

ST MARGARET'S PAGE

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 15th October 2023 - Year A



In Peter writes:

Looking at the pictures of massacred Israelis in their villages, women and children raped and murdered, young people executed at a countryside rave, and then the destruction inside the Gaza Strip as retaliation, raises the question, is this just yet another moment in the endless cycles of violence that has marked this part of the Middle East since the 1948 creation of the State of Israel. The moments of hope represented by the Camp David agreement between Anwar Sadat, President of Egypt, Menachem Begun, Prime Minister of Israel and Jimmy Carter in 1979 are still operative but the Oslo Accords of 1992 between Yitzhak Rabin, Yasser Arafat arranged under the auspices of Bill Clinton has long past. That later moment of hope was cut short by the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin by an Israeli, the advancement of the settler cause in Israel and the growth of Hamas and other groups who refused to accept the existence of the state of Israel. The complete absence of common ground at present between the two factions makes peace impossible and even co-existence without war unlikely as has been demonstrated over the last twenty years

Yet despite the violence and atrocities committed, peace or at least peaceful co-existence must be the goal, however unlikely this might seem at the moment. Unless one believes and supports those organisations that demand that the state of Israel or Palestine should cease to exist, a solution that embraces the matrix of the land, faith, resources and economic life for both Israelis and Palestinians becomes a moral imperative. One long term clerical resident of Jerusalem explained that politicians and activists arrive and after a week have the solution but those who stay years become ever less sanguine about any immediate possibilities of peace. No-one should be under any illusion about the difficulties.

Emotions run high over these issues and those celebrating the achievements of Hamas gunmen need to ask themselves, what has the short-lived crossing into the Israel has achieved other than another initiating another cycle of violence. Will those validating the violent response believe anything other than further death and destruction will ensure from this retribution?

Placing the killing by Cain of Abel as one of the first acts after the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, demonstrates both the ubiquity of violence and its un-natural

origin. Violence, in the Book of Genesis, is seen as the consequence of sin and that is why it becomes, in our world, the instrument of choice to fulfil chosen goals unobtainable by peaceful means. At the same time the voice of conscience still recognises that the violent path is wrong, so a tension is created within each person, answered by the desire to seek reconciliation. Conscience never emerges fully formed at birth, conscience requires training and exercise, somewhat like a spiritual and moral muscle. Parents nurture and encourage their children to understand right and wrong, along with the ability to say sorry, express gratitude, and to try to remain firm in front of the invitation to wrong doing. These abilities would remain mere possibilities unless they were nurtured through the care and love of parents and wider family.

Constant talk of violence and destruction atrophies conscience. Religion too can be accused of possessing inspired texts validating violence against unbelievers, and glorifying destruction along with becoming victims of evil. Yet at the same time every religious text and tradition contains the demand for peace, both within oneself and with regard to others. To use the texts glorifying violence and the language of victimhood, says more about the believer than it does about the sacred text, because the believer chooses to interpret the individual text without considering the whole. Much violence has been undertaken in the name of Jesus Christ, again the choice of believers who equated the advance of the Gospel with the sword.

My prayer for the Middle East is that the never-ending path of violence is interrupted with the religious vision of peace. No secular solution will satisfy in the lands of multiple faith but peace may be grasped from within the fullness of religious traditions of both Jews and Muslims along with the tiny minority of Christians. Imposing peace through international organisations has only partially worked, and the periods of relative peace testify to those efforts. However, it will require a change of hearts, but one only possible through faith as the antidote to those leaders who use religion to advance their cause. Asking oneself who is benefitting from the violence makes it obvious that it is those misusing religious traditions for their own purposes. Our prayers therefore are for the fullness of religious traditions to change minds and hearts in order to break the cycles of violence. Only an answer based on faith and prayer has any chance of bringing more lasting peace.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrcchurch.co.uk • Phone - 020 8892 3902

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: 14 —22 October

14/10	Sat	10.00am	For you, the people	
15/10	Sun	8.30am	Mary Richardson RIP	Susannah O'Leary
		10.30am	For the Bailey family RIP	Margaret Crowe
		6.30pm	Eleanor Drew RIP & the Drew family	Gretta and Liam Gallagher & family
16/10	Mon	10.00am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
17/10	Tues	10.00am	For you the people	
18/10	Weds	10.00am	Eucharistic Service - Margaret Wood-Collins RIP	John Wood-Collins
19/10	Thurs	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
20/10	Fri	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
21/10	Sat	10.00am	Ian Swift RIP	David McKenzie
22/10	Sun	8.30am	For you the people	
		10.30am	Mary Ibbett & Stephen Orr- 10th wedding anniversary	
		6.30pm	Peter Dufour (1st Anniv RIP)	Barbara de Souza

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

John Forsyth, Rose Blackman, Ursula van der Westhuizen, Cathy McKendry, Rose Blackman, Rachel Rose, 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, 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 - Jean Hale, Thomas Casson Peel, Jessie Hartigan, Margaret Wood-Collins, David Parsons, Patrick Morrison, Ben Watson, Len Marriage, Nora Daly, Brian Doherty, Patrick McQuaid

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

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

Prayer Intentions - October 2023

For the Synod—We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Entrance Antiphon:

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

Response to the Psalm:

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Parish Pastoral Council Notices from Fr Peter

Every few years the Parish Pastoral Council undergoes a change of personnel as serving the parish should be a joy and not a life-sentence!

Currently I am looking for a new **Secretary/Convener of the Pastoral Council**, someone who co-ordinates the three yearly meetings and has oversight over the parish's different activities as a whole. I would like to thank for her work as secretary for the last three years. Kathryn James will be taking over the Community/Love your parish position.

I am also looking for two further parishioners who might consider overseeing the two posts of **Catechetical co-ordinator** and **Pastoral Outreach**. I am very grateful for the contributions made by Marta Baker (Catechetics) and Cath Brizzell (Pastoral Outreach). Both have ensured that the parish provides different catechetical and faith development courses and events, and that the parish has a sustained outreach into the community, especially with the Richmond Homeless lunches.

HELP NEEDED

Might you be able to contribute to the life of the parish by taking over the administration involved in preparing and circulating the rotas for readers and Eucharistic ministers? The task can easily be done at home if you have access to a computer and can work with either Word or Excel documents. It's about 3 hours work each time the rota is compiled (4 times a year) and a little extra at Christmas and Easter. We use a parish email address so it does not clog up your personal email with messages. You do not need to know loads of people in the parish but it is a good way of getting to know a few more! If you would like to find out more about what would be involved please contact Ann Edes via the parish office to arrange a time to chat.

Blessing of the Graves

Sunday 5th November
2 pm Twickenham cemetery
3.30 pm Teddington cemetery



The Year of the Council: Sharing Faith Course

You are invited to join us in preparation for the Year of the Council with the Diocesan "Sharing Faith" course.

The course will run for 4 Wednesdays from 7.30-9pm in the Lower Sacristy, starting on **Wednesday 8th November** and finishing on **Wednesday 29th November**.



This new course, for faith-sharing communities across the Diocese, seeks to bring us into an act of love, as we journey through the 4 Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council.

All are welcome to join us—teas & coffees provided.

Patronal Feast Weekend Celebrations **18th & 19th November**

Saturday 18th November: 5pm in the Hall
Talk by Melanie McDonagh: "The powerful women of the Mediaeval Church, St Margaret of Scotland included".

Melanie McDonagh writes for The Tablet and The Evening Standard, amongst other newspapers.

Sunday 19th November: 12pm in the Hall
The traditional St Margaret's BBQ will take place after the 10.30am Mass. Tickets amazing value! £15 per family, £5 per person—please bring a salad or dessert to share.

The memorial of St Margaret of Scotland is Thursday 16th November, and may be transferred to the nearest Sunday in churches dedicated to her name.



Mass Times & Liturgical Services (14/10-22/10)

Weekend	Saturday	10.00 am
	Sunday	8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday	Mon, Tue	10.00 am
Euch Ser	Wed, Thur & Fri	10.00 am
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00-10.20am

St Margarets Sunday lunches- Volunteer Co-ordinator needed

Following the success of our 4-6 weekly Sunday lunches, we now need someone to take over the management of our growing team of volunteers.

The role includes managing our volunteer sign up sheet, liaising with the organisers and parish office regarding Sunday lunches rota and upcoming dates, as well as email/ telephone management of volunteers and the team on the day. (Approx 2 - 3 hours every 4-6 weeks, working remotely). Training and support provided. Please contact Cath Brizzell cathmcddee@yahoo.com or contact Fr Peter via the Parish Office.



Join us for a "Tea & Chat" from 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm on:

Friday 20th October

All are welcome! Please feel free to bring along a friend or a neighbour.



Mary's Meals wants to collect all your foreign currency and turn it into cash to feed hungry children in the 18 countries it works in. You will find envelopes at the back of church today, please take one when you leave and put all your foreign coins and notes* into it. Then bring your envelope back into church a few weeks later. Mary's Meals feeds children for only 10p per meal so a little goes a long way. Thank you for your support.

*We will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender



During the weekend of the 21st-22nd October 2023, Young Catholic Adults and the Traditional English Association of Catholic History will be organising a pilgrimage to York and will visit the shrine of St. Margaret Clitherow, York Oratory, the Bar Convent and St. Mary's Abbey.

This event is aimed at Young Catholic Adults and Catholics interested in history.

For details of how to book onto this free weekend and for more info see:-

<https://bookwhen.com/youngcatholicadults-yorkpilgrimage2023>



ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE • UNITY • SERVICE

St Ignatius Catholic Primary School in Sunbury-on-Thames, is currently advertising for a Headteacher on ETeach website. If you would like any further information, please email admin@ascensioncat.org or contact Nicola Twose (HR Manager) on 0208 325 4630.

Nicola Twose, HR Manager

Ascension Catholic Academy Trust

c/o St Richard Reynolds Catholic College

A day with Mary

Saturday 28th October. Westminster Cathedral—
9.45 am—5.00 pm

Email—adwmary.uk@gmail.com

Trevor Downs—020 8641 6418

Come and join us for our Repairs Café

REPAIR CAFE Twickenham

SATURDAY 21ST

Bring your broken stuff and
your unwanted usable tools.

We are collecting tools for TWAM
who last year sent 17 containers
of tools to Africa!

TWAM.UK

From 10.30 - 12.45

and 3rd Saturday of each month at St Margarets Church Hall, TW11RL
twickenhamrepaircafe.org @Twickrepaircafe

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.

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, 24 February and 1 June 2024. 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.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

If you are interested in our Digital Subscription Offer or the PRINT EDITION, call on Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Below is the link to the latest edition of the Universe Catholic Weekly:

<https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/universe-weekly-newsletters/september-2023/UNIVERSE-22-SEPTEMBER%20v3.pdf>