

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



4th Sunday of Lent - 19 March 2023- Year A

In Peter writes:

There must be some peculiar English pathology that equates everything considered evil with Germany of the 1930s in general or the Nazis more directly. The 1980s witnessed the anti-Nazi League, every far-left agitator uses these tired tropes and now so do well-known tv presenters use the same imagery. Someone, not English, might think this was a paradoxical reflex, a sort of last gasp of empire, the moment British arms defeated an obviously repugnant regime. Yet to use this label, now nearly eighty years after the end of hostilities in 1945 seems obtuse. There is much government policy over the years that should rightly be questioned, as there were when the Labour party ran the country. Collective actions, undertaken by the government require cogent reasons to be offered, along with how such actions fit in with a vision of life. The same is true for those who oppose. Lazy stereotyping always hints at an underlying moral rightness impervious to the views of others, the seed bed of every totalitarianism.

Comparing any current political issue to an ideology that created an industrial complex and bureaucratic structure to enable the death of six million people is never appropriate whatever the issue. It is taking adolescent self-regarding exaggeration to where it does not belong.

This lack of imagination demonstrated with these well-known tropes demonstrates both a lack of historical perspective and a troublesome understanding as to the nature of evil. Evil is not just the past nor just elsewhere but runs like a scar through humanity, ours included. Liberal British society is not simply unconsciously advancing morally unless thwarted by the forces of conservatism. The myth of the Enlightenment that shrank the Christian eschaton, the breaking in of God into human history, to the human alone. Advancing upward without God was the myth that kept liberal societies going until the 1960s but this chimera has been torn apart, not by religion, but by the social conditions created by unfettered social liberalism. That dream has now created the nightmare of teenage pornography, drug taking, self-harming and Andrew Tate. Those who seek a secular alternative now find themselves vying with competing concerns, ecological, sexual, psychological, each one vying for attention, becoming dominant or heading for irrelevance in a Darwinian struggle for survival. Failing to see the consequences of evil, either through collective blindness or misplaced hope in the innate goodness of humanity is creating a nihilistic society, econom-

Mass Times & Liturgical Services

Weekend Mass	Saturday	10.00 am & 6.00 pm
	Sunday	8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Mass	Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri	10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Thur	10.00 am
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00 – 10.20 am

ic comfortably off in this country but brittle at the slightest hint of contention. Welcome to the seemingly godless world packed full of contradictions.

There still remains one big narrative both universal and individual, and that is the narrative of the Church which answers both those big picture visions of humanity as a whole and the vision of the individual, you and me. Both death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, to which the Church is heading during Lent, gives an answer that exceeds the question. Holy Week reveals the truth of the Trinity is revealed and the incomprehensibility of evil, that force within us and the world that defies analysis, is answered. Dying on the Cross was a public event and made known the distinction between the Father and Son, the Word made flesh, the emphasis here being on the flesh. Jesus died in the flesh. The Resurrection, on the other hand, demonstrates the effective sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross thus making known that the Father and the Son are of the same divine nature, the emphasis here being on the divinity of Jesus Christ. Both the Father and the Son send the Holy Spirit onto the Apostles at Pentecost thus beginning the public life of the Church in the power of the Holy Spirit, made known in the continuous life of the Church.

The existence of evil does not exhaust the motives of the Father in sending the Son into the world, the historical birth of Jesus Christ, and Jesus' mission will attack the roots of evil and so usher in the age of the Holy Spirit. This Sunday's Gospel of the healing of the man born blind demonstrates both the intractability of evil and the response made by Jesus Christ. Far from giving an answer as to why, no argument could do just to the reality of his condition, nor those others who suffer in countless other ways. Jesus offers an answer from the perspective of the end of time, so that the compassion and power of God may be grasped in our situation. Every miracle then is the in-breaking of this end time, heaven, into the world. This this Sunday's Gospel of the healing of the man born blind demonstrates how the end times are already breaking in anticipation through the ministry of Jesus, and now the mission of the Church. Good News indeed.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsouthames@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 18 Mar – Sun 26 Mar

18/03	Sat	10.00 am	Jane Gallagher RIP	Mary Gallagher
		6.00 pm	Emma Cousins RIP	Philip Graney
19/03	Sun	8.30 am	Margaret O'Donoghue Recently deceased	Peter Slattery
		10.30 am	Angela Burkenshaw	Daughter of Olga McLaughlin
		6.30 pm	Private intentions	Maria Sharratt
20/03	Mon	10.00 am	Pat McKenzie RIP	Maggie Thomson
21/03	Tue	10.00 am	Private Intentions	John
22/03	Wed	10.00 am	For You the People	
23/03	Thu	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
24/03	Fri	10.00 am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
25/03	Sat	10.00 am	Intentions of the Secular Clergy Common Fund	
		6.00 pm	The families of St Margarets Parish	
26/03	Sun	8.30 am	Dan Heffernan RIP anniversary	Su Slattery
		10.30 am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	Mary Cunnane	Mary Gallagher

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Response to the Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

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. Dates for future courses—May 2nd & 9th, July 4th & 11th, Sep 5th & 12th and November 7th & 14th.



Marriage Preparation

St Margarets will hold a marriage preparation course on Saturday 1st April 2023. Kindly contact the parish office for more information.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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 Master-son, Carmen Ruibal, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Judith Thomas, Allan de Souza, Tony Tucker, Dr Christopher Khoo, John Wood-Collins, Eleanor Drew & Jim Polland.

Anniversaries - Fr. Desmond Swan, Geoffrey Hunter, Hilda Lassow, George Chidzey, Winifred Spencer, John Cody, Alicia de Souza, Elizabeth Underwood, Catherine Rayson, Charles McQuorquada, Belinda Smith, Agnes Condron, William Affleck

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

Holy Hour

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Friday evenings at 8:00 pm -9:00 pm 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.



Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 13th May 2023 at 2:30pm.

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 2023. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).



4th SUNDAY OF LENT - 19 MARCH 2023

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7. 10-13

Psalm 22

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

5th SUNDAY OF LENT - 26 MARCH 2023

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalm 129

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

LENT AT ST MARGARETS

• Lenten Faith Formation

- Lenten Companions course, Monday's commencing 27th Feb at 7:30 pm

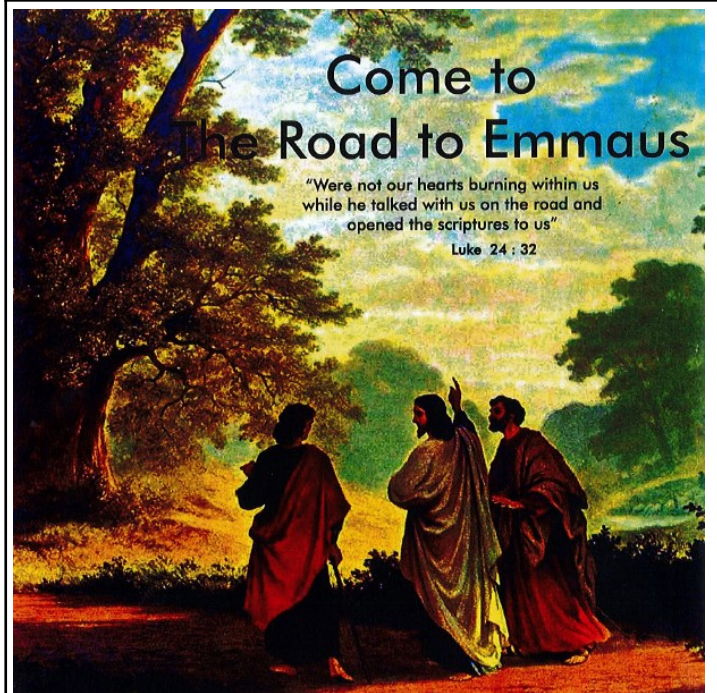
LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

• Lenten Devotions

- ⇒ Stations of The Cross - Fridays 7:30 pm
- ⇒ Holy Hour - Fridays 8:00 pm
- ⇒ Penance & Reconciliation service – Wed 29th March at 7.00 pm
- ⇒ Live Way of The Cross (A live enactment of the final hours of Jesus' journey until his crucifixion - Saturday April 1st 6:00 pm)

• Almsgiving

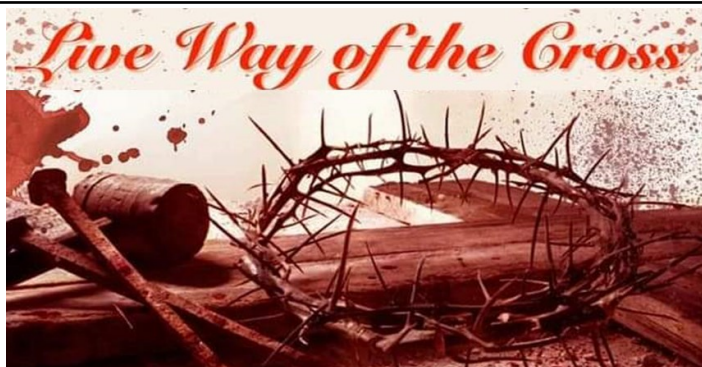
- ⇒ SPEAR (Local charity, helping the homeless)
- ⇒ School Santa Teresa Del Nino Jesus, Madagascar (International charity, funds to provide lunch to the very poor children at school)



VII Men's Retreat

24th, 25th & 26th March 2023

The Oratory School, Reading. For more information, contact: Diego 07715 799 404 or Luis 07890 849 430



LIVE WAY OF THE CROSS

An enactment of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

**at St Margaret's Church
Saturday 1st April, 6.00 pm**

You are invited to experience this moving, dramatic and vivid production of the betrayal, trial and crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A staged performance with lights, sound and dramatization brought to you by the Sports & Cultural Society of Ss. Michael & Martin Church (contains scenes of torture and execution by crucifixion).

Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Church hall at 7.00 pm and there will be an opportunity to meet the cast and the crew.

MORNING RECOLLECTION FOR WOMEN

A monthly break to pray and meditate on various aspects of Christian life.

Apologies

Recollection for Women has been

Rescheduled to

22nd March 2023

10.00—12.30 at

St Margarets Church Hall

10.00 – Holy Mass

10.30 – First Meditation

11.15 – Rosary

11.45 Examination of Conscience

12.00 – Second Meditation

The priest will be available for confessions from 11.00 – 12.00

Join us !

*We invite each one of you for our
COFFEE & CROISSANTS
 after 8:30 am Mass
 on Sunday 26th March.*

Please do join us.



**The Passion - Trafalgar Square 7th April 2023 Winter-
 shall performances at 12 noon and 3:15 pm**

[https://
 www.wintershall.org.uk/
 passion-jesus-london](https://www.wintershall.org.uk/passion-jesus-london)



YouTube: [https://youtu.be/
 m6rv7de6T4c](https://youtu.be/m6rv7de6T4c)



For those who unable to get
 to Trafalgar Square the per-
 formances will be
 livestreamed on our Facebook page: [https://
 www.facebook.com/Wintershallplay](https://www.facebook.com/Wintershallplay)

**Foundation Governor
 Vacancy**



St James's
 Catholic Primary School

"Put out into the deep"

Would you like to serve the local Catholic community in an important and strategic way, ensuring that our children benefit from an education that reflects a Catholic vision and ethos?

St James's Catholic Primary School, Twickenham, has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. St James's is an outstanding school and Governors play a strategic role in the school's development. Governors need to be willing to work as part of a team, read papers, attend meetings and ask constructive questions. There is free training available from the Borough and the Diocese.

For this vacancy, we are particularly seeking applicants who either have a background in finance or accountancy. This vacancy is open to Catholics who are not parents of children currently attending the school. Governors are appointed for a four-year term of office, which can be renewed.

If you would like to learn more about being a school governor please email Hilary O'Sullivan, Vice Chair of St James's Governing Body via aileen.sharp@st-james.richmond.sch.uk

**Our next Mustard Seed
 is on
 Saturday 25th March 7:45 p.m.**



The speaker will be Charles Whitehead. Charles is a renowned Christian scholar and speaker.

Mustard Seed is Charismatic Prayer group that meets regularly on the fourth Saturday each month. We start with praise and worship, have inspirational speakers and an opportunity for prayer. Come along and be uplifted.

St Margaret's Soup Lunch



A very big thank you to all those who came and enjoyed our soup lunch on 10th March, and to the volunteers who once again generously gave their time and expertise to make it such a success. A total of £155 was raised for the benefit of the educational



initiatives of Fr Paul Bigirwa in Uganda. GETA is working with Fr Paul to assess how the money you so generously give can further benefit the educational development of students in Uganda, including sponsorship

of older students - those in the equivalent of our 6th Form (16-19 years old.)

Thank you for your continuing support.

David Rose
 charity no 1167092



ASCENSION
 CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

Board of Directors/Trustees Vacancy

The Ascension Catholic Academy Trust (ACAT), which incorporates six Diocese schools in our area, including St Richard Reynolds, needs an architect, surveyor or civil engineer to join its board of directors/trustees. If you would be able to help in that respect, ACAT, and its mission to enhance Catholic education, would benefit greatly from your insights and experience. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mike Metcalf, the Chair of the Board of ACAT, at m.metcalf@ascensioncat.org.