

# ST MARGARET'S PAGE

All Saints - Year A 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020



*In Peter writes:*

“Take my camel, dear” said my aunt Dot as she climbed down from this animal on her return from High Mass. It is a great opening line from Rose Macaulay’s *The Towers of Trebizond*. The novel is full of such eccentricities but she gives one of the greatest explanations of the reality of sin. It is like climbing a mountain when suddenly the fog descends and one keeps walking, only to discover when the mist has dispersed that one has climbed up the wrong mountain. There is a key moment when one needs to turn back before the clouds descend and the path lost.

Life is a pilgrimage and climbing the mountain of life is a helpful description. Continuing to walk in the wrong direction when nothing is visible or making sense, speaks about our daily condition. Duty can easily blind us to this reality and the wrong path rarely begins with a sudden major decision, but a minute decision whose consequences build up slowly over time. It might begin with disengagement from life, whether at home with one’s family, within one’s marriage, at college or at work, withdrawal from friends. It might be the seemingly small step of stopping to pray even intermittently or breaking the habit of attending Mass at Church. What seemed one inconsequential decision has suddenly turned into arguments, harsh words, unresolvable differences, sadness and depression, and collapse of faith. The point when it all started remains obscure but the consequences all too apparent – just like emerging out of the mist and finding oneself on the wrong path.

The Church offers an alternative solution. This Sunday is the Solemnity of All Saints, the Solemnity when the Church recognises that some Christians have climbed the mountain of life and reached their destination. Their mountain walk became the ‘Stairway to heaven’, and that mountain walk can become our stairway to heaven as well. They and us both started at the same place, the foot of the mountains of life. Many future saints began by taking the wrong path. The well-known conversion stories of the young St Augustine, St Francis and St Ignatius testify to this reality. The mist must have lifted and they were decisive enough to change direction and walk up the correct mountain.

Mass Times & Liturgy Services		
Sunday	8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm	
Mon. Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat	10.00 am	
Thursday Communion Service	10.00 am	
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed and Sat (via Zoom) (please email the parish office for the link)	9.30 am
Adoration	Wednesdays	8.00 – 9.15 am
	Friday & Saturday	10.30 – 11.00 am
Confessions	Saturdays	10.30 – 11.00 am
	Sundays	10.00 – 10.20 am

What is obvious in the saints is that they always had a lively prayer life, and spoke with respectful familiarity. St Augustine in his autobiography, *The Confessions*, writes about ‘late having loved thee’ after having poured forth his thoughts on his life up to that point. His writings, written in the light of grace, explain how close Jesus had been to him but invisible and unknown to now. It is too easy to dismiss prayer as simply formulaic and unsatisfactory. Hence the contemporary explosion in mindfulness to fill the gap left by what was prayer. Yet prayer should be described as mindful, personal and respectful dialogue with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The writings of St Therese demonstrate this clearly.

One of the great joys of mountain walking is the satisfaction of being able to stop, turn around, look back, and be pleased with how far one has climbed up the path. A great vista of the country opens below. Climbing the stairway to heaven is different. It should not draw out the sense of personal achievement but gratitude that one has been able to walk so far. The love of Jesus and power of the Holy Spirit has made this journey possible. Gratitude for graces received, insights offered and favours answered mark every saint. They should mark our spiritual pilgrimage as well.

Climbing the stairway to heaven is not a solitary task. It does require personal commitment but undertaken in the presence of others who make up the Church on earth, most particularly one’s own parish. Every believer’s journey is sustained by grace and willed on by the saints in heaven who have already completed their climb up the stairway to heaven.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

E-mail: [stmargaretonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stmargaretonthames@rcdow.org.uk) • Website: [www.stmargaretsrchurch.co.uk](http://www.stmargaretsrchurch.co.uk)

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

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday 31st Oct - Sunday 8th Nov**

31-Oct	<b>Sat</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	Intentions of Danielle Miles on her birthday	Margaret Ociepka
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	No Mass	
01-Nov	<b>Sun</b>	<b>08.30 am</b>	Z. Jan Konczak	Margaret Ociepka
		<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>For you the people</b>	
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	Tom Phelan (RIP Anniversary)	Orla O'Sullivan
02-Nov	Mon	10.00 am	Starzecky Family Intentions (deceased & living)	Irene Starzecky
03-Nov	Tue	10.00 am	For the Holy Souls	
04-Nov	Wed	10.00 am	For the Holy Souls	
05-Nov	Thu	10.00 am	Communion Service	
06-Nov	Fri	10.00 am	For all unemployed seeking work	
07-Nov	<b>Sat</b>	10.00 am	For the Holy Souls	
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	For all young people	
08-Nov	<b>Sun</b>	<b>08.30 am</b>	For the Holy Souls	
		<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>For you the people</b>	
		<b>6.30 pm</b>	Jean Bermingham (RIP)	Shirley & Pat Doyle

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Fr Paul Bigirwa, Patricia Mary Picton (Mary), Arthur Mathewson, Maureen Costello, Helen Sweeny, Pat Friel, Mary Reagan, Pauline Slawson, Janet McAllister, 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 and Patricia Parkes, Judith Thomas, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Bernard Sharratt, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Paul Costello and Kevin Sweeney

### Contactless Giving is here!

Please look out for the donation device – simple and easy to give. Choose an amount for your donation and tap your debit/credit card. You can donate either on the way in or the way out of Mass.



We are very grateful to all our regular donors who support the parish financially by standing orders, payroll giving or weekly envelopes. However, in the past, we have also received about £25k per year in loose plate collections which have all but disappeared as fewer people carry cash now.

We are grateful for every donation, no matter how small. Thank you for your generosity.

### Entrance Antiphon:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;  
be not far from me!  
Make haste and come to my help,  
O Lord, my strong salvation!

### Response to the Psalm

In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

### IMPORTANT

**Advance booking needed to attend 10:30 MASS on Sundays**

Please remember to book a place if you wish to attend 1030 am Mass on Sunday. Bookings can be made through a link on the home page of the church website.



No need to book for 8.30 am or 6.30 pm Sunday Mass as these are less busy.

Thank you  
**Fr Peter**



**Diocese of Westminster**  
SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

### **The Sick & Retired Priests' collection is next week**

The second collection next week will be for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. By supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you can help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met.

This is our chance to say thank you to our sick and retired priests who have given so much. You will find a donation envelope at the back of the church today. Please take one home, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. You can donate online at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations) - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online.

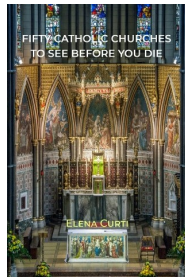
[Poster](#) with QR code.

1st November - All Saints      Malachi 1:14 - 2:2, 8-10      Psalm 130      1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13      Matthew 23:1-12

8th November - 32nd Sunday in OT      Wis 6:12-16      Psalm 63      1 Thessalonians 4:13-18      Matthew 25:1-13

## Fifty Catholic Churches to See Before You Die

St Margaret's features as one of Elena Curti's **Fifty Catholic Churches to See Before You Die**.



This beautiful, lavishly illustrated book explores fifty of the most memorable Catholic churches in England and Wales to reveal not only their artistic and architectural splendours but also the fascinating stories behind each one. Together, it offers a fascinating history of Catholicism as expressed in the buildings themselves.

As well as the individual churches featured, the book also lists Many More Worth a Detour – providing details of other churches or sites of special Catholic interest nearby.

At over 300 pages with 190 full colour photographs, it is published at the very reasonable price of £14.99. However, it is offered to those churches featured at a special rate of £12 each for orders of 10 or more copies. If we have enough interest, the church office will put together a group order. Please email Cynthia on [stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk) before Nov 13th if you would like to put an order in.



### Blessing of Graves Sunday 8th November, 2.00 pm

There will be the traditional Blessing of the Graves at Twickenham Cemetery, Hospital Bridge Road at 2:00pm.

We will start with a short open air Liturgy. Individual graves will be blessed including Fr Sydney Dommersen's, Canon Desmond Swan, Fr Iana Dommersen and the Sisters of Mercy from St Catherine's and St James's Schools.

If you would like a family grave blessed please contact the Parish Office giving an approximate location of the grave.

### November Holy Souls



Every November, the church prays particularly for the Holy Souls and Masses will be offered three times a week for them in November. If you would like the deceased members of your family to be included please complete the mauve sheet (kept at the back of the church) and place it in the Holy Souls envelope and post it through the Presbytery Letter Box with a donation. If you are attending church online and self isolating, please do send in the names by email ([stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk)). The completed sheet will then be placed in the basket which will be placed in front of the weekday and Sunday altars for the duration of November.

## Extra helpers needed

All of you who have returned to Mass over the summer will have seen the team of stewards and ushers at each Mass, who greet you with the temperature "gun", record your name and contact phone number for track and trace purposes, usher you to a socially distanced seat and encourage an orderly queue at Communion. You probably don't see that they also stay behind after Mass and disinfect the pews ready for the next congregation.



Our team of volunteers have been very faithful over the last two months but now we need **SOME MORE HELPERS** to share the load. Please contact us via email [stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk) if you are happy to help, mentioning which Mass you usually attend.

## BE A LIGHT INSTEAD!

### Calling all saints!



This All Saints eve (All Hallows eve) could you be a source of light for those families/individuals needing the support of food banks in our neighbouring borough?

St Paul's food bank has had a 300% increase in demand compared to September 2019 & it is increasing all the time. The demand is continuing to grow hugely in Hounslow due to the pandemic and the consequences of families finding themselves in very difficult circumstances as redundancies increase & the situation worsens.

The food banks desperately need our support as referrals are rising steeply. As we are all aware half term will put even more pressure on already struggling family finances from some of the poorest in our communities.

Can you help support our brothers & sisters at this time & keep families fed? This weekend (our 2nd week) there will be donation boxes at our church for non-perishable foods & supplies which will be taken by the Phelan family to St. Paul's church food bank, Hounslow West.

Please help us to support them with our actions, love & our prayers. What items can we find at the back of our cupboards to help? How can we get our families involved in being a light for others?

*(Continued on Page 4)*



## BE A LIGHT INSTEAD!

(Continued from Page 3)

### Items needed:

Tinned Food : fish/meat/veg/fruit / Tins custard/desserts/ steamed puddings / rice pudding etc Tins of stew/ mince/ chicken in sauces / hotdogs etc

Tinned pies Packets/tins of soups (particularly flavours other than tomato),

Jars of baby food/ tins baby milk.

Long life cartons of milk & fruit juice

Red lentils-- Chick peas -- Tinned

pulses -- Jars of pasta sauces-- Pasta & rice

Mashed potato/ tins of potatoes & fresh potatoes

Weetabix & cereals & porridge

Small bottles of cooking oil

Coffee/ tea/ hot chocolate/ squash/ sugar /

Jam & preserves / Biscuits/cakes/treats

Washing powder -- Nappies ( particularly size 3)

Soap & toiletries including toothpaste, brushes, deodorant, sanitary towels, shower gels, shampoos, shaving gels, hand wash etc, Baby wipes

Waterproof coats in good condition

Packs of Men's/women's/ children's new underwear & socks / Men's hats -- Backpacks in good condition

Hoodies & warm clothing in good condition / Shoes/ trainers in good condition

Old smart phones with chargers.

Thank you for reading & bless you for your kindness!

**Vicky Phelan**



## Confirmation 2021



If you are in Year 9 or above, and wish to be Confirmed next year, please come and collect a Mass attendance card from me after Mass. The classes will start after Christmas and last till mid-May. The date for Confirmation has not been set but will probably be in June.

**Sunday Reflections** for **November** kindly produced by Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz, for '**The God Who Speaks**' initiative,

For more information on the 'The God Who Speaks' in Westminster see <https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/> - see newly updated website Also, see the updated website for further resources and ideas <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/>

**CAFOD**  
Just one world

### All Souls CAFOD Memorial Mass – online

**Monday 2 November, 6pm-7pm**

This year's CAFOD Memorial Mass for deceased supporters can be joined online on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 6pm. Mass will be celebrated by CAFOD's Chair of Trustees, Bishop John Arnold, with music, readings and prayers from CAFOD staff and supporters from around the world. Register at <https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/Online-talks>

### October Winners

**Congratulations to our  
100 Club Winners**

**1st Prize - £100/-**

**No. 46 Michael Goldsmith**

**&**

**2nd Prize—£50/-**

**No. 76 Sally Gannon**

**Cheques will be in post shortly.**

**Numbers are picked by a Random Number Generating Website.**



The **Jesuit Refugee Service** are in urgent need of **volunteer drivers** based in London to deliver food and toiletry parcels to our refugee friends as part of our Emergency Response Team.

Whilst our current volunteers are doing an amazing job of getting deliveries to each of our friends, we expect that more assistance will be needed as a rise in COVID cases means further lockdown restrictions are likely to be imposed. More information can be found: [www.jrsuk.net/volunteer/](http://www.jrsuk.net/volunteer/) or from St Margaret's parishioner Teresa Smith 07726722614



## **ADVENT IN ST MARGARETS**

### **'The Joy of Hope'**

This Advent the Parish is running a four-week prayer, discussion and catechetical course entitled 'The Joy of Hope', something in short supply these days. This was originally written by David Payne of CaFe, a well-known catholic broadcaster.

The sessions will last an hour, and one series will run on Monday afternoons, led by Angie Keane, music by Gavin Evenhuis, on **Mondays at 2:00pm**, starting on Monday 23rd November, and continuing 30th November, 7th December and 14th December. The same series will also be run on **Wednesdays at 8:00pm** on Wednesday 25th November, Wednesday 2nd December, 9th December, 16th December.

### **Advent Service of Prayer, Praise and Readings**

**Friday 4th December 7:30pm - 8:45pm**

The musicians of St Margarets will be gathering at suitable distances to play music and accompany a series of Advent readings, read by parishioners in their homes. The evening will be broadcast through Youtube to allow as many as people to participate in our shared parish preparation for the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

### **Christmas Masses – Advance Notice**

Christmas might seem a long way off and who knows what the situation will be about the opening of Churches in that period. Please note that all Mass places will have to be booked in advance owing to the numbers wishing to attend (I hope!).

There will be three Masses on  
**Christmas Eve, 5:30pm, 7:00pm, and 10:00pm,**  
and on  
**Christmas Day 8:30am and 10:30am.**

Many thanks

Fr Peter

