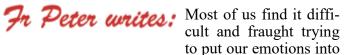
ST MARGARET'S PAGE

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER - 18th April 2021 Year B



our own words. Perhaps we might rush too readily for those pre-published statements about some emotional subject that do describe something of how we feel, but at the same time warps what we are trying to express. Alternatively we might grasp for a well-worn cliché that means nothing but it safe to say. The risen Jesus did not say 'welcome to the new normal' to His apostles when He appeared to them. This statement, though repeated countless times, sometimes with question mark implied, lacks all imagination. It is beloved by officials and bureaucrats who hope that everything will just return to before the onset of Covid-19.

There is no openness to new ways of conducting life. To the Christian, the expression 'new normal' shuts out the spiritual impact of the Resurrection. Many Bishops and priests speak of 'the new normal' as if church life will return to what it was before February 2020. There is a chance that church life might simply revert to its pre-pandemic life of slow shrinkage into irrelevance for the majority, but that is in no way inevitable. However, in these days of Eastertide and the descent of the Holy Spirit, maybe the Church is being called to something greater than February 2020, more spiritual, more local and more engaged.

Pope Francis describes the church as both a 'field hospital', a community that responds to the real needs of the people in which it is located, who he otherwise describes as 'the suffering flesh of Christ'. Issues of homelessness, food poverty and more personal matters such as family breakdown would be included here. The parish though is not just a 'field hospital' but also a 'village square', a place of shared life. Pope Francis probably has the traditional image of the church on one-side of the piazza at the centre of the village or town with shops, businesses and cafes on the others. Physical proximity helps but the worshipping community needs an outward looking orientation too, with the congregation involved in the wider life of the people. The fiestas of tradition brought together both church and civic society and it is this connection that has been lost in our secular society. The annual walk of witness from Twickenham Green to the quayside is a timid affair, almost an apology as if carrying a cross would somehow offend slumber-

Saturday	10.00 am & 6.30 pm				
Sunday	8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6.30 pm				
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday		10.00 am			
Eucharistic Service	Friday 10.00 am				
Adoration	Saturday	10.30 am - 11.00 am			
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Sat (via Zoom; please email the office for link)	9.30 am			
Confessions	Saturday	10.30 – 11.00 am			

ing bank holiday humanists.

Every Sunday the congregation proclaims the Memorial Acclamation after the consecration of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ: 'We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again'. Often it seems no more than a verbal oversight but the acclamation says something profound about our present times. These are the days of the Resurrection, of joy but without forgetting. Jesus has risen from the dead but still carries the marks of His passion. Jesus breaks into our lives, gives us the Holy Spirit and demonstrates that our personal history is never meaningless but was the vehicle, through divine providence, to bring us to this moment. This means that the pain suffered in our past lives is not the last word on our identity. Divine forgiveness too is always greater than human sinfulness and that brings hope into our tangled lives.

The accounts of the Resurrection are but a minute fraction of the total Bible, yet these brief accounts open a vista of life greater than that described in the beginning of Genesis. The life of the Trinity was only hinted at in the opening chapters, with Adam and Eve being blissfully unaware susceptible to doubt. Now there will be no further doubts and resurrected life will take place within the Trinity, the Holy Spirit freely given to believers. For now, this gift of the Holy Spirit, the gift of peace has to be lived in anticipation with every doubt about its efficaciousness and shared with others as a matter of trust. The Christian goes into the village square of community life bringing this message of peace.

If death is not the final word then what can we expect and how does such knowledge change the way we live now.

Mass Intentions Saturday 17th April – Sunday 25th April

17 Apr	Sat	10.00am	Tony Roche RIP Anni-	Kathleen Walker
Apr			versary	
			Anne Whittlesea RIP	Teresa Histon & family
18 Apr	Sun	8.30 am	For you the people	
		10.30am	Bernard Sharratt RIP	Kathleen Walker
		6.30 pm	Deceased members of S	t Margarets Parish
19 Apr	Mon	10.00am	The families of St Margarets Parish	
20 Apr	Tues	10.00am	Marie Toal RIP	Raymond Toal
21 Apr	Wed	10.00am	Intentions of San San Winn	Yahaira Estrada Mora
22 Apr	Thur	10.00 am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
23 Apr	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
24 Apr	Satu	10.00 am	For the intentions of Kinstley & Reid fami- lies	Angela Reid
		6.30 pm	Works of charity in the neighbourhood	
25 Apr	Sun	8.30 am	Emily (Eve) Hooper (RIP anniv)	Maz & Bernard Winter
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	HRH Prince Philip Mountbatten RIP	Barbara de Souza

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Stanislaw Wozniak, Adriana Posse de González (Valeria's Mum), Rachel Rose, Fr Paul Bigirwa, 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 & Patricia Parkes, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Kevin Sweeney, Christopher Cousins & Simon Barber

<u>Anniversaries</u> - Mary Bailey, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Clare Scriven, Fay Shoolheifer, William Gallagher, Patrick O'Reilly, Mary Oashin, Francis Kirwan, David Hill, Ann Noble, Iolanda Henderson, Elizabeth Anderson, Mary Otterway

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed

through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

Entrance Antiphon:

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm:

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.



Mass Arrangement for April

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - 10.00 am (No booking needed) (live stream available)

> **Friday** Eucharistic Service 10.00 am

Saturday 10.00 am (live streamed) & 6.30 pm

Sunday 8.30 am 10.30 am (Booking needed) (live streamed) 6.30 pm

Rosary on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday at 9.30 am (on zoom)



Diocese of Westminster

April Edition of Westminster Information.

Please click for more information.



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Baptism

Should you wish for your child to be baptised, please either speak to Fr Peter after Mass or contact the parish office to arrange a meeting.

The next pre-baptism courses for parents will be on **Session 1 & 2** - 11th May & 18th May at 8 pm (online)

First Holy Communion Programme 2021



The course begins on Saturday 17th April and compose of 12 classes. The celebra-

tion of First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 17th July.

Marriage Course 2021



The next Marriage Preparation Course will take place here at St Margaret's on **24th April** in person as the Government guidelines will allow this from mid-April. The cost of the day-long course is £80 per couple.



New Parishioners Party

Every few months the Parish holds a New Parishioner Party to welcome those who have arrived in the neighbourhood and have started coming to Mass at St Margarets.

Come and meet some parishioners and hear about Parish life, in all its different forms and share in the vision for the Parish's future.

I look forward to meeting you zoom-wise and speaking in person here at the Church.

Wednesday, 19th May 8.00 pm - 8.45 pm Please email parish office for joining details.



Children's Liturgy on Zoom; on alternate Sunday mornings 9:45 – 10:15 am For children aged 4 – 11 (roughly)



Upcoming dates: May 2 & 16

Activity packs with craft materials will be available to pick from the Parish Office.

Suggested voluntary donation of £2.50 for 3 weeks of craft material for activities.

Donating to Church funds

The next time you visit the Church, you might notice small posters on the pew uprights. The QR codes allow you to make a donation to Church funds using the Virgin Money Giving facility.

Fewer people carry cash at the moment and offertory income from the collection basket has significantly reduced over the past year. The Finance Committee has explored alternative ways to encourage direct giving. To make a one-off donation, please scan the QR code and choose the amount you wish to give. You can also gift aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer. If you don't have a smart phone, please consider donating by card using the contactless device available in the foyer.

Alternatively, making a planned giving commitment to support the mission of the Church through a regular standing order affords the Parish greater financial certainty of budgeting and forecasting. Giving by standing order does not incur commission and we receive exactly the amount you give. It reduces our administration costs and, where applicable, makes processing gift aid straightforward. You can download a standing order form from the website or ask Cynthia in the parish office to send you one.

Thank you for your generosity. The Finance Committee

Donating to St Margaret of Scotland is very simple. You can make one off donations or pay monthly. Click on this



link to contribute: <u>Virgin Money Giving</u>. Thank you!