# ST MARGARET'S PAGE

#### 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 13 FEBRUARY 2022 - Year C

In Peter writes: Last week I took possession of my father's personal archive, included within which are a stash of

letters from his father to his future bride written from the Western Front. He, Charles Newby, wrote to his fiancée, Lucy every day and despite the strictures of military censorship, facets of life shine through. One letter said he slept in a manger, better than the hedge the night before. I imagine he was with British Forces advancing in the final push of October 1918. After the Armistice he is still in France about to celebrate Christmas looking forward to roast beef, some tinned strawberries and powder sachets of custard. A pint of beer was on offer too.

Five years earlier I had read, whilst in Chile, about my mother's ancestors, her grandfather's diary come autobiography. Far from suffering in the cold, on Armistice Day he describes being in Paris appearing on stage and drinking a bottle of 1870 brandy, the restaurant owner not knowing a better day on which to do so. For some strange reason he had been given some compassionate leave just prior to the Armistice of 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918 being declared. He honestly admits that three days somehow just disappeared! These two collective memories were to come together in my mother and father, and what is my family.

Amongst my father's archive are personal letters and testimonials from his time as an engineer in India and Turkey where he had been establishing coke ovens. However, standing out was the telegram from Simon Carves, his engineering company, informing his First World War sweetheart that her husband's ship had been lost in late November 1942. No known survivors the telegram concludes. The matter of fact language a sharp contrast to the tender sentiments of their earlier correspondence. Indeed, it later transpired that only one passenger was saved by the German U Boat to prove that the ship had been torpedoed.

The physicality of the documents, the wartime pencil writing, the thin paper and tiny envelopes only go to show how some shreds of humanity are maintained despite the odds, and all the degradations and death of war. The tiny events of an individual's life when written down through force of circumstances become an art-form conveying a universal message, able to be appreciated by descendants

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Saturday	10.00 am	
Sunday	8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6.30 pm	1/ / *
Mass	Mon, Tue, Wed & Thur	10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Friday	10.00 am
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri & Sat	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00 – 10.20 am

and others. One historian described the First World War as a rich man's war fought by the poor man. There is some truth in that understanding but this classic Marxist analysis fails to grasp the complexity of the situation, the role of patriotism and fear of the enemy. The larger picture might be stuff of historical study but the drive for life in all its microscopic details, the appreciation of the slightest luxury combined with the trauma and suddenness of death was the daily experience of every family involved in both World Wars. Therefore, what constitutes history takes place on many levels, the big picture, the deeper trends, the level of nation, society but felt most acutely at the family and personal.

Christianity embraces all these scales, from the big picture of world changing events to the life of the single person in relation to others. This is, for me, one key mark of credibility, Jesus Christ engages with us at our different levels, both individually and collectively. As Son of God and Lord of history every time and place will converge onto Him, and will bring sense to all the microscopic events that make up the life of any individual and family. The convergence of all life will take place in the kingdom of heaven, when the connectedness of every person will be fully made known and family history purified from all sin and fallibility.

Christians do not have to give up on the density of human life in order to become a follower of Jesus Christ. His Spirit is present within our lives now but in ways that raises personal questions as to our aspirations, our conduct and relationship with others. The small events matter, and reading the daily communication between my grandfather and his fiancée and later wife demonstrate how they coped within the larger narratives of war and isolation abroad. This is the rich soil in which the seed of faith may be planted. Holding the physical documents testified to this universal human condition and helped me understand something about myself.

#### Mass Intentions Sat 12/2 - Sun 20/2 12/2 10.00am Joseph Davis RIP Davis family anniversary 13/2 Sun 8.30 am For you the people 10.30am Barry McNemara Su Slattery Bernard Shar-6.30 pm Maria Sharratt ratt.R.I.P 14/2 Margaret Tobback Mon 10.00 am Davis family RIP anniversary 15/2 Tues 10.00 am Tom & Terry Mar-Mary Martin tin RIP 16/2 Wed 10.00 am Susannah Margaret and James Gormley RIP O'Leary 17/2 Thu 10.00 am Kathleen Barry Johnny Walsh RIP 18/2 Fri 10.00 am **Eucharistic Service** 19/2 Sat 10.00am Joseph de Souza Barbara de Souza 20/2 Sun 8.30 am For you the people 10.30am Frances Reynolds Maz & Berrecently deceased. nard Mother of Anne Jones 6.30 pm For members of the McCarthy & the Thomson families

# 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

<u>Anniversaries</u> - Rosemary Innocent, Joe de Souza, Nicola Forgione, Alan Dommersen, James McHugh, Marguerite Stone, Jean Brown, Eric Pinto

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, May the souls of the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

# **Entrance Antiphon:**

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

# Response to the Psalm:

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the 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.



#### **Holy Hour**

Beginning on Friday 18th February there will be a Holy Hour with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction starting at 8:00 pm followed by Compline. Please join us as we pray for the grace to move our parish and the church forward following two years of living with the pandemic.



We are delighted to welcome the St James's School Choir "Note Bene" who will join us on Sunday 27th February to lead the singing at the 10:30 am Mass.



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 13 FEB 2022 7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 20 FEB 2022

Jeremiah 17:5-8 1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12Psalm 1

1 Corinthians 15:12. 16-20

Luke 6:17. 20-26

Psalm 102 1 Corinthians 15:45-49



"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied Grace" – 1 Peter 4:10

Last November, the Finance Committee held a stewardship campaign to encourage parishioners to offer their time and talents to nurture parish life, to assist in furthering the mission of the parish and to reflect prayerfully on their financial support to the parish.

On behalf of Fr. Peter and the Finance Committee, I would like to thank you all for your very positive response to the campaign. More than 40 people offered their time, skills and talents to help with many of the important roles that are integral to the life of our parish and to provide a wider outreach to the community.

Many parishioners also reflected on their giving and have set up a new standing order or weekly envelope arrangement or have increased their existing one. These increased donations, together with gift aid, should increase the annual parish income by approximately £12,000 ensuring that the parish continues on a solid financial footing. Thank you. Everything that happens in our parish is only possible with your support.

Peter Slattery Chair, Finance Committee

#### **Donations to Parish Funds**

If you missed the campaign to set up a standing order but would like to do so, please complete a form available on the website or from the parish office or you can do this yourself through online banking. The parish bank account is:

Bank: HSBC

Account Name: WRCDT St Margarets on Thames Sort Code: 40 05 20 Account No: 01094823

For offertory giving, please use the bank reference: XOF your surname and initials

For donations to the building fund and refurbishment project, please use the bank reference: XBF your surname and initials

If you are a UK tax payer, please gift aid your donation which increases the amount the parish receives by 25% at no additional cost to you. Gift Aid forms are available from the parish office or on the website. Thank you.

# REPAIR CAFE

### Twickenham Repair Café

"Twickenham Repair Cafe" in St Margaret's Hall



# REPAIR CARE—LAUNCH NEXT SATURDAY



Delighted to report that we now have 17 wonderful volunteer repairers so can repair:

clothes and textiles	games consoles	
household and garden electrical	toys	
electronics and radios	plant hospital	
mechanical	knitting repairs and tips	
bikes - adult and kids	glueing things station	
computers hardware and soft- ware	"Kids take it apart" table	

So bring your broken stuff next Saturday 19th from 10:30 to 13:30.



The final link of the puzzle is volunteers to help us on the day, As welcomers, guiders, servers at the cafe, overseeing the Kids assembly table etc. Please let us know Any questions just give me a shout

on: colinmessenger1@gmail.com.

On behalf of: Twickenham Repair Cafe Team.

Pat, Gavin, David, Cliff, Joe, Colin

# **World Day of Prayer**

Friday 4th March 10:30 am at Whitton Baptist Church 27 Hounslow Road, Whitton, TW2 7BZ



Every year a different nation in the world prepares a service which then takes place all over the world on that same day. This year's service has been written by women of England, Wales & Northern Ireland.

The local World Day of Prayer committee has asked us to put forward a representative from St Margaret's. The role would require attending two preparatory meetings (Nov & Jan) and the service itself in early March. Maria Sharratt was our representative until 2018 but since then we haven't been involved in the committee. It would be lovely to be a part of this ecumenical effort and hold a service at St Margaret's in the future.

For more information, please contact Cynthia in the parish office.

## 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 <a href="mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk">stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk</a> 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



# SOUP LUNCH COLLECTION FOR FEBRUARY



Thanks to all who are contributing to the monthly collections to help the

very poor in the area of Chipata, Zambia. Last month we were able to send £350 to help support this vital work. Your generosity is wonderful and much appreciated.

Our February donation will be sent on Friday 18th. If you are able to send a contribution to help some of the very poorest in that community, please contact: Maz and Bernard Winter on 02089430824 or 07769721975.

If it is more convenient, please leave your donation with Cynthia in the Parish Office, in an envelope clearly marked 'Soup Lunch donation'.

Thank you so much once again for your generosity.

#### **Bereavement Support**

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



gramme 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.



#### **SRRCC - Volunteer Readers and Scribes**

We know that the presence of a reader and scribe can make a huge difference to a pupil sitting their exams and we are seeking volunteers for this very rewarding role. You will experience first-hand the difference you can make to a pupil simply by being there.

There is official guidance on the role of a reader/scribe and full training would be given. If you feel you could assist we would be delighted to hear from you.

We understand that this could be a considerable time commitment as the exams take place over a 3-4 week period. A pupil does not have an exam every day but being a consistent adult is beneficial so we would like the same scribe to be with the same pupil each time.

The GCSE exams will take place:-

- From the 16th May to the 28th June 2022 usually from 9.00am up to 12.00pm and from 1.30pm up to 4.30pm
- Please note that if you have a close relationship with a child in Year 10 or 11 (e.g. grandchild) for confidentiality reasons it would not be appropriate for you to be a volunteer scribe at this point in time. If this is a role you would like to undertake please contact k.trimble@srrcc.org.uk or phone 020 8325 4630, ideally by the end of March although we would be delighted to hear from you anytime.