

# ST MARGARET'S PAGE



23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 10th September 2023 - Year A

## *In Peter writes:*

I think it is safe to say that no likes to be corrected or told that they are either wrong or misguided, though there was a many a time we might have benefited if someone had said, 'better not have that other drink' or 'better not say that now'. Advice offered, or potentially offered is always appreciated better in retrospect. The number of financial scams that people suffer, at the same time of thinking I am impervious to the fraudsters' charms, demonstrate that we need to listen to another voice. Greed does terrible things to our critical faculties, makes us virtually deaf to the inner voice saying, 'this does not sound right.' Such a carapace covers our sensitive egos too.

Daily life requires both the development of the internal voice of conscience and the subtle judgement about the external voice of others. Those who know how to love within the limits of our shared humanity are those that know us the best. To the Christian this is exemplified by Jesus Christ. This Sunday's Gospel passage about correcting one's brother or sister, is preceded in the Gospel account in St Matthew by the search for the lost sheep. Such a single-minded search could only be undertaken by Jesus Christ, the perfect human being undertaking a search without ego. He is the Good Shepherd, the implication of the parable being that most shepherds would probably not be inclined to bother, mindful of the welfare of the other ninety-nine. The one lost sheep is the collateral damage of economic process, acceptable in the wider scheme of human activity.

Yet this cannot be the way of the Church, the living community of believers, because there cannot be any sheep that are completely lost but at the same time the community needs to guard its common faith and way of life. Here is the dilemma of possessing norms of acceptable behaviour and being merciful simultaneously, a dilemma experienced by every parent at some point. All those modern notions of not being judgemental (except in a modern way) and being not judging others are solvents on any community, family or church. On the other hand, being judgemental is off-putting and not required either.

St Matthew in the Gospel has crafted from the words of Jesus an incremental way of responding to division within the community for which he wrote the Gospel under divine inspiration. This community might well be that of Antioch, the first place where the followers of Jesus were recorded as Christians. There is a three-fold process, modelled on Jewish practice, and a discreet process when personal ego is prevented from twisting decision making. Personal conversation and persuasion based on common membership and common faith, then a wider conversation engaging a few others, to finally the whole community. Even

Mass Times & Liturgical Services (11/09 - 17/09)		
Weekend	Saturday	10.00 am
	Sunday	8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday	Mon, Tue, Wed & Friday	10.00 am
Euch Service	Thursday	10.00 am
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00-10.20am

then the individual concerned is to be treated as someone potentially able to return to the faith. The pagan and the tax-collector are the lost sheep of humanity, and are not beyond the mercy of God. This is all a long way from the shrill tones of too many contemporary pressure groups absolutely convinced on their own moral superiority.

Church doctrine and the moral law might well be unfashionable but without them the church would dissolve just as the family does when common purpose and shared life have completely broken down. Jesus taught a communal ethic that includes both shared norms and common responsibility for others. Caring for others is an essential part of community life because Jesus Christ exhibits care for everyone, the lost and insignificant too. God abandons no-one. Jesus promises to be with His Church because 'where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in their midst.'

This Sunday's Gospel has far reaching consequences because it touches on issues that contemporary society has failed to grasp that law by itself cannot create a humane society. Obviously neither can the absence of law but without care of the other there is no glue to unite us together. Modern law is becoming the preserve of the campaigner rather than the dedication to the ago-old english principle of applying the law and acknowledging common-law as custom. Customs should be predicated on care, on how a society organises itself. Exercising conscience brings advance within the tradition of common law as social situations change over time. Conscience needs sustaining and informing which has always been the role of religious communities until recently. Now that so many are proud to profess their lack of faith, one can only wonder what forces will influence their moral choices and the processes they will adopt to convince others. St Matthew reports the way of Jesus Christ, objective, caring and always sustaining hope. I know which I prefer. How to convince others is our evangelical task.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

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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 9 Sep - 17 Sep

09/09	Sat	10.00 am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
10/09	Sun	8.30 am	Albert Dolan RIP	Rita Johnston
		10.30 am	For you the people	
11/09	Mon	6.30 pm	Eleanor Drew RIP	Ann Edes
		10.00 am	Eleanor Drew RIP	Teresa Jennings
12/09	Tue	10.00 am	Carol Peel and Martin Lee RIP	Teresa Jennings
13/09	Wed	10.00 am	For you the people	
14/09	Thu	10.00 am	Euch Service - Zef on his birthday	
15/09	Fri	10.00 am	Zef on his birthday	
16/09	Sat	10.00 am	The families - St Margarets Parish	
17/09	Sun	8.30 am	Albert Dolan RIP recently deceased	Peter & Su Slattery
		10.30 am	Eleanor Drew RIP	Kevin & Moira Wood
		6.30 pm	Eleanor Drew RIP	Barbara de Souza

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

John Forsyth, Rose Blackman, Ursula van der Westhuizen, Cathy McKendry, Rachel Rose, Arthur Mathewson, Pat Friel, Mary Regan, Pauline Slawson, Ben, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter Coughlan, Hilary Sudell, Rose Loden, 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), Tony Tucker, Dr Christopher Khoo, John Wood-Collins, Jim Polland, Theresa Bulpitt, Sue Rolph & Dick Cotter.

**Anniversaries** - Bill Pugh, Diana Donovan, Jaga Arulswamy, Anna Straub, George Benwell, Aletta Flynn, John Kevin Sutcliffe, Doménica Leandre, Joe Ashton, Martin Leahy, Norman Lee

**Recently deceased** - Eleanor Katharine Drew RIP (daughter of Allison & Geoffrey Drew). Frank O'Hara RIP

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

**September Prayer Intentions** - For people living on the margins - We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

### FRANK O'HARA RIP

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Frank O'Hara. He was a parishioner at St Margarets from 1975 and unfortunately, passed away on 20th August 2023. He was an active member of the parish for many years regularly attending Sunday mass. He will be greatly missed. His funeral mass is to be held at St Margaret's on Monday 18th September at 2pm followed by the committal at Mortlake crematorium at 3.20 pm.



### Entrance Antiphon:

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;  
Treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

### Response to the Psalm:

O that today you would listen to his voice:  
Harden not your hearts.

### **Holy Hour**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Friday evenings at 8:00 pm -9:00 pm beginning 17th September. 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.



### **Sacramental Programmes**

Sacramental preparations are open for parishioners and those who attend Mass regularly at St Margaret's.

#### Baptism

Should you wish to have your child baptised in this parish, attendance at our Pre Baptism course is compulsory. Please either speak to Fr Peter after Mass or contact the parish office. Our September course dates - 13 & 20th.

#### First Holy Communion 2024

If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, please speak to Fr Peter after any Mass that you attend. Enrol on the course during the first half term, from September 1st to October 22nd. Collect attendance card. Applications will close on that date. Attendance on to the Children's Liturgy at Sunday 10.30 am Mass is required.

#### Confirmation 2024

The 2024 Confirmation Course will begin in January 2024 and will continue till after Easter, date yet to be established. Kindly speak to Fr Peter or Deacon Joseph after any weekend Mass that you attend. Enrol on the course during the first half-term from September 1st to October 22nd.

#### Marriage Preparation

St Margarets alternates with The Brompton Oratory for the courses. We will hold a course on Saturday, 13th April 2024. Please contact the parish office to register your interest. The Brompton Oratory will hold a course on Saturday, 7th October 2023. For information on courses at The Brompton Oratory, kindly contact Fr Michael Lang (michaellang@rcdow.org.uk) for further details.

**Adult preparation for the sacraments** - This autumn, beginning on September, Deacon Joseph will be leading a ten session enquiry course for those interested in becoming Catholics, or for those adults who already Christian would like to be received into the Church, or who wish to be confirmed as adults. The next course begins on Monday 18th September.

**Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP)**

The forms will only be signed if you have been attending regular Mass at St Margarets and Fr Peter has seen you at Mas.

Dates for Form signing - **On Friday, 15th September from 5.00—6.00 pm and Saturday 23rd September from 11—12.30 pm in the Church hall.**

St Margaret's - Next Sunday lunch (17 September) - we need your help!

Please sign up to:

Make a simple veg soup or main meal or dessert (off site) to serve 6-8. OR, on the day help to welcome and chat with guests, or stay in the background and wash up! If helping on the day, you'd need to be around between 1130 and 2.30pm. Signing up is easy- follow the link here for 6 August and onto our last 2 dates for 2023 (Sun 29 October 10 Dec): <https://volunteersignup.org/R7HMJ>

Or call Cath on 07754893846 or email [cath-mcdee@yahoo.com](mailto:cath-mcdee@yahoo.com). Your help really makes a huge difference. Thanks.



- Mass schedule—Please note**
- There will be No 10.00 am Mass Monday 18th Sep, as there will be a Funeral Mass at 2.00 pm
  - Mass will take place on Thursday 21st Sep, 10 am and Eucharistic Service on Friday, 22nd September at 10.00 am
  - Mass will take place on Thursday 28th Sep, 10 am and Eucharistic Service on Friday, 29th September at 10.00 am
  - Mass will take place on Thursday 5th Oct, 10 am and Eucharistic Service on Friday, 6th October at 10.00 am

**Youth Alpha** – Youth Alpha is coming up again at St James' Parish Twickenham and it is open to young teens in Years 9 to 11 of any faith or belief. Youth Alpha is a series of fun interactive sessions designed to open honest conversations around some of the big questions of life. Youth Alpha is a 10 series production tailored for teens, it's fun, interesting, and humorous. Come and see, join us for our open evening on **Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September from 6.30pm to 8.00pm** with the option to stay with us for an extra hour at the youth club for more fun. Sign up form <https://forms.office.com/r/mGePbY9F0K> For more information you can email [twickenhamgroups@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:twickenhamgroups@rcdow.org.uk) Youth Alpha includes pizza and treats!

**Come and join us for our much loved**

**"Tea & Chat"**

**Wednesday from 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm**

**20 September**

**Dates for your diary - 4th October, Friday 20 October**

*All are welcome.*

*Please feel free to bring along a friend or a neighbour.*



**Recollection for Women**

**Wednesday, 20th September 2023 10.00—12.30 at St Margarets Church**

10.00 – Holy Mass  
 10.30 – First Meditation  
 11.15 – Rosary  
 11.45 Examination of Conscience  
 12.00 – Second Meditation

The priest will be available for confessions from 11.00 – 12.00

**Join us !**

**REPAIR CAFE Twickenham**

**SATURDAY 16TH WE ARE OPEN!**

FROM 10.30 - 12.45

THERE WILL BE LASHINGS OF CAKE, FRESH COFFEE, HAPPINESS AND PLENTY OF HEARTY REPAIRS GOING ON!

AND 3RD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH AT ST MARGARETS CHURCH HALL, TW1 1RL

[twickenhamrepaircafe.org](http://twickenhamrepaircafe.org) @Twickrepaircafe

**RECRUITING NOW**

**Volunteer. Because childhood can't wait.**

If you have **parenting experience**, a few hours spare each week and want to make a difference to a local family, join our network of trained volunteers, helping families with young children through challenging times. **Free volunteer course** runs in **Hampton Wick** on Thursdays 9.30am-2.30pm from 5 October to 16 November (not half term 26 October).

To find out more, contact Angie Ahmed [info@homestart-rkh.org.uk](mailto:info@homestart-rkh.org.uk) 07884 536161 [homestart-rkh.org.uk](http://homestart-rkh.org.uk)

**HOME START** Richmond, Kingston and Hounslow

Charity No: 1108975

## Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.

1 September 2023

How can we contribute to the mighty river of justice and peace in this Season of Creation? What can we, particularly as Christian communities, do to heal our common home so that it can once again teem with life?

We must do this by resolving to transform **our hearts**, **our lifestyles**, and **the public policies** ruling our societies.

First, let us join the mighty river by **transforming our hearts**. This is essential for any other transformation to occur; it is that **“ecological conversion”** which Saint John Paul II encouraged us to embrace: the renewal of our relationship with creation so that we no longer see it as an object to be exploited but cherish it instead as a sacred gift from our Creator. Furthermore, we should realize that **an integral approach to respect for the environment involves four relationships: with God, with our brothers and sisters of today and tomorrow, with all of nature, and with ourselves....**

....Second, let us add to the flow of this mighty river by **transforming our lifestyles**. Starting from grateful wonder at the Creator and his creation, let us repent of our “ecological sins”, as my brother, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, has urged. These sins harm the world of nature and our fellow men and women. With the help of God’s grace, let us adopt lifestyles marked by less waste and unnecessary consumption, especially where the processes of production are toxic and unsustainable. Let us be as mindful as we can about our habits and economic decisions so that all can thrive – our fellow men and women wherever they may be, and future generations as well. Let us cooperate in God’s ongoing creation through positive choices: using resources with moderation and a joyful sobriety, disposing and recycling waste, and making greater use of available products and services that are environmentally and socially responsible.

Lastly, for the mighty river to continue flowing, **we must transform the public policies** that govern our societies and shape the lives of young people today and tomorrow. Economic policies that promote scandalous wealth for a privileged few and degrading conditions for many others, spell the end of peace and justice. It is clear that the richer nations have contracted an “ecological debt” that must be paid (cf. *Laudato Si’*, 51)....

....Another parallel perspective has to do with the Catholic Church’s commitment to **synodality**. **This year**, the closing of the Season of Creation on 4 October, the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, **will coincide with the opening of the Synod on Synodality.....** So too, like a river basin with its many tiny and larger tributaries, the Church is a communion of countless local Churches, religious communities and associations that draw from the same shared waters. Each source adds its unique and irreplaceable contribution, until all flow together into the vast ocean of God’s loving mercy. **In the same way that a river is a source of life for its surroundings, our synodal Church must be a source of life for our common home and all its inhabitants. In the same way that a river gives life to all kinds of animal and plant life, a synodal Church must give life by sowing justice and peace in every place it reaches....**

### About the Season of Creation:

This is a time to renew our relationship with **OUR CREATOR AND ALL CREATION** through celebration, conversion, and commitment **together**. During **the Season of Creation**, we join our sisters and brothers **in the ecumenical family** in prayer and action for **OUR COMMON HOME**. Throughout the month-long celebration, **the world’s 2.2 billion Christians** come together to care for **OUR COMMON HOME**.

### The season :

- **STARTS 1 SEPT.**, The day of Prayer for Creation, proclaimed by the Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I for the Orthodox in 1989.

**ENDS 4 OCT.**, The feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Ecology.

The World Council of Churches (WCC) was instrumental in making the special time a **Season**, extending the celebration from **1 SEPTEMBER UNTIL 4 OCTOBER**.

Following the leadership of Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I and the WCC, Christians worldwide have embraced the **Season** as part of their annual calendar. Pope Francis made the Roman Catholic Church’s warm welcoming of the **Season** official in 2015.

In recent years, statements from religious leaders around the world have also encouraged the faithful to take time to care for **CREATION** during the month-long celebration.



A Mighty River  
Amos 5: 24

**Let Justice  
and Peace Flow**  
Season of Creation 2023



Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids, Michigan