

ST MARGARET'S PAGE

5th SUNDAY OF LENT - 17 March 2024 - Year B



In Peter writes:

Last week saw the beginning of Ramadan, the month of fasting undertaken by Muslims that will conclude with the Festival of Eid. Based on the lunar calendar the month moves slightly each year. Many Universities, Middlesex and St Marys included, arrange an Iftar meal, a shared dinner that takes place after sunset, to which non-Muslim students are also invited. A good way to foster inter-religious understanding beginning from the base, shared traditions of hospitality. Many years ago I sat at an Iftar at Finsbury Park Mosque, incongruously next to Jeremy Corbyn, the MP for Islington North, in my former role as Dean of Islington! A truly interfaith event.

What is the Christian to make of Islam. Every year the Church prays during the Good Friday Liturgy for the Jewish People and for those who believe in the one God, the believers of Islam. As a Christian, salvation comes uniquely through Jesus Christ and no inter-religious dialogue should begin with content. There are bound to be differences, and to claim otherwise is to offer false comfort. What may be agreed is that the three monotheistic faiths share the same structure, of belief in the one God who makes Himself known, and to whom one commits one's life. Such a faith structure depending on God generates a morality based on moral absolutes. Right and wrong relate to God's salvation and are not simply personal choices. Right and wrong, to people of faith, possess both a public face as a religious community but one stimulated by the personal response of individual believers committed to respond as faithfully as possible to God's call. Religious morality is both the public and personal response to the invitation of God to enter a relationship with Him. This dynamic implicitly creates a divide between those who grasp the outlines of absolute truth and those who see all religious truth as either relative or contradictory.

Many secular-minded individuals see all religions as a form of mysticism, and not as a dynamic relationship with God, as the Creator of everything. This mysticism could either be the direct experience of God or the reporting thereof. Little is asked in terms of moral response. Mysticism seeks contact with God while the God of the Old Testament lies hidden, no-one can see His face and live, and yet makes heavy moral demands.

The Christian insistence on the uniqueness of Jesus Christ as the one Saviour transforms this universal mysticism tendency into a form of Christian prayer that is orientated to Jesus Christ. This orientation has definitive historical characteristics as He lived a historical life and died in a public manner. All people may be saved through His historical death and not simply through a mystical attachment to some higher being.

Seeking a relationship with God through mysticism or through popular forms of meditation cannot be wrong in themselves but in terms of a living relationship with God leave the participant in first gear alone. Potential Christians start their religious journey in different places with a combination of a personal relationship with Jesus, attraction to the liturgy, communal life and outreach towards the community.

Over the next two weeks the Liturgical Year is reaching its pinnacle with the celebration of Holy Week. These unique set of historical circumstances shape the practice of our faith, liturgically, spiritually, and communally. How the Church worships, what the Church believes, and how the Church associates derive their form from the events of this last week. Thus, Christianity is an historical religion, and stands and falls on the veracity of these events. Direct evidence of those events is non-existent, but the continual life of the Church gives the best testament to the truthfulness to Holy Week. Our Lenten fast, amateur in comparison to Islamic rigour, sets the scene for the complex liturgies of Holy Week which complement our meagre efforts.

To choose Christ is not to denigrate other religions whose practice might be rather more intense than our own, but to recognise positively that Jesus Christ is the definitive word of God to which other faiths are connected in some mysterious fashion. Other revealed religions possess their own internal integrity but Jesus Christ is the fullness of the truth.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrccchurch.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: 16/3 - 24/3

16/03	Sat	10.00am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
17/03	Sun	8.30am	Helen McLeash RIP	Winter
		10.30am	Thanksgiving Mass	Thomson family
		6.30 pm	Gerry Curtin RIP	Adrian
18/03	Mon	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
19/03	Tue	10.00am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
20/03	Wed	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
21/03	Thu	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
22/03	Fri	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
24/03	Sat	10.00am	The families of St Margarets Parish	
24/03	Sun	8.30am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
		10.30am	Cathy Mckendry RIP	Kevin & Moira Wood
		6.30 pm	Cathy Mckendry RIP	Ann Edes

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Natalie Shaw and Larry Fogg, Maria Antonia Orta, Cathy Howard, John Forsyth, Rose Blackman, Ursula van der Westhuizen, Rachel Rose, Arthur Mathewson, Pat Friel, Mary Regan, Pauline Slawson, Ben, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Hilary Sudell, Rose Lorden, William Hamilton, Mary Arnold, Cesar Juan Urrutigoity, Mary Ethel Arnolda, Sydney Parkes, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Master-son, Carmen Ruibal, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Tony Tucker, Dr Christopher Khoo, John Wood-Collins, Jim Polland, Theresa Bulpitt, Sue Rolph & Dick Cotter

Anniversaries - Elizabeth Cowell, Marie Ashford, Fr. Desmond Swan, Geoffrey Hunter, Hilda Lassow, George Chidzey, Winifred Spencer, John Cody, Alicia de Souza, Elizabeth Underwood, Catherine Rayson, Charles McQuorquadale, Belinda Smith

Kindly keep the recently deceased in your prayers - Cathy McKendry RIP, Joyce O'Connor RIP (Mo Walker's mother), who has died at the age of 101 years and Albarosa Mac-cione RIP

Rest in peace. ~Amen~

March Prayer Intentions - For new Martyrs - Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

Entrance Antiphon - Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Response to the Psalm - A pure heart create for me, O God.

Mass Times & Liturgical Services (18/3 - 24/3)

Weekend Mass	Saturday	10.00 am	Sunday	8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Mass		Tue		10.00 am
Eucharistic Service		Mon, Wed, Thu & Fri		10.00 am
Confessions	Saturday	Sunday		10:30-11:00am 10.00-10.20am

Saturday 6.00 pm Mass - 6 pm Mass will take place when the First Holy Communion children meet. The dates are **April** - 13, 20, 27, May 4.



CATHOLICISM - If you are a non-Catholic and attend Mass with your Catholic spouse and would like to learn more about what Catholics believe we have a course for you.

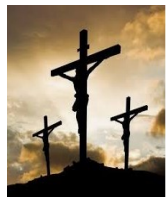


After Easter we will be running a short course especially designed for non-Catholics to explain the beliefs of Catholics and (perhaps) dispel some of the myths about Catholics. The course will be on Tuesday evenings from 8:00-9:00 pm and run for 5 weeks. Please contact Cynthia in the office to register your interest.

Holy Week and Easter Liturgies

Maunder Thursday, 28th March

Mass - 8.00 pm; Night Prayer - 9.45 pm, Watching at the altar of repose to 10.00 pm

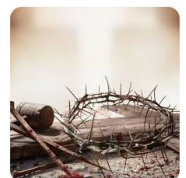


Good Friday, 29th March

- Stations of the Cross – 10.30 am
- Children's Stations of the Cross – 12.00 pm
- The Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord – 3.00 pm



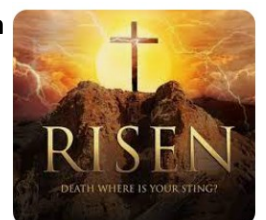
Easter Vigil: Mass - 8.00 pm



Easter Sunday: Mass - 8.30 am and 10.30 am

There will be no evening Mass on Easter Sunday.

Easter Monday: Mass - 12.00 noon



LENT AT ST MARGARETS



- **Lenten Faith Formation** - We Dare To Say had to regrettably be postponed until after Easter. Sorry for the inconvenience.

- **Lenten Devotions**

- ⇒ Stations of the Cross and Holy Hour - On Fridays during Lent held at 7:30 pm followed by Holy Hour.



- ⇒ Good Friday - Stations of the Cross at 10.30 am



- **Lenten Alms Project**- Cardinal's Lenten Appeal

THE MUSTARD SEED

You are invited to join our Mustard Seed Prayer Group, whose next meeting is Saturday 23rd March followed by 20th April, 25th May, and 22nd June 2024.



Mustard Seed is a Charismatic group open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The group begins with tea & coffee at 7.45pm, followed by a period of praise and worship, time for quiet reflection and input from a guest speaker. There is also opportunity for individual prayer ministry, provided by the team.

The evening ends at 10pm. Everyone is very welcome to come along to group, whether it's your first time or your twentieth!

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony



Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May 2024 at 2:30pm.
(Last date to send details—15 April 2024)

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full post-address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

Cathy McKendry Funeral Mass of Thanksgiving, 11am Friday 5th April.

Please join us for the Mass of thanksgiving to celebrate the life of Cathy McKendry (1935-2024).

Cathy passed to heaven peacefully in her sleep, at home aged 88, deeply loved by our family, friends and neighbours who gathered around her bedside with Father Peter. Cathy's Mass will



be at 11am on Friday 5th April at St Margaret's Church, and then she will be cremated at South-West Middlesex Crematorium, followed by a reception in the Church Hall. Her ashes will be laid to rest in London and Ireland.

A Vigil will be held on the eve of 4th April in the Lady Chapel. We request donations to CAFOD and the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Action Charity.

Please join us and wear purple to remember and celebrate Cathy's life.

Tony, Sarah & Rachel McKendry

Good Friday March 29th

Ecumenical Walk of Witness

Join other Christians from local churches in a walk of witness on Good Friday. Meet at 9am on Twickenham Green, outside Arthur's café. Father Ulick of St James's RC Church will bless the walkers. The walk will move along Heath Road and Wharf Lane to the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside. If it is difficult for you to walk, please join the service directly at Diamond Jubilee Gardens at 9:20 am. The short service will be led by the Venerable Richard Frank, with a scripture reading by the Reverend Stephen Lewis of the United Reformed Church. Walkers are welcome to carry a cross if they wish.



One of questions we asked ourselves as a Parish in the recent synodal meetings was "how do we witness as a Parish to proclaim our faith to those who have not heard of Christ and those who have ceased walking with Christ?"

Participating in this walk of witness would be one way of doing just that.

Recollection for Women

20th March 10.00 - 12.30 at St Margarets Church Hall



10.00 – Holy Mass
10.40 – First Meditation
11.10 – Examination of Conscience
11.40 - Rosary
12.10 – Second Meditation
12.30 - Coffee & Social
The priest will be available for confessions from 11.00 – 12.00

Join us ! Our next sessions are—April 17, May 15 & June 19

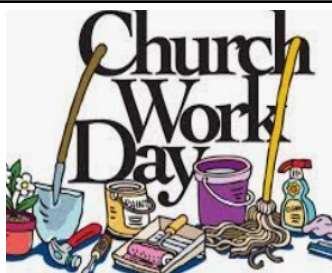


St Margarets of Scotland Catholic Church
130 St Margarets Road, Twickenham, TW11RL

We need helpers to clean the Church

Could you help?

Saturday 23rd March 2024



1.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Could you spare one hour or so to help spruce up the Church for Easter? With some good elbow grease and your smiles, we think that we can get this done in an hour (maybe 2). After that, please do stick around afterwards for some refreshments and chat. It is a great way to make friends, widen your network and contribute to the community. No age restrictions- all are welcome.

Please sign up at the back of the Church or drop a note to the parish office, or even just turn up on the day.

For more information contact via email - stmar-garetsonthames@rcdow.org.uk or chat to Eustace Furtado after Mass Or reach the parish office: 020 8892 3902



Sunday lunch scheme 2024

We will continue to host occasional Sunday lunches this year for people in need of a healthy home cooked meal and some company. Can you spare some time to help us? We are part of a rota with other Richmond churches, catering for around 20-30 guests each time.

Sunday lunch dates:

- ◆ 31st March
- ◆ May 26th
- ◆ June 9th
- ◆ September 29th
- ◆ October 27th
- ◆ December 22nd
- ◆ Feb 16 2025
- ◆ March 16 2025



Jobs include:

- Welcome and chat
- Making a veg soup
- Cooking a main meal for 6-8 people (eg shepherds pie, pasta bake, lasagne (meat plus veg option)
- Making a dessert
- Clearing and washing up

Food may be prepared off site and guidance will be given as needed. Please join our easy signup sheet <https://volunteersignup.org/3B9BH?> to join us on any of the dates or call / email -

Furtado.shiny@gmail.com or phone number -07771861638 to join our group of amazing volunteers.

Thank you in advance for continuing to help make this happen.

Shiny Furtado (on behalf of Fr Peter & The Parish Pastoral Council)

VOLUNTEER



The FULHAM BIG BAND

'Many thanks for your support and donations. We raised £1011/- to help people suffering as a result of the Israel/ Gaza conflict.

The Fulham Big Band enjoyed coming to St Margaret's as we were such an appreciative audience !'

