

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 17th September 2023 - Year A

Fr Peter writes:

It is now over ten years since Pope Francis was elected, the first non-European to be elected to the papacy since the early Middle Ages. *Evangelii Gaudium* (The joy of the Gospel) was his first major document and it is the fruit of many years' meditation on and experience of the Church, especially in his native Argentina. Beginning the document with the call to encounter Jesus Christ might well be off-putting at first sight – we might think that we have little interior life of prayer; nor have been to the sacrament of reconciliation for years, maybe never blessed a meal for a while; probably lost track about the nuances between right and wrong in small decisions of life, following unconsciously the activity patterns of everyone else in the headlong fulfilment of life's never-ending obligations.

On offer as a counter-blast to this experience is the simple joy derived from being known by Jesus Christ. In the words of the document, 'of the flicker of light born of our personal certainty, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved.' Later the document quotes Pope Benedict XVI 'being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.' Receiving this love which restores our own lives, makes the demand, to share that love with others. By sharing with others we embed our own sense of joy as to the gift of being loved.

These opening paragraphs of *Evangelii Gaudium*, are the inspiration for the forthcoming Bishops' worldwide meeting in Rome with Pope Francis, lay people and religious sisters and brothers. How does the church communicate and sustain this joy in today's world? Since the joy of the Gospel is personal, it can only be communicated by those already imbued with that joy both as individuals and as a community, for us, this parish. Every Christian is invited to be that sign of joy through his or her own life, and collectively through the action of the community, this parish.

Thus, St Margaret's, our parish community, is both the collective response to the joy of already being known by Jesus Christ, and the place to re-remember that joy, to re-animate that joy through the celebration of the sacraments especially the Eucharist.

Perhaps as Catholics we are more used to the formal celebration of sacraments rather than the more evangelical sounding 'meeting with Jesus', but without the meeting with Jesus, faith becomes institutional alone. When the time comes that the

Mass Times & Liturgical Services (18/09 - 24/09)		
Weekend	Saturday	10.00 am
	Sunday	8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday	Tue, Wed, Thu & Fr	10.00 am
	Monday – Funeral for Frank O'Hara No 10 am Mass	2.00 pm
Euch Ser	Friday	10.00 am
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00-10.20am

institution no longer serves then practice perishes. Focusing on the joy of meeting, of being loved by Christ, and the Eucharist as -remembering the historic form in which this love was demonstrated, the Last Supper, Cross and Resurrection of Jesus, strengthens faith because it strengthens the joy in our hearts.

With these introductory words from Pope Francis' great document, and with the forthcoming meeting in Rome, I feel that this is the time to re-emphasise the evangelistic vision of this parish. Over the summer some members of the Parish Pastoral Council asked to be relieved of their post after their term of service was completed. Serving the community in this way is never to be a life-sentence, and constant renewal of personnel is essential. I am very grateful for everything achieved over the last four years, a period that included Covid lockdown and long journey afterwards. No Parish is one person's effort.

The Pastoral Council will now need a new chair/secretary, and new members for catechetics/adult faith exploration, and new parish pastoral outreach co-ordinator. If one of these posts appeal and you feel called to serve the church community in this way please contact Fr Peter. The length of service on the Pastoral Council is two-three years, not a life-sentence with no parole! The task is not to do everything in that area, but to animate existing and find new volunteers, whether it be for the homeless lunches, children's liturgy on Sunday, and others too. So many good projects are taking place in the parish already, that you will be helping to steer and encouraging a living organisation with the aim of presenting the face of the church to the world, our local world. Pope Francis asks every parish to renew their ways of doing things to make every activity mission orientated because parishes are the longest existing communities in the church. Over history they have proved supremely adaptable; they survived the onslaught of 19th and 20th century urbanism, changes in governments of every type, and developments in technology and culture. Parishes survive because animated by the Holy Spirit and the charisms of individual members they are, in the words of Pope Francis, 'capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity.' My hope is that St Margaret's is no different.

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 Sat 16 Sep - 24 Sep

16/09	Sat	10.00 am	The families of St Margaret's Parish	
17/09	Sun	8.30 am	Albert Dolan RIP recently deceased	Peter & Su Slattery
		10.30 am	Eleanor Drew RIP	Kevin & Moira Wood
		6.30 pm	Eleanor Drew RIP	Barbara de Souza
18/09	Mon	2.00 pm	Funeral - Frank O'Hara	
19/09	Tue	10.00 am	Mary Coghlan RIP anniversary	Davis family
20/09	Wed	10.00 am	Special Intention	Davis
21/09	Thu	10.00 am	Private Intentions	Rita Johnston
22/09	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
23/09	Sat	10.00 am	For you the people	
24/09	SEASON OF CREATION			
	Sun	8.30 am	Alan and Mary (Patricia) Picton RIP	Vicky & Ray Phelan
		10.30 am	Eleanor Drew RIP	Mary Martin
		6.30 pm	Peter Dixon RIP 5th anniversary	Sylvia Dixon

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 - Frank Hayes, Mary Edwards, Mary O'Malley, Ann Daly, Joseph Periera, Agnes Winter, Michael McDonagh, Esther Boon, Agnes Carter, Rose Harding, Wood, Annie Mangan

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

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

September Prayer Intentions - For people living on the margins - We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Entrance Antiphon:

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you.

that your prophets be found true.

Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Response to the Psalm:

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

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. Our September course dates - 13 & 20th.

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, 7th October 2023. 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.

Certificate of Catholic Practice (CCP)

The forms will only be signed if you have been attending regular Mass at St Margarets and Fr Peter has seen you at Mas.

Date for Form signing:

Saturday 23rd September from 11—12.30 pm in the Church Hall.

Mass schedule—Please note

- There will be No 10.00 am Mass Monday 18th Sep, as there will be a Funeral Mass at 2.00 pm
- Mass will take place on Thursday 21st Sep, 10 am and Eucharistic Service on Friday, 22nd September at 10.00 am
- Mass will take place on Thursday 28th Sep, 10 am and Eucharistic Service on Friday, 29th September at 10.00 am
- Mass will take place on Thursday 5th Oct, 10 am and Eucharistic Service on Friday, 6th October at 10.00 am

MUSTARD SEED

You are invited to join our Mustard Seed Prayer Group, whose next meeting is Saturday 23rd September.

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!



Men's Breakfasts

Reporting back from our first of three sessions.

Well, what an event. Ask Fr Peter or any of the other chaps who had an enthralling hour as well as a great breakfast!

We covered: Brain triggers, breaking habits, putting yourself first, getting checked (NHS for free), setting SMART goals and not cutting out but cutting down. (If you want a copy of the slides just send a note

o: info@twickenhamrepaircafe.org)

Please come to the next session on October 6th when we will be covering: Managing stress, mindfulness and mindful eating.



Holy Hour

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Friday evenings at 8:00 pm -9:00 pm beginning 17th September. and all are welcome to attend. For those not able to attend we will be starting a book of intentions in which you are welcome to write your intentions. Those attending Adoration will present your intentions before the Blessed Sacrament.



SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday 11th November
Join us for our Parish Bingo Night!



Come and join us for our much loved

"Tea & Chat"

Wednesday from 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

20 September

Dates for your diary - 4th October,

Friday 20 October

All are welcome.

Please feel free to bring along a friend or a neighbour.



Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

How can we contribute to the mighty river of justice and peace in this Season of Creation? What can we, particularly as Christian communities, do to heal our common home so that it can once again teem with life?

We must do this by resolving to transform **our hearts, our lifestyles,** and **the public policies** ruling our societies.

FROM: POPE FRANCIS
TO: ST MARGARET'S PARISH COMMUNITY



THE LETTER

A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH

Saturday 23rd September
4pm // St Margaret's Parish Hall

TheLetterFilm.org

To mark the Season of Creation, you are invited to join us at 4pm on Saturday 23rd September to watch *The Letter: A Message for our Earth*.

The Letter tells the story of a journey to Rome of frontline leaders to discuss Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

The film features an exclusive dialogue with the Pope, offering an exclusive insight into the personal history and stories of our Pope.

All are very welcome to join us!

Youth Alpha – Youth Alpha is coming up again at St James' Parish Twickenham and it is open to young teens in Years 9 to 11 of any faith or belief. Youth Alpha is a series of fun interactive sessions designed to open honest conversations around some of the big questions of life. Youth Alpha is a 10 series production tailored for teens, it's fun, interesting, and humorous. Come and see, join us for our open evening on **Friday the 22nd of September from 6.30pm to 8.00pm** with the option to stay with us for an extra hour at the youth club for more fun. Sign up form <https://forms.office.com/r/mGePbY9F0K> For more information you can email twickenhamgroups@rcdow.org.uk Youth Alpha includes pizza and treats!

FRANK O'HARA RIP

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Frank O'Hara. He was a parishioner at St Margarets from 1975 and unfortunately, passed away on 20th August 2023. He was an active member of the parish for many years regularly attending Sunday mass. He will be greatly missed.

His funeral mass is to be held at St Margaret's on Monday 18th September at 2pm followed by the committal at Mortlake crematorium at 3.20 pm.



St Francis de Sales Charities Group

"Fashion Show: Friday 22nd September 2023; 7.30 p.m (doors open at 7.00 p.m.) After a lengthy absence due to Covid, we are delighted to announce the return of the very popular Fashion Show, showcasing and selling well known fashion brands we all know and love at very reduced prices! Tickets will be on sale after all masses from the weekend of 2nd/3rd September or from Christine Seymour on 020 8977 8084. £10 to include a complimentary glass of prosecco and a delicious pudding/cake."

We would love to welcome your parishioners to this fun event and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Best regards,
Christine Seymour, St Francis de Sales Charities Group