

ST MARGARET'S PAGE

4th Sunday of Easter — 21 April 2024 - Year B



In Peter writes:

Today, the Fourth Sunday of the Year is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' when the Church traditionally prays for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This year Good Shepherd Sunday coincides with the annual Mission Appeal that each Parish throughout this country is invited to hold once a year. Mission Sunday helps open up the meaning of vocation, to include everyone in different ways and degrees. Every Christian is asked to express the hope that they possess to others: The hope may be simply expressed in saying that 'I am loved by God through Jesus Christ'.

This universality of this catholic mission is expressed in so many different ways. I remember a talk given at St Marys University by one of the management team of Worcester University who began his talk by explaining that everyone who works in a University setting should expect to listen and to speak, when necessary, to everyone else, staff and students. The culture of dialogue was fundamental to the University's mission. This might seem a long way from any revealed religion but as a Christian this is a duty and not just an aspiration. Such an approach had helped, in the speaker's view resolve countless student issues and worries. For those with further needs the university possessed a counselling service. Should further help still be needed, the University hospital was available. Minimising the escalation of needs was that University's practice, not because student needs were unimportant, but because much could be resolved quickly with simple conversation and obvious care for the welfare of the student.

The simplicity of method is true for the faith as well and every Christian is invited to converse about the faith when asked. Simple conversations about faith, about the knowledge of being loved, of mercy sought and found, of the comfort provided by God's presence, of prayer and sacraments, of the solidarity provided by other community members, of simple acts of kindness and communication, and of the moral consequences of faith. All this is the basic stuff of mission, undertaken at the lowest level, simply and straightforwardly. No need for dense theology books. Just the Bible, the catechism and the simple prayer book.

So much of life has now been professionalised and made into a technical speciality that current generation have been disenfranchised and been denied the pleasure of repairing their car's headlights, sparkplugs or their motorcycle's oil filter Mod

ern machines are more efficient in the use of energy, that can only be a good development even if their instruction books have mushroomed in size! Yet not all life can be industrialised or reduced to process in this way. However the heart of life is still lived at the base: conversation, care and touch are still foundational.

Returning to the foundations allows the Christian to rediscover their true vocation. Speaking about our faith is not specialist territory, faith is every Christian's patrimony, and it is offered freely and with personal conviction. Everyone knows how infuriating it is when bureaucrats hide behind process as the alternative to offering empathy or applying common sense. Few people want to live the opposite, in anarchy and chaos without law or custom, but rejecting the reasons of the heart has not led to a happier country. Reply to customer's questions with obfuscating prose does no one any favours. The same is true for explaining the faith. I am sure that part of the popularity of Pope Francis is that he speaks with vivid images that catch the imagination. They can be misinterpreted, and later clarifications sought whether about morality or politics but engaging in that way demonstrates that the Christian faith has a life-sustaining message to impart.

Our role then is to return to the simplicities of faith, to the big picture of life in the Church. As a disciple, Jesus Christ enlarges the heart and justifies the responsibility everyone possesses towards the other person. There must be few people who do not want their heart enlarged, and few who would believe that no responsibility is owed to others. Such sentiments ground the moral force of Christian faith. These goals, once accepted, are discovered to be un-achievable unaided. They require divine intervention alongside personal effort. To the Christian Jesus Christ opens the pathway with His gifts of supernatural assistance (grace) and forgiveness.

This Good Shepherd Sunday, we can all pray for the universal vocation of the Church as the seedbed from within which vocations to the priesthood and religious life can emerge. Every priest or religious sister or brother's vocation is unique and is founded on discerning the call from God. Placing this vocation within the Church, by applying to a Diocese or religious order is to accept that the visible institutional Church is the authentic place within which this missionary vocation is fulfilled. This vocation is for others to help them initiate and sustain their vocation and is not simply the possession of any single person.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrcchurch.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: 20/04 - 28/04

20/04	Sat	10.00am	Works of charity in the neighbourhood	
		6.00 pm	The families of St Margarets Parish	
21/04	Sun	8.30am	For you the people	
		10.30am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
		6.30 pm	Alicia Santiago Oliva RIP	James & Simon
22/04	Mon	10.00am	Recovery of St Margaret's parishioners undergoing surgery	
23/04	Tue	10.00am	Works of missionaries throughout the world	
24/04	Wed	10.00am	Works of charity in the neighbourhood	
25/04	Thu	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
26/04	Fri	10.00am	The families of St Margarets Parish	
27/04	Sat	10.00am	Souls in purgatory	
		6.30 pm	CONFIRMATION MASS: Young people being confirmed	
28/04	Sun	8.30 am	Emily Hooper RIP	Maz & Bernard Winter
		10.30 am	John Drumm RIP	Catherine Sugrue
		6.30 pm	Claire Hughes RIP	Margot Watkins

Entrance Antiphon

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
alleluia

Response to the Psalm

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

Saturday 6.00 pm Mass

6 pm Mass will take place when the First Holy Communion children meet. The dates are **April 20 & May 4**.



CATHOLICISM FOR NON-CATHOLICS

This short course will run from Tuesday 5th April at 8:00 pm-9:00 pm. Please register your interest with Cynthia in the office.



HOLY HOUR

Please note that there will no Holy Hour on Friday 26th April. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Natalie Shaw and Larry Fogg, Maria Antonia Orta, Cathy Howard, John Forsyth, Rose Blackman, 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 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 - Harold Ward, Paddy Otterway, Peter Grant, Thomas Payne, Dorothy Flanders, Mary Bailey, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Clare Scriven, Fay Shoolheifer, Marie Toal, William Gallagher, Patrick O'Reilly, Mary Oashin

Recently deceased - Catherine Philomena Poynter RIP *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in eternal peace. Amen~)*

April Prayer Intentions - **For the role of women** - Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.



Columban Missionaries Mission Appeal 2024

Father Kevin McDonagh will be visiting our Parish on the weekend of the 20th/21st April to hold their annual Mission Appeal.

The Columban Missionaries were originally founded in 1918 as the Irish (Maynooth) Mission to China. Following our expulsion from China in 1952 we began working in other countries around the rim of the Pacific ocean, such as the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Chile and Peru. Fathers Kevin worked for many years in Peru and have a wealth of missionary experience to share.

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER –21 APRIL 2024

Acts 4:8-12

Psalm 117

1 John 3:1-2

John 10:11-18

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 28 APRIL 2024

Acts 9: 26-31

Psalm 21

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:4-5

WE DARE TO SAY

Our prayers together help us to become the dwelling places of the Holy Spirit that we are called to be ([Sacrosanctum Concilium](#), 2).

Pope Francis has asked us, as part of our preparation for the Holy Year in 2025, to make this year into a time for refreshing our prayer, and especially our appreciation and use of the Our Father.

We Dare To Say, a faith sharing course on the familiar and powerful words of the Our Father continues on **Monday 29th April from 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm.**

May you come to a deeper appreciation of what the Lord Jesus himself has given us in response to the disciples' request 'Lord, teach us to pray'.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster,



Life in the Spirit course 2024

Starting on Tuesday 23rd April we will be running a series of talks to help deepen our understanding of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The course is a lead up to Pentecost.



Each evening will begin at 7:15 in the church hall with a meal.

The dates and topics, dates and speakers are:

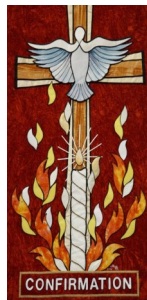
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| • Tuesday 23 April | GOD'S LOVE | Speaker: Joan Fernandes |
| • Tuesday 30 April | SALVATION | Speaker: Canon Gerard Bradley |
| • Tuesday 7 May | NEW LIFE | Speaker: Janet Iannicelli |
| • Saturday 18 May | Day retreat at St Georges Cathedral 11-5 | |
| • Thursday 23 May | GROWTH | Speaker: Allegra Mutanda |
| • Tuesday 28 May | TRANSFORMATION | Speaker: Gary Steven |

CONFIRMATION MASS

Saturday 27th April at 6:30 pm

17 of our young people will be confirmed next Saturday. Please pray for them as they take this important step in their journey of faith.

May the Holy Spirit guide their future and deepen their faith.



FROM CAFOD

General Elections & Our Catholic Voice

General Elections CAFOD & the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) are working together to encourage parishioners to use their distinct catholic voice when responding to the general elections. We are hosting a session to help and support parishes and individuals on how we can use our voice for good. Find out more at these sessions online. Thursday 25 April (6:30-8:30pm) or Saturday 4 May (11am-1pm). Sign up online or contact brozycka@cafod.org.uk /07789876913

Training session: Using our Catholic voice at the next election (cafod.org.uk)

So what are the Life in the Spirit seminars?

Life in the Spirit Seminars grew out of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal and since 2019, Pope Francis has been asking CHARIS International - the Catholic Church body which serves the worldwide Catholic Charismatic Renewal - to make the Baptism in the Spirit available around the world, to everyone in the Church.

To this end we are running Life in the Spirit Seminars. They include the opportunity for you to receive the "Baptism in the Spirit", a fuller release of the Holy Spirit as described by Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa (Spiritual guide to Pope Francis) as "a renewal of our Baptism [that allows] the Spirit to flow like a fragrance in the Christian life".

Life in the Spirit is free (in more senses than one!)

There is no charge for taking part in Life in the Spirit, but you will be given the opportunity to make a donation to help cover the costs of the course.

Why come?

To enter a deeper relationship with the Lord, to get deeper into the community and to have a personal Pentecost in Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Further questions?

You will be sent more details after you register at [Life in the Spirit 2024 — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis \(rcaos.org.uk\)](#) which can be found on the Southwark diocese website. Or speak to one of us after mass or come along on 23rd April. If you have any questions we would be happy to answer them – email us at keane_pat@hotmail.com

TWICKENHAM CHRISTIAN Men's Breakfast

How can we help Christians to stay in the Holy Land?

Sir Vincent Fean was Britain's Consul-General, Jerusalem (2010-14), talking to Palestinians.

Ten years after, retired in Whitton, he is a trustee of the Balfour Project (www.balfourproject.org), a charity looking back at Britain's responsibilities in what today is Israel/Palestine, and exploring what Britain should do now for the best.

His theme is the dwindling Christian Palestinian presence in the Holy Land - and how we here can help to sustain it.



Saturday

4th May

8:15 - 10:00AM

Enjoy a delicious healthy
breakfast

Suggested donation. £10

**VENUE: St Margaret's Church,
130 St Margaret's Road, East Twickenham TW1 1RL**

To buy tickets e.mail:
info@twickenhamrepaircafe.org

Donations to Parish Funds

If you would like to set up a standing order, please complete a form available on the website or from the parish office or you can do this yourself through online banking.

The parish bank account is:

Bank: HSBC

Account Name: WRCDT St Margarets on Thames

Sort Code: 40 05 20 Account No: 01094823

For offertory giving, please use the bank reference: XOF your surname and initials

For donations to the building fund and refurbishment project, please use the bank reference: XBF your surname and initials

If you are a UK tax payer, please gift aid your donation which increases the amount the parish receives by 25% at no additional cost to you. Gift Aid forms are available from the parish office or on the website.

Thank you.

The Finance Committee

Weekday Mass times

Over the last year I have been thinking about the weekday Mass schedule. Since the end of Covid the numbers for weekday Mass have not recovered in the way they have for Sunday. This has made me question whether 10:00am is still the appropriate time and whether one evening Mass and one early morning Mass a week might be substitute for the 10:00am. At the moment I am thinking of early morning Tuesday and early evening Wednesday (with a 10.00am monthly Mass when Fr Paul comes to say Mass). This would allow me to say a weekly Mass at St Richard Reynolds in the early morning on Wednesdays. In recent years I have been saying three Wednesday Masses all before lunchtime which is just too much over the long term.

If you any views please let me know especially if these different Mass times might be beneficial to your current weekly timetable.

Thank you.

Fr Peter

Welcoming ministry and hospitality team

Do you enjoy arriving at church to be greeted by a smiling face and a friendly hello? Would you like to be someone who welcomes visitors and new parishioners to our parish? Can you arrive at Mass about 20 minutes early?



St Margaret's has a team of welcomers who greet people at each Mass. Welcoming is an "all-age" activity - our current team includes parishioners from age 7 to 94 (!!) We would like to add a few more people to the team so the commitment for everyone on the rota is approximately one "duty" each month. We also need people who are happy to set up tables and chairs ready for post 1030 Mass coffee and hospitality — this can be done either after the 830 am Mass or before the 1030 Mass.

It is not at all onerous and it's a lovely way to support the Parish Mission and to get to know more people who attend your regular Mass.

If you would like to find out more, we would love to hear from you! Please speak to either Ann Edes (07837 095837) or Kathryn James (07889 952111). Thank you.