

ST MARGARET'S PAGE

5th SUNDAY OF LENT - 21st March 2021 Year B



In Peter writes:

Just before Christmas, on the 8th December, Pope Francis issued his apostolic letter on St Joseph, *Patris Corde* (from the heart of the father) to mark the 150th anniversary when Pius IX declared St Joseph, Patron of the Church. This year is to be a Year of St Joseph. Pope Francis present a vision, positive in tone, and grounding the contemporary vocation of fatherhood on the qualities of St Joseph. This provides for our society a life-giving alternative to the depressing reality surrounding the murder of Sarah Everard.

Pope Francis quotes one of his predecessors, Pope Paul VI, who wrote that St Joseph 'turned his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman offering of himself, his heart and all his abilities'. St Joseph's fatherhood allowed the child, Jesus, to grow in human maturity. The details will be different from any other in its particular details but there is much here to reflect upon that is shared by all fathers. This vocation to fatherhood is the broadest context, of the duty of care to mother and child, to educate teenage boys on their social responsibility which places sexual relationship in its wider context. The scourge of pornography works in diametrically the opposite direction because it breaks the bonds of care and replaces those bonds with power, commodification and all their tragic consequences.

St Joseph's life was lived in the shadows, unnoticed to the world, a description that applies to all of us too. God purposes will be fulfilled, and they are fulfilled through human weakness not because of it. St Joseph demonstrates that the vocation to fatherhood 'can work through our fears, our frailties and our weaknesses'. What are these weaknesses that Pope Francis speaks of, not simply the obvious but the one of not needing to be in complete control in order to care. Throughout the account of the birth and early years of Jesus, an angel speaks to St Joseph, and he will obey this divine summons. Despite the obvious discomfort of fleeing to Egypt, and later not returning back to his home town, but to some obscure village in Northern Galilee, Nazareth, St Joseph was obedient to God, who always sees the biggest picture. This fidelity will be communicated to Jesus, so that in

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Sunday	8:30 am, 10:30 am and 6:30 pm	
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday	10.00 am	
Eucharistic Service	Friday	10.00 am
Adoration	Saturday	10:30 am - 11:00am
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Sat (via Zoom; please email the office for link)	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday Sunday	10:30-11:00am 10:00-10:20am

the fullness of time, Jesus may say, 'Your will, not mine be done' in the Garden of Gethsemane.

The example of faithful fatherhood is passed down the generations, and even in the sad case of separation and divorce the vocation to fatherhood does not disappear. St Joseph's demonstrates that the vocation to fatherhood is to always confront reality with open eyes and accept personal responsibility, even at times when there are no angelic messages. The dynamic of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus show in the minute details of the account that God trusted St Joseph to fulfil his mandate, and exhibits what Pope Francis calls, his creative courage. This trust of God shows that, though powerful forces are buffeting the Holy Family, it is the Holy Family through St Joseph's care that is saved, not worldly power. God's purposes have been fulfilled through weakness and not power.

The fatherly mandate to take up responsibility is not to become, in the words of Pope Francis, over-protective and possessive, but bring up children to make them capable of deciding for themselves. Such a course of action brings with it, the sense of becoming 'useless', in seeing your own children make their own decisions on leaving home. That is the very moment to rejoice because the deepest sense of taking care is to bestow freedom on another. God allowed us to make our own mistakes and still uses us as mediators of His grace, so it will be for your children too. Human fatherhood is not about possession but is a sign pointing to the greater fatherhood of God.

We ask St Joseph to bless all fathers in their vocation and give them strength, wisdom and patience.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretonthames@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 20th March – Sunday 28th March

20 Mar	Sat	10.00am	Bernard Shar-ratt RIP	Erica & Matthew Walker
21 Mar	5th SUNDAY OF LENT	8.30 am	Bessie Slattery (RIP anniv)	Su & Peter Slattery
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	Bernard Shar-ratt RIP	Orla and Brendan O'Sullivan
22 Mar	Mon	10.00am	Bernard Shar-ratt RIP	Catherine Sugrue
23 Mar	Tue	10.00am	Robert Cager RIP	St Richard Reynolds Community
24 Mar	Wed	12.00 pm	Funeral Mass for Margaret Tobback	
25 Mar	Thur	10.00am	John Walker RIP	Erica & Matthew Walker
26 Mar	Fri	12.00pm	Eucharistic Service	
27 Mar	Sat	10.00am	Mary Sweeney RIP	Orla and Brendan O'Sullivan
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD				
28 Mar	Sun	8.30 am	Maeve Shipsey RIP	Su & Peter Slattery
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	Helen Douglas-private intentions	Rita Johnstone

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 not!



Holy Week & Easter Sunday Mass

Maundy Thursday - 7.00 pm

Good Friday - 3.00 pm

Saturday, Easter Vigil - 8.00 pm

Easter Sunday - 8.30 am & 10.30 am.

Bookings needed for all Masses and will open on St Margaret's website from 22nd March.

Current arrangement for Mass

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

Eucharistic Service on Friday's at 10.00 am (not streamed)

Sunday Mass as normal at 8.30 am

10.30 am (streamed) (Bookings via website) & 6.30 pm

Rosary on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday

at 9.30 am (join via zoom)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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 & 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

Recently deceased - Margaret Tobback RIP, Peta Ledingham RIP, Eileen Phelan RIP (Ray's mother), Barry Sheehan RIP, Josephine Carter RIP, Lucia Lelliott RIP, Fr Vincent Crewe RIP

Anniversaries - Geoffrey Hunter, Hilda Lassow, George Chidzey, Winifred Spencer, John Cody, Alicia de Souza, Elizabeth Underwood, Catherine Rayson, Charles McQuorquadle, Belinda Smith, Agnes Condron, William Affleck, Hazel Fabian & Henry Bird

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

Parishioner's Funeral

Margaret Tobback RIP - Mass on Wednesday, 24th March 2021 at 12:30pm. The family have kindly offered 7 places to parishioners who might like to attend the funeral, as government restrictions place a cap of 30 on funerals. Please contact the parish office if you would like to attend. Only those who book may attend.

Live stream link - <https://youtu.be/QMSBK0ulimk>

Rest In Peace Fr Vincent Crewe

Please pray for the soul of Fr Vincent Crewe who died last week at a nursing home in Ireland, the brother of Fr Hilary who was an assistant priest here at St Margaret's and well known to many parishioners. May he rest in peace.

21 March - 5th SUNDAY OF LENT

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 50

Hebrews 5:7-9

John 12:20-33

28 March - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm 21

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1 - 15:47

Lenten Almsgiving

This year, St Margaret's is raising money for Richmond Furniture Scheme to procure starter packs of essential home items for those being re-housed or moving into accommodation for the first time.

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

Run/walk/cycle for the Lenten project

Have you found a passion for running, walking or cycling during lockdown?

Could you set yourself a goal to complete a challenge for the Lenten project & get sponsored by friends or family to complete it?

Perhaps a set distance to achieve 3k/5k/10k/20k?
Or a mile in a set time?



We would be so grateful if you could do this for the Lenten project during this very difficult time to hold fundraising events.



Events could be completed anytime up until the end of May 2021 to give you time to train. Please just let the parish office know if you would like to take up this challenge.



AN EASTER GARDEN COMPETITION FOR ALL AGES

Due to current shortage of large plant saucers in garden centres, please feel free to use any container/saucer that you have at hand for your Easter gardens.'

It should contain these 5 things:-

- A tomb
- A flat stone to roughly cover the entrance to the tomb
- A small piece of white cloth to fold & leave inside the tomb
- Flowers (real or crafted)
- A line from scripture or a word eg 'He is risen!'



Suggested entry donation £5. Deadline 27th March. The gardens will be displayed at church on Palm Sunday.

It could also contain if you chose:

A small hill with tomb buried inside or 3 crosses on top for Calvary.

Figures, Animals, Battery operated candles etc, Any other lovely ideas you have. This is a competition for all ages, so you can create a garden as a family or a couple or as a single person. There will be a small prize for the best gardens.

To raise money for the Lenten project please could we ask for a small donation to enter so we can raise some much needed funds to help create a home for someone in need.



This year, the Census takes place on Sunday 21st March.

census
2021

To complete the survey, please visit www.census.gov.uk and enter the unique access code received by your household at the beginning of March. Paper questionnaires can be requested if preferred.

For more information, visit www.census.gov.uk or call 0800 141 2021.

Westminster news & information along with Diocese courses, Retreats & events. (click to see attachment).



Diocese of Westminster

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land - 22nd - 30th November 2021. (click to see Poster & Booking information).

Holy Saturday - A walk incorporating the Easter Story

Saturday 3rd April - An Easter Egg trail with a difference. A short walking trail around St Margaret's, following the Easter story and collecting clues. Small prizes for all children taking part. Starts and ends at the church.

Start: anytime between 9 am - 11 am. Pick up instructions and trail guide. Walkers to set off in family/household groups and walk at own pace. Self guided walk around the area, with stopping points for short reflections on events of the Easter story and to collect clues. **Finish: at the church: anytime before 12:30 pm**



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

National Day of Reflection on the first anniversary of the first coronavirus lockdown, to take place next Tuesday, 23 March 2021 (click to read attachment).

From 8pm until midnight on Maundy Thursday, 1 April 2021

Everyone in our diocese is invited to join in prayer, paying a virtual visit to the Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament at Corpus Christi,

Maiden Lane: <https://corpuschristimaidenlane.org.uk/live/>

Retreat in Walsingham for Helpers of God's Precious Infants 28th May-1st June 2021

Annual retreat in Walsingham from Friday 28th May to Tuesday 1st June, staying at Dowry House Retreat.



Numbers on the Retreat are restricted so it would be advisable to book as soon as possible if you wish to attend. Please return the completed booking form with a deposit of £30 to reserve a place.

Please find details attached with a **booking form**. (click to see attachment).



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 with him.

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

Last week the Bishops Conference issued guidelines about preparation for sacraments. Such groups can now meet from Monday April 12th.



The course will now begin on Saturday 17th April and compose of 12 classes. The celebration of First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 17th July. Every family should have been contacted individually but if you have not heard please contact the Parish Office.

Children's Liturgy on Zoom; on alternate

Sunday mornings **9:45 – 10:15 am**
For children aged 4 – 11 (roughly)



Upcoming dates: April 18, May 2 & 16

If any children would like to join the children's liturgy sessions, please email the parish office for the zoom link and to arrange to pick up a pack of the craft materials.

Marriage Course 2021

The next Marriage Preparation Course will now take place here at St Margaret's in **April** (date to be confirmed soon) in person as the Government guidelines will allow this from mid-April. The cost of the day-long course is £80 per couple. More details as to the form of the course will be taken at the beginning of April.



This year the parish will offer a 30-minute weekly Lenten reflection beginning with a short presentation by Fr Mark Toops of Ascension Press on the previous Sunday's Gospel. This will be followed by some discussion prayer and music.



The times are Monday 8:00pm and repeated Tuesday 11:30am. If you would like to participate, please look at Fr Marks' first video for Ash Wednesday. We will look at his other videos on the days themselves. <http://www.youtube.com/embed/dPn86vrvIMc?autoplay=1&rel=0> . I look forward to sharing our Lenten journey together. Fr Peter

Easter cards for Dalemead Care Home & Senior Citizen parishioners at St Margaret's



Your most loving and beautifully made cards have received an ocean of appreciation in the last year from Care home residents and St Margaret's parishioners equally.

May we ask if you can create this same **MAGIC** again this year, with your Easter cards? Such a wonderful way to show them all, the love and care that we should show towards each other. sign up link - [VolunteerSignup - Online volunteer signup sheets - EASTER cards for Dalemead residents & parishioners signup sheet](#)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Friday during Lent, join Deacon Joseph for Stations of the Cross at 7:30 pm.



To join, go to the St Margaret's website and click on the link. [St Margaret's \(stmargaretsrchurch.co.uk\)](http://stmargaretsrchurch.co.uk)

Tuesday 23rd March:

Day of Prayer and Reflection on the Pandemic



The Bishops of England and Wales have asked us to mark the anniversary of the start of the lockdowns in the UK. Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP have issued a statement:

“We ask you all to make this not only a Day of Reflection but also a Day of Prayer. In reflection we ponder on all that has taken place; in prayer we bring this to our Heavenly Father... We reflect in sorrow on all those who have died, whether family members, friends or those unknown to us personally. We pray for them, asking our Father to welcome them into their heavenly home, the destiny for which God first gave us the gift of life.

We reflect with compassion on all those who have suffered during this last year, whether through illness, stress, financial disaster or family tensions. We pray for their ongoing resilience, courage and capacity to forgive. We reflect with thanksgiving for the generosity, inventiveness, self-sacrifice and determination shown by so many in this most difficult of times. We pray for them, thanking God for their gifts and dedication, whether they are scientists, politicians, health workers, public servants of every kind, community leaders or steadfast family members and friends who continue to show such love and compassion. We reflect in hope that, as the pandemic is controlled and we open up our lives again, we will gather in the lessons we have learned and build our society into a better shape, more compassionate, less marked by inequalities, more responsive to needs and deprivation.

We ask for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us in this endeavour, whether we are focussing on overcoming family breakdowns, economic recovery, or building political consensus.

So let us make the 23rd March truly a day of prayer.”

Donating to St Margaret of Scotland is very simple. You can make one off donations or pay monthly. Click on this link to contribute: [Virgin Money Giving](#). Thank you!

