ST MARGARET'S PAGE

Corpus Christi – Year A

14th June 2020

Peter writtes: Tomorrow, Monday 16th June at long last, Churches will be free to open their doors for the first time since the middle of March, now a long three months ago. St Margarets will be open for the times mentioned later in this newsletter. There will be many things to pray for; our own family's welfare, the recovery of family and friends who have been ill; the repose of the souls of those we know who have died; the economic well-being of our families. Further afield to pray for reconciliation and the necessary changes of heart consequent on the tragic death of George Floyd in Minnesota which has sparked off widespread demonstrations over the globe, marching under the banner of 'Black Lives Matter'.

The Church cannot solve itself the damage done by racism, the state of the economy nor the health of the nation, but it can propose ways to empower Christians to begin to resolve these issues much in the same way that William Wilberforce was animated by his own Christian faith. The Solemnity of Corpus Christi is a providential place to start because the celebration of Mass makes present the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, and His Resurrection from the dead. Jesus offered Himself to take away the sins of the world, and therefore the central rite of Mass, the reception of Communion begins with those words. These sins are both personal to each of us but also those communal sins in which each person participates almost unconsciously.

The Pharisees who pulled down the statue of the shipping magnate and slave trader, Edward Coulson, were certain of their motives and clear about their opponents' racist assumptions. Yet life, individual and family, is more nuanced and is never sustained by conjuring up such certainties. Removing the statues of past figures is like airbrushing an awkward member of one's family from the collective memory. It becomes difficult to know where to stop in the search for moral purity and like-minded family members. Does it descend to not inviting an embarrassing relative to a family event?

The battle against prejudice, for the Church, starts in another place, one that will be longer lasting than any transient pleasure achieved at the removal of a statue. Jesus' first public words were 'Repent, and believe in the Gospel'. What believing in the Gospel means is expanded in St



Luke's with a quote from Isaiah about liberation from bonds of sin, both those

imposed by others, and those imposed on ourselves. This is what the Church proclaims and her missionaries make this message real all over the globe through preaching, social outreach, education and health care. The Gospel is God's testimony to both our equality and the universal destination of the message embracing all the peoples of the earth. Racism has no place in the life and mission of the Church but that does not deny that every Christian is also on a personal journey of how to welcome the other as an equal. Recognising that this journey is a long makes spiritual common sense and shows due humility in front of the stubborn refusal to see the other person, especially if they look different, as a threat. The length of the road gives both an historical perspective and a future vision. Therefore the people of this country can see both progress compared to the 1960s but also the long distance yet to travel. The temptation to sin is ever present, and those of us humble enough to grasp the length of the journey recognise that after a few steps the gift of grace is essential.

Needing grace returns us to the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. This Sunday's Feast helps us remember where we first experienced our basic equality which is not through law or the classroom but gathered around the altar, the family of the Church. Law and classroom are essential but by themselves can engender no real change of heart. It is around the threshold of the sanctuary where all racial and social distinctions disappear where true change is possible as the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross is for all people. The Cross unites us together both through our need for grace and though the offer of a shared supernatural destination. When the priest doubted all those years ago the real presence, he was doubting much more than the efficacy of the sacrament, but rather the power of Jesus' sacrifice to change lives, ways of thinking, and modes of behaviour. Real presence is never simply an intellectual argument about changing the bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus. It is also about our own transformation from outsiders to disciples, making us conscious of personal shortcomings and simultaneously the shared destiny to which we have been called.

MASS INTENTIONS June - Monday 15 th - Sunday 21 st		
Mon15 th	10.00am Mass	For all unemployed seeking
		work (Walker)
Tue 16 th	10.00 am	NO MASS
Wed17 th	10.00 am Mass	For racial justice in the
		country
Thu 18 th	10.00 am Mass	For all who are unwell &
		recovering from Covid-19
Fri 19 th	10.00 am Mass	For health workers and
		Doctors putting themselves
		at risk to fight this Pandemic
Sat 20 th	10.00am Mass	Care Home residents of the
		parish
Sun 21 st	10.30am Mass	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

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like Mass said for your intentions or for the repose of the soul of someone, please contact Cynthia via <u>email</u> (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. <u>Corpus Christi</u> <u>Sunday after Trinity Sunday-14TH June</u>

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Ps 80:17)

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 147:12-15.19-20) O Praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

Gospel (Jn 6:51-52)

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon (Jn 6:57)

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

THE FINANCIAL WELFARE OF ST MARGARET'S

The St Margaret's <u>Virgin Money Giving</u> 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.

Individual Prayer

The church will be open for individual prayer as below

10.30 am – 1.00 pm Monday, Wednesday &

Friday

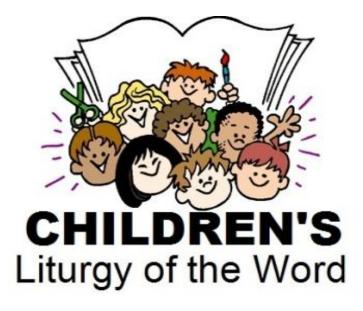
11.00 – 1.00 pm Saturday

2.00 – 4.00 pm Sunday



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.



Please use <u>link to register</u>: 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 '<u>Sunday Liturgy for Families'</u> and '<u>Daily Prayers for Home</u>'

Please find the link to **LOOK**, color in sheets to find what is in the Gospel today.





Building Missionary Parishes, Forming Missionary Disciples

RESOURCING THE LOCKDOWN

We hope you will find something of real benefit here for you as we journey together through this extraordinary period in our lives. Please find the bulletin from the Agency for Evangelisation, **Resourcing the Lockdown**.

Please find a pdf file of images for use on social media with the hashtag **#FaithInLockdown**. Secondly, short <u>Sunday reflections</u> for the month of June, compiled by Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz at Bow, continuing our journey through this Year of the Word. **Fr Chris Vipers**



Volunteers to monitor the Church during opening hours A friendly presence to reassure visitors

During Church opening times the Diocese has asked that someone is present to ensure proper procedures are fulfilled. Weekdays will be covered by Fr Peter.

Kind request for volunteers for the following slots for the next two weekends, <u>20th-21st June</u> & <u>27th-28th June</u>.

The times would be

Saturday 20th & 27th June-

11:00 - 11:40am; 11:40am - 12:20pm; 12:20pm - 1:00pm

Sunday 21st & 28th June-

2:00pm - 2:40pm; 2:40pm - 3:20pm; 3:20pm - 4:00pm

If you would like to volunteer please contact the Parish Office via email (<u>stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk</u>) or phone. There will be a brief training session on **Friday 19**th **June at 5:00pm** to go through the recommended procedures.



READINGS & GOSPEL

<u>12th Sunday in Ordinary Time –</u>			
21 st June			
Reading 1 Jer 20:10-13	He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.		
Psalm Ps 68:8-10. 14.17. 33-35 r.14	In your great love, answer me, O God.		
Reading 2 Rom 5:12-15	The gift considerably outweighed the fall.		
Gospel Acclamation John 1:14.12	The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.		
John 15:26. 27	The Spirit of truth will be my witness; and you too will be my witnesses.		
Gospel Matt 10:26-33	Do not be afraid of those who will kill the body.		

St Peter & St Paul – 28th June Reading 1 Now I know the Lord really did save me from Herod. Acts 12:1-11 Psalm From all my terrors the Lord Ps 33:2-9 r. 5 or 8 set me free. OR The angel of the Lord rescues those who revere him. Reading 2 All there is to come is the 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18 crown of righteousness reserved for me. **Gospel Acclamation** You are Peter and on this Matt: 16:18 rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. Gospel You are Peter, and I will give Matt 16:13-19 you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

St. Margaret's Updates

If you know anyone who will be keen to receive updates, know about the online events

receive The Page weekly, please let me know via email (<u>stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk</u>) I will be glad to set it up for them. **Thank you!**



Please be wary of any emails supposedly sent by Fr Peter asking for help.

Do Not open any links or attachments and above all do not pay any money.

Please do not open this email and delete it straight away. These are fake and should be ignored. Pause for Faith: Catholic life, conversations and prayer with Fr Stephen Wang



Join <u>Fr Stephen Wang</u> each day as he live streams on the new YouTube channel <u>'Pause for Faith</u>' - For some inspiration and spiritual support during the Lockdown It's an informal conversation about living the Christian faith, with some Catholic history, the lives of the saints, Christian teaching, spiritual traditions, practical tips for everyday life, contemporary issues facing the Church and the world, some Q&A and interviews.

Don't be alone! The whole point of live streaming is that you can join a community of viewers who are watching and praying together.



THANK YOU !