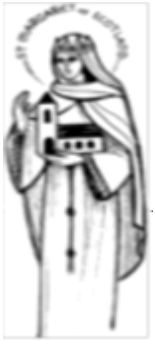


ST MARGARET'S PAGE



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A 12th July 2020

In Peter writes:

For those able to return to the Church for public Mass, last Sunday was a joyous occasion. Many parishioners though are still shielding as requested by the government, others have travelled abroad already for the summer, and other are still cautious about the safety of returning to public internal places. In recognition of those unable to go outside the YouTube Sunday 10.30am Parish Mass will continue and become a feature of parish life. Hopefully the new cameras and mixer that have been purchased will help enhance production levels, once they have arrived and been installed. Last Sunday the recording of Mass relied on my laptop microphone which could not capture either the readers speaking from the lectern nor the congregation speaking behind. Live broadcast in a work in progress and improvements should be forthcoming.

Last Sunday about 100 attended the Church, about 25% of the normal congregation. There is a long way to go before St Margarets, along with every other Church, might return to the pre-Covid levels of Mass practise. Doubts have been expressed if pre-Covid levels will be reached again. The three- and half-month gap is long enough to break most habits, and unless there is an internal drive to participate in Sunday Mass, the mere obligation, now currently suspended by the Bishops, is now longer going to carry much weight. Far from feeling despondent about this outcome, the collapse of the external command with regard to Sunday Mass will help cut away at the culture of minimalism that permeates too much Catholic worship. Questions like how late can I be for Mass for it to be valid; or why do we have to sing; or why do we have a sermon, are all evidence of the culture of minimalism that corrodes the souls not just of those who express such views but others who are their unwitting victims in the pews. The culture of minimalism has a deeply corrosive effect on parish life.

This culture grew up in response to a Church culture that focused on the rules without giving the reasons. While the Church has developed since the Second Vatican Council, rediscovering the heart of her mission to preach Jesus Christ, the culture of minimalism continues to exist as a persistent weed resilient to the balm of grace. The vision of the Council was invitational at heart, presenting the traditional teaching of the Church as both rigorous and inspirational, something to which every Catholic should accept in faith and aspire to live. This way of presenting the faith turned upside down so

many of the traditional ways of explaining catholic thought, never better expressed in the words of David Lodge the novelist in questions about sexual morality 'how far can you go'. The real question is different, where are you going? The Council gave every believer responsibility to listen to the voice of conscience formed by the Gospel. Yet the tragedy of the last sixty years is that though Catholics might rail against the rules somehow, they find it difficult to step into spiritual adulthood.

This Sunday's Gospel about the parable of the sower demonstrates the rich consequences of spiritual adulthood. Spiritual adulthood produces hundred, sixty, thirtyfold crop. Answering the question, 'where are you going?' always produces fruit. No-one needs the exact destination; life is not like taking the bus to a physical location. The Christian's destination is more mystical, but accepting life as a journey, divine providence can intervene and nudge the believer to take a particular direction. Divine Providence rarely works on those with no sense of life's destination.

The parable also allows the Church to understand failure when it comes to her mission. It is not the Gospel message itself but the predisposition of the soil. Certainly, the Gospel message must be preached with generosity, but it still can fall on stony ground, the arid secularism of contemporary society, or the message might descend amongst weeds where the joys of the material world prove an adequate answer to life. The sower always sows with joy over potential growth. The sower never sows just once, but time and time again, thus allowing for the soil of the soul to change in the interim. Those who were the stony soil or choked by weeds have become rich soil through changing personal circumstances, possibly through impending marriage, birth of a child, or perhaps family bereavement. Implied in the parable is the continuous generous sowing of the sower who does sow in the rich soil, but whose actions will include the rocky patches and the weed filled ground. An essential lesson is contained in this parable, that every parish mission is always conducted with the generosity of spirit and it never concludes. Though the parish has shrunk over the last twenty years there is no need to despondent. This says nothing about the spiritual power of the seed, nor about the mission of the Parish itself. We, as a community, in these times, can remain full of hope and find the courage to embrace the mission of the Church.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

130 St Margaret's Road, Twickenham TW1 1RL Tel: 020 8892 3902

• E-mail: stmargaretonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrcchurch.co.uk

Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes
The Parish Office is closed because of Covid-19. Emails are continued to be checked regularly.

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Monday 13th July - Sunday 19th July

Mon 13 th	10.00 am	Helen Edes (RIP anniversary) (Ann Edes)
Tue 14 th	10.00 am	Aldo Meola RIP
Wed 15 th	10.00 am	For all unemployed seeking work
Thu 16 th	10.00 am	Key workers, doctors, carers & nurses
Fri 17 th	10.00 am	End of year Mass - St. Richard Reynolds
Sat 18 th	10.00am	Audrey Flanagan (Margot Watkins)
Sun 19 th	8.30 am	William Davis RIP Anniversary (Maureen Davis)
	10.30am	John Coles (Caroline Estorninho)
	6.30 pm	For you the people

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Mary Reagan, Pauline Slawson, Janet McAllister, Ben, Mark Titmus, 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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Donal Dwyer (brother of Mary Ibbett), Rose Mitchell, Ann Noble, Juliane Ditsche, Antonio Lopes, Muriel Kelly, Juliet Grafton, Karina Kinnear, John Coles

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like Mass said for your intentions or for the repose of the soul of someone, please contact Cynthia via [email](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk) (stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk). She will compile the list which will be published on the Parish website each week.

Sunday Mass will be offered for the intentions of all the Parish, but Masses may be said for specific intentions from Monday to Saturday.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Ps 16:15)

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 64:10-14)

Some seed fell into rich soil, and produced its crop.

Gospel Acclamation (1 S 3:9; Jn 6:68)

Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Ps 83:4-5)

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.

THE FINANCIAL WELFARE OF ST MARGARET'S

The St Margaret's [Virgin Money Giving](#) is now live. This is a secure method for giving. If you are using the St. Margaret's website, you will find the Virgin Money Giving under the 'Support' tab.

Even if you are only able to donate less than you might normally do, every gift is valuable.

Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

Church Opening Hours

Monday to Friday – 9.00 am – 12.30 pm

Saturday – 9.00 am – 12.00 pm

Sunday 8.00 am – 12.30 pm



Reception of Communion only at 4:00pm.

If you have participated in the YouTube Parish Mass or another and wish to receive Holy Communion please come to the Church at 4:00pm.

Keeping St Margaret's parish connected!



A sponsored, socially distanced “relay” on Saturday, 18th July; start 9am

All our experiences of lockdown have been very varied. One thing for sure though, parishioners have very much appreciated being able to follow the Mass online with Fr Peter, and still feeling part of the parish with familiar faces and voices with our musicians and readers. We see that this will continue to serve a need for those of our community who may be unsure or unable to return to Mass immediately or even in the longer term, to support sick and housebound parishioners and help them to remain connected to our church and the liturgy.

Fr Peter's Zoom account and laptop perched on top of a pile of chairs have worked well for the past 3 months, but now we need to invest in some better equipment to continue to livestream Mass to enhance the mission of St Margaret's.



We would like to raise £4500 for new cameras, a laptop and a mixing unit. To do this, we are going to “connect the parish” through a sponsored, socially distanced relay, between parishioner's houses, on foot or by bike! Each participant will go from their front door to the front door of another parishioner and pass on a virtual “baton”, that person will then go onto the next house. The last leg of the relay will end at the church.



All are welcome to join in – children or adults, singles, couples or families.

To sign up, please contact Cynthia on stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk with your name, address, postcode and a contact number. We will then work out the “route” and confirm times and each stage.

All donations and sponsorship will be gratefully received. Thank you.

Ann 07837 095 837



LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

CAFOD are offering a webinar of a Liturgy of the Word with Children at home. Parents and children are encouraged to join online for prayers and reflection on this Sunday's Gospel. It is based on CAFOD children's liturgy resources.

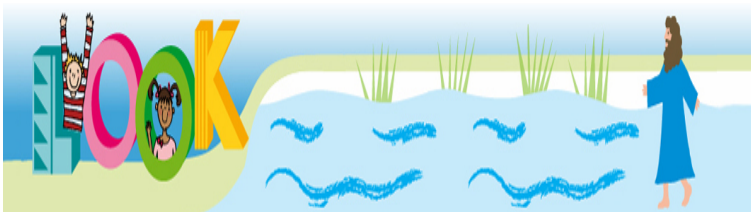


CHILDREN'S Liturgy of the Word

Please use [link to register](#): After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

For family support, TenTen are also making freely available resources for families, called Prayers for Home, which include '[Sunday Liturgy for Families](#)' and '[Daily Prayers for Home](#)'

Please find the **LOOK** color in sheets, for the month of June, to find what is in the Gospel.



Diocese of Westminster

Set of *Sunday Reflections* for *July*, 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/>

Updated website for further resources and ideas <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/>

SOUP LUNCHES

Sadly our lunches will have to remain suspended for the time being. The people in the community who Fr David Cullen cares for in Zambia still live with great poverty and the need for our help goes on of course.



Because of the great generosity of a number of people, we have managed to continue making a contribution to his work each month during the lockdown period.

It would be wonderful if we could continue to make a monthly donation to the poorest in that community. If you could make a contribution to assist in his work, it would be greatly appreciated. **Please contact Bernard or Maz Winter 02089430824/07769721975** if you would like to make a donation to Fr David's work among the poor.

Volunteers Needed!



A friendly presence to reassure visitors

A Request for volunteers at weekend masses to help maintain Social Distancing protocols during the summer.

We are looking to work on a Rota basis for
Saturday – 10.00 am
and
Sunday – 8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm

Please contact us via email
stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk
if you can help.

Arrangements

<u>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th July</u>	
Reading 1 Wis 12:13, 16-19	After sin you will grant repentance.
Psalm Ps 85:5-6.9-10. 15-16 r.5	O Lord, you are good and forgiving.
Reading 2 Rom 8:26-27	The Spirit expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words.
Gospel Acclamation cf. Eph 1:17.18	May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
cf. Matt 11:25	Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.
Gospel Matt 13:24-30	Let them both grow till the harvest.

Public Mass will resume on Sunday 5th July under the following conditions laid down by the English Bishops following guidance from the Government. This is a welcome moment in the life of the Parish and I am sure many of you wish to chat with each other after so long. Please resist breaking social distancing however tempting! Everyone should be able to feel safe coming to Church so please respect each other in this regard.

There are a number of options with regard to Mass attendance though the Bishops have suspended the obligation to attend Sunday Mass for the time being. The 10:30am Parish YouTube Mass will continue.

Mass at 8:30am; 10:30am and 6:30pm. The maximum number that the Church can safely hold, following all distancing requirements is between 80 and 100. Every alternate bench will be unavailable for sitting and the middle part of available benches will be unusable. This will maintain social distancing.

Weekday Mass 10:00 am Monday to Saturday

This Mass will take place in the Main Church with the same protocols

Reception of Communion only at 4:00pm. If you have participated in the YouTube Parish Mass or another and wish to receive Holy Communion please come to the Church at 4:00pm.

Protocols

Entry: Please use the hand sanitiser available in the entrance.

Mass sheets and hymn books will be unavailable. There will be no public singing.

Reception of Communion: This will take place after Mass has finished. The priest will receive communion, then conclude Mass. The congregation will receive afterwards and then leave the Church.

Helpers

Every Mass will require two volunteers at the front to ensure everyone uses the hand-sanitiser, and further helpers to give a quick clean to the benches after the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses. Gloves and cleaning material will be provided.

Confessions

These will take place in the Library after the Saturday 10:00am Mass.

These arrangements may change slightly as the Parish works out how best to provide Mass whilst maintain government and episcopal requirements.

<u>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 26th July</u>	
Reading 1 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12	You have asked for a discerning judgment for yourself.
Psalm Ps 118: 57. 72 76-77. 127-130 r.97	Lord, how I love your law!
Reading 2 Rom 8:28-30	God intended us to become true images of his Son.
Gospel Acclamation John 15:15	I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.
cf. Matt 11:25	Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.
Gospel Matt 13:44-46	He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Thank You!