Quick, Principal at Perform.

Tickets start at £15.

<https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/jungle-rumble/fortune-theatre/>