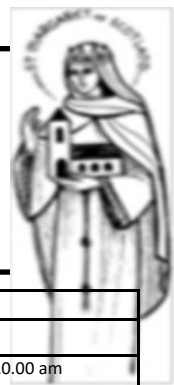


ST MARGARET'S PAGE

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 17th January 2021 Year B



In Peter writes:

There is a 13th century legend that the teenage Jesus visited England, travelling to Glastonbury, with Joseph of Arimathea, a tin merchant. Joseph according to these legends was the father-in-law of Jesus and thus responsible for burying him according to Jewish burial customs of the time. The legend of this sacred visit is kept alive in the un-official anthem of England, Jerusalem, but William Blake, far from confirming the sacred countenance gazing on the clouded hills, posed the challenge as to how to build Jerusalem in 'this green and pleasant land'. Instead the apocryphal visit of the Lamb of God has become the testbed for the creation of a Christian society. The challenge as of now remains unfulfilled. Indeed, it never can be, the crooked timber of humanity makes earthly fulfilment impossible, but that is no reason for not beginning. The task will be completed in the kingdom of heaven, but those who took to heart the opening words of Jesus' public life, 'Repent, the kingdom of God is at hand' and made that their mandate, of allowing the kingdom to develop in themselves, their families, community and society will hear the words spoken: 'well done good and faithful servant'.

Today's Gospel celebrates the 'third showing of Jesus Christ', the first was at the Epiphany, when the three wise men concluded their journey, inspired by human wonder, completed through divine revelation and concluded in worship; the second, celebrated last Sunday, when Jesus submits to the baptism of John the Baptist, not for personal need, but out of solidarity with humanity. This Sunday, Jesus is proclaimed by the Baptist as, 'the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world'. These three showings demonstrate a paradox, Jesus descending from King to Lamb, is at the same time entering more deeply into our human condition, and making the effect of His redemption more powerful. John's title, coming at the beginning of the public life, appears towards the end of Mass and just before the reception of Holy Communion. This title, therefore, goes to the heart of Jesus' identity. He is the Word of God, He is the King of the Jews, He is in solidarity with sinners, but His is the sacrifice that will break the shackles of death, along with suffering physical and mental. His is the death and resurrection that will usher in a new Messianic era and He gives us Himself to effect this transformation.

Mass Times & Liturgy Services		
Sunday	8:30 am, 10:30 am and 6:30 pm	
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur, Sat (Eucharistic Service on Fir)	10.00 am	
Adoration	Saturday	10:30 - 11:00
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Sat (via Zoom) (please email the parish office for link)	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am 10:00-10:20am

Such thoughts of Messianic fulfilment might be applied to that strange expression, heard on the lips of many, 'the new normal'. Whatever it may mean there is no need to accept it passively as the normal imposed by others. Instead, this is the moment to re-think both the large-scale, how we treat the planet, to the small-scale, how we treat each other. Every Parish community has the ability to help give shape to this 'new normal', because it participates in the worldwide community that is the universal Church and because the Church is found in every single parish community.

One clue as to how to construct 'the new normal' is found in this Sunday's Gospel. Andrew asks what might seem at first sight a strange question to Jesus, 'where do you live?' This is a question about belonging, the visible forms of the society proposed by the Messiah. The question can be asked about our community too, 'What sort of belonging marks this parish?' Often it is so easy, with every good intention, 'I have not seen you at this Mass before', only to be told 'I have been coming here five years!' Maybe the opening gambit should be 'welcome to St Margaret's, I hope that you have found your place here'. Jesus answered Andrew's question, 'Come and see', and in a way so should we. Obviously during lockdown 'come and see' takes on a different form, some parishioners come to Mass in person, others are rightly shielding, but the day will come when we can gather once again to worship and this will be the moment to make our collective statement about the 'new normal'. Will this 'new normal' usher in a less religious society in Great Britain, now that Mass practice has shrunk over the last year. This is one possibility but that is not inevitable. The power of the Gospel remains the same, Jesus, Son of God, has entered the depths of our human condition in order to save us from within. He is true Lamb of God, and He can walk this 'green and pleasant land' if we allow Him.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrchurch.co.uk

Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes

Office Hours: Parish Office is closed. Emails are checked regularly.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 16th January – Sunday 24th January

16 Jan	Sat	10.00 am	For all young people	
17 Jan	Sun	8.30 am	For unemployed seeking work	
		10.30 am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	Helen Edes RIP	Jean & Des McGinley
18 Jan	Mon	10.00 am	For the intentions of O'leary family	
19 Jan	Tue	10.00 am	Desmond McGinley RIP	Catherine Sugrue
20 Jan	Wed	12.00 pm	Funeral Mass of Desmond McGinley RIP	
21 Jan	Thur	10.00 am	Sr Elizabeth Emmett RIP	Catherine Sugrue
22 Jan	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
23 Jan	Sat	10.00 am	Brian Gregory de Souza RIP	Barbara de Souza
24 Jan	Sun	8.30 am	Desmond McGinley RIP	Maureen Davis
		10.30 am	Brendan Sugrue RIP	Catherine Sugrue
		6.30 pm	Mgr Mark Langham RIP	

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Mo Walker, Stanislaw Wozniak, Adriana Posse de González (Valeria's Mum), Rachel Rose, Fr Paul Bigirwa, Patricia Mary Picton (Mary), Arthur Mathewson, Pat Friel, Mary Reagan, Pauline Slawson, Ben, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter Coughlan, Hilary Sudell, Rose Lorden, William Hamilton, Luca, 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) and Kevin Sweeney

Recently deceased– Anthony (Anton) Barber RIP, David Barchard RIP, Desmond McGinley RIP, Father David Palmer RIP (Isleworth Parish), Monsignor Mark Langham RIP, Pat Doyle RIP, Sr Elizabeth Emmett RIP,

Anniversaries– Martin Breheny, Winifred Collins, Louis Tobback, Helen Owens, Laurence Roche, Cyril Watkins, Mollie McLaughlin, Nancy Bennett, Douglas Henderson, Mary Richards, Tony de Lord

Entrance Antiphon:

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

Response to the Psalm:

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.



New Year's arrangement for Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday at 10.00 am (streamed on YouTube).

There will be a Eucharistic Service on Friday's at 10.00 am, (not streamed).

Sunday Mass as normal 8.30 am, 10.30 am (streamed) and 6.30 pm.

Rosary on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at 9.30 am (join via Zoom).

Churches remain open for worship.

Funeral Mass for

Desmond McGinley RIP at

St Margaret's Church

20th January 2021 at 12.00 pm

Numbers are restricted owing to government regulations. Mass will be live streamed.

YouTube link for Mass as below

<https://youtu.be/kF4-rOhGjXI>



17th January - 2nd Sunday in OT

1 Samuel 3:3-10,19

Psalm 39(40):2,4,7-10

1 Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20

John 1:35-42

24 January - 3rd Sunday in OT

Jonah 3:1-5,10

Psalm 24(25):4-6,7b-9

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20



Dates for Pre Baptism Course 2021

Session 1 & 2

23rd February & 2nd March

Session 1 & 2

11th May & 18th May

Please contact the parish office via email for more information.

First Holy Communion Sessions 2021

The session will now start after half term on **Saturday 27th February**. This will mean that the date for the celebration of First Holy Communion will have to move from May to July, in order to make sure there is enough time to prepare your child.



The revised date for First Holy Communion will now be Saturday 3rd July.

Confirmation 2021

The Confirmation course, for those in Year 9 and above will begin on **Saturday 27th February at 5:15pm followed by Mass.**



This year the Course is being led by Deacon Joseph Estorninho, Joseph Kilsby, a recent graduate from St Marys and Kirsten Roy, long standing parishioner.

If you would like to participate please contact Fr Peter at the Parish Office to obtain an application form.

Marriage Course

The next Marriage Preparation Course will take place here at St Margarets on **Saturday 27th March**, either in person, if permissible, or on-line. The cost of the day-long course is either £80 per couple (if held in person) or £50 per couple (if held on line). A decision as to the form of the course will be taken at the beginning of March.



Interested in becoming a Catholic?



The Parish will be running a set of meetings starting Tuesday 26th January from 7:30pm to 8:45pm. We will use the Alpha material as a prelude for discussion on a specific topic and read parts of one Gospel, probably St Luke.

The proposed dates are

Tuesday 26th January	Tuesday 2nd March
Tuesday 2nd February	Tuesday 9th March
Wednesday 10th February	Tuesday 16th March
Tuesday 16th February	Tuesday 23rd March
Tuesday 23rd February	Post Easter dates to follow

We will start online using Zoom but with any hope might meet face to face once the strictures of lockdown are eased.

If you know of someone who might like to know more about the faith please let them know about this course.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

Lenten Alms

Having just celebrated a rather denuded Christmas and New Year, it might seem strange to start talking about Lent already but Wednesday 17th February will come around soon enough.

This Sunday, 10th January, marks the opening for nominations for a charity that St Margarets Parish might support as a collective endeavour over Lent and a little beyond. Applications will close on January 27th January, and if you would like to nominate a charity on which the Parish can vote on Sunday 6th February (for those who are unable to attend Mass, an email vote will be permissible) please send your application to the Parish Office before 27th January .

Timetable

Jan 10th - 27th Application period - forms available on the parish website and by emailing the parish office: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk

January 27th: closing date for applications.

Pastoral Council to review applications

February 6th: short-listed charities will be invited to make a presentation to the parish and parishioners will have an opportunity to vote (in person and on-line)

February 14th: Announcement of chosen charity in newsletter and on-line. Winning Charity to propose some zoom-friendly fund-raising activities and some post-Easter social events (legislation permitting)

February 17th: Ash Wednesday

April 4th: Easter Sunday (More dates to follow)



**'Heart speaks to Heart' Prayer course
January to March 2021**

Start date - Thursday January 21st, 7:30pm - 8:30pm

This month St Margarets will be joining St Elizabeth's Parish for a course on prayer led by Peter Asprey. A number of parishioners have already undertaken the course and found it very helpful, and so I thought it would be beneficial to offer the repeat course more widely within the Parish. Registration takes place through the St Elizabeth's parish website, the details of which are in the brochure.

I hope that those who choose to participate will be assisted in developing their prayer life. As Catholics it is easy to fall into the temptation that we belong to the Church in terms of cultural identity rather than in seeing the Church as the place to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. This relationship is at the heart of the Church's life, and sustains every Parish mission.

For further details and signing up, please visit - <https://stelizabethofportugal.churchsuite.co.uk/events/khjxephq>



**New Parishioner On-line gathering
Tuesday 9th February 8:00pm-9:00pm**

Over the last two years a number of new parishioners have started coming to Mass at St Margaret's. Due to lockdown restrictions, it has proved impossible to welcome them to our Parish or explain something of the life of the Parish and what went on here week by week.

If you have arrived here in the last two years please contact the Parish Office for an invitation from your hosts Fr Peter and Angie Keane.

I look forward to meeting you on-line and with hope in person sometime soon.



**New Podcast
From Fr. Mike Schmitz:
*The Bible In A Year***

The Bible in a Year

Why not make 2021 the year in which you read the Bible? 'The Bible in a Year' is a daily podcast (20-25 mins) by Fr Mike Schmitz. It includes two to three scripture readings, a reflection from Fr Mike, and a guided prayer to help you hear God's voice in his Word. <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>



New year's resolution: Make a difference with CAFOD as a volunteer.

CAFOD Westminster is looking for volunteers, who care about global poverty, to help us inspire others to act here, so we can tackle poverty and injustice across the developing world.

Are you a people-person who would relish involving and encouraging others? Are you a good communicator who would enjoy speaking about our work in a Parish or School?

Please get in touch with us on westminster@cafod.org.uk or 020 8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of our CAFOD online information sessions.

Thanks for your support
Tony Sheen Community Participation Co-ordinator – CAFOD Westminster