

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



PENTECOST SUNDAY - 23rd May 2021 Year B

In Peter writes: This Sunday the Parish will celebrate the Confirmation of five teenagers on the most appropriate day possible, Pentecost Sunday, when the whole Church celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Twelve Apostles in the Upper Room. Those first Apostles were transformed by the descent of the Holy Spirit from timid men into bold preachers of the faith. We might not be expecting quite such a change to come over this year's Confirmandi but this sacrament is the beginning of spiritual maturity. Marks a moment of change which knowledge and experience cannot make unaided. The twelve knew Jesus, they spent a long time with him, they had heard His teaching, witnessed His miracles and yet had collectively run away at the sound of trouble. They are more like us, and us like them than might be comfortable. Why, because the Holy Spirit can transform us too .

These gifts of the Holy Spirit will build on the developing self-consciousness and identity of the confirmandi. This will not happen by replacing their developing habits of minds and hearts, nor replacing the supernatural virtues of faith, hope and charity, but by being alongside them. These gifts of the Holy Spirit add spontaneity and divine instinct to everyday decisions, to choosing between competing courses of action and assisting in making the major decisions of life. They bring joy to life that rises above the particular difficulties that weigh all of us down. Carving out a coherent life is not just a matter of avoiding wrongdoing but of engaging with a vision for life that is more than just worldly success or bodily comfort. The Holy Spirit gives strength to our idealism, and brings to life the visionary in each of us.

Every candidate chooses a saint's name and each saint shares one common characteristic, they all followed Jesus both in His way and in their way. Their sanctity did not preclude their individuality. Neither was their uniqueness set over against everyone else, but was complementary to others, they saw and acted with a 'God' perspective. They had a life-project to complete, of seeking and living the way of Jesus Christ often in opposition to their families, their culture and the world. Martyrdom was a common end, of dying for the faith. Every saint demonstrates that the holy is found in a per-

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Saturday		10.00 am & 6.30 pm
Sunday		8.30 am, 10.30 am (bookings only) & 6.30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday		10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Monday, Wednesday & Friday	10.00 am
Rosary	Tuesday & Thursday (via Zoom; please email the office for link)	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday	10.30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00 am - 10.20 am

son first and a place second. The saint is the place where God and world are meeting and have met

Perhaps the best way to organise the seven gifts is to see them as a ladder, a project beginning with Fear of the Lord and concluding with Wisdom. What is this fear? Not the fear of an enemy, of having done something wrong but more of recognising the task ahead, the good nerves one has before a sports fixture, a concert, dramatic production or exam. We want to make a success of our preparation. For the Christian this is recognising the greatness of the task ahead and the humble request for divine assistance. Wisdom is the top rung of the ladder of the ability to see my life as part of the whole. Wisdom is to what we aspire, to see everything and everyone connected through the eyes of Jesus Christ, sharing God's perspective. Located between the Fear of the Lord and Wisdom are the other rungs, courage – the ability to make the right choices in difficult circumstances; reverence – how to behave towards others and give them due respect; counsel – seeking the right advice; understanding – to see deeply into the meaning of our life; understanding – the sense of how right is the teaching of Jesus about God's love; knowledge – to resonate with spiritual eloquence when questioned.

Please pray for the young parishioners who are being Confirmed this Sunday; Elena Signorini, Grace Phelan, Jessica Roy, Katie Carroll, and Sofia Avdia, and may all of us rediscover the gentle power of the Holy Spirit in our lives once again.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrccchurch.co.uk
Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes
Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm. Emails are checked regularly.

Mass Intentions Saturday 22nd May – Sunday 30th May

22/5	Sat	10.00am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
		6.30 pm	The families of St Margarets Parish	
23/5	Sun	8.30 am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	Laszlo Jotischky RIP Anniv	Helma Jotischky
24/5	Mon	10.00pm	Eucharistic Service	
25/5	Tues	10.00am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
26/5	Wed	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
27/5	Thur	10.00am	Anita Pacitto RIP Anniv	Margo Watkins
28/5	Fri	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
29/5	Sat	10.00am	The families of St Margarets Parish	
		6.30 pm	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
30/5	Sun	8.30 am	Works of charity in the neighbourhood	
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	Work of missionaries throughout the world	

Entrance Antiphon:

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm:

Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the



Mass Arrangement for week commencing 24th May

Weekday Mass - Tuesday & Thursday 10.00 am

Eucharistic Service - Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 10.00 am

Weekend Mass

Saturday - 10.00 am & 6.30 pm

Sunday—8.30 am , 10.30 am (**By Bookings ONLY**) & 6.30 pm

Rosary on Tuesday & Thursday at 9.30 am (on zoom)

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Georgina Lotitto, 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

Anniversaries - Dorothy Smithers, Stella Richards, Johanna Morgan, Timothy Murphy, Bridget McHugh, Doris Dommersen, Stephen Rendall, Gladys Bearman, Bill Richards, Brian O'Reilly, Sally O'Shaughnessy

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed

through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

Refurbishment of the Parish Hall, Facilities and Basement

May I write to impart the good news that the building work has been given permission to proceed by the Finance Office of the Diocese. The builders will arrive on **Monday May 10th** and with a fair wind conclude on **Friday September 3rd**.

Please note the following changes for the construction period.

During building works the carpark will be severely restricted so please think of parking on the street instead on Sundays. During the weekday double-parking will not be allowed as the building site needs potential emergency access. Thank you for your consideration.

This is also the moment to thank once again all those who have contributed to the building fund which has reached nearly £130,000 donated and pledged. The financing of the project is divided into the three parts, the fundraising campaign, the partial use of the cash balance in the bank and a loan from the Diocese of £125,000 payable over seven years. The loan will be paid back through additional Hall rentals, some fundraising and regular donations from the existing building fund.

PENTECOST SUNDAY - 23RD MAY

Acts 2:1-11

Psalm 103

Galatians 5:16-25

John 15:26-27; 16:12-15

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY - 30TH MAY

Deuteronomy 4:32-34. 39-40

Psalm 32

Romans 8:14-17

Matthew 28:16-20

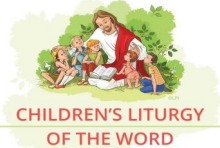


Baptism

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** - 15th and 22nd June at 8 pm online / Chapel TBA

Children's Liturgy on Zoom; on alternate Sunday mornings **9:45 – 10:15 am**



For children aged 4 – 11 (roughly)

Upcoming dates: June 13, 27 & July 11

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.

SOUP LUNCH DONATIONS

We will be sending our next donation from the parish to Fr David Cullen on Friday 21st May. There is much poverty and hardship in the Chipata area of Zambia, so every single penny that we can send will be of great help to the community there. If you are able to make a contribution, however large or small, it will be most gratefully received.



Please contact Maz and Bernard Winter on: 07769721975 to make a donation. Thank you.

Important information regarding practicalities during the building works (May 10th – Sept 3rd)

We are very pleased that the building work to refurbish the hall, lavatories and basement will begin next week.

Access to lavatories - There will be no access to the lavatories in the church building. Facilities will be provided on the ground floor of the presbytery. Please alert the stewards if you need to use the lavatories and they will unlock the presbytery for you. We ask that parents accompany their children due to safety issues around crossing the car park.

Sunday 10:30am Mass – overflow seating - There will be no overflow seating available in the hall so numbers at the 10:30 am Mass will be more restricted. Please could everyone wanting to attend the 10:30am Mass book their place in advance (by Saturday evening). If you arrive without having reserved a place, we may need to turn you away.

Alternatively, please consider coming to one of the other Masses which are less busy and there is no need to book.

Offertory Giving

Thank you to all those who manage your regular giving through standing order, payroll giving or weekly envelopes. If you normally donate via the loose plate, but are not coming to Mass at the moment, please consider giving via our Virgin Money button on the website. Or even better, set up a standing order, forms for which are available from the parish office.

All donations are gratefully received, no matter how small.

Thank you.

April 2021

	Loose	Envelopes	Contactless	Total
11-Apr	235	20	106	361
18-Apr	72	60	121	253
25-Apr	115	115	103	333
			Virgin Money donations	395
			Standing orders & Payroll giving	4299
			Total Offertory	5641
			Easter Sunday	3126
			Building Fund	
			Regular donations	1476
			One-off donation	100
				1576



Diocese of Westminster

Attached is the May edition of the Westminster Information. (Please click here to view)

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!





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am very pleased to share with you this Pastoral Letter, prepared by the Bishops of England and Wales for use in churches on 23 May 2021, Pentecost Sunday:

The Solemnity of Pentecost reminds us that everything which exists, every person and the whole of creation, is a gift of “God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.” God our loving Father creates and continues to give life to the world through His Word, Jesus Christ, in the power of His Holy Spirit. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church, which we celebrate at Pentecost, is not something separate from Creation. God’s revelation of himself in Creation is inseparable from the revelation of his love for us in Christ and in his desire to live in us through his Holy Spirit.

‘God’s Spirit is always and everywhere “the Lord, the Giver of Life”, and the voice of Pentecost is echoed in the voice of creation being transformed into the glorious liberty of God’s children.’ In this liberty, as God’s children, we call on the Spirit to ‘renew the face of the Earth’, and as his children, we are called, in turn, to use this liberty for the good of creation and for the good of all that brings life. Our world, God’s creation, is a precious gift to us. It is our common home entrusted to each generation. But how have we used that glorious liberty? How do we honour this precious gift? Are we really demonstrating love, care and respect for our common home?

As we celebrate Pentecost this year, we are acutely aware of the damage that continues to be inflicted on the Earth, and the repercussions for the well-being of our brothers and sisters, both here in our own countries and, more especially, in the poorest countries of our world. Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have both taught us that everything is interconnected and interdependent. The way we live our everyday lives has an impact on everyone and on the earth.

The urgency of the situation, and the enormity of the challenges we face, have spurred us to speak out together this Pentecost Sunday, as bishops of England, Wales and Scotland, about the role that the Catholic Church and our faith must play in our shared care for God’s gift to us.

For all too long we have either been ignorant of, or ignored, the systematic exploitation of our planet and the unsustainable consumption of its resources. While accepting the crucial need and demand for energy for the benefit of the poorest of our brothers and sisters, the provision of our energy must, nonetheless, be by means which radically reduce the use of carbon-based fuels.

In our political thinking, there must be a new global understanding of our world, where nations recognise our common responsibility for the dignity of all people and their rights to sustainable livelihoods, in authentic freedom. Pope Francis speaks of a global politics that looks beyond our own needs to the needs of all, most especially the poor and the marginalised.

But we cannot leave the healing of our common home and the wellbeing and care of our brothers and sisters merely to a response from industry and governments. Our own local concern and action is necessary and has far-reaching consequences. We all have a part to play, each and every one of us, in the routines, choices and decisions of our everyday lives and our aspirations for the future. The actions of parishes, families, schools, and individuals will have a significant impact on our efforts to restore our common home. There are now many resources, freely available, to advise us on our choice of food, saving of water and electricity, suggestions about travel, waste, and re-use. These are measures that everyone can employ, in some degree, with minimal inconvenience and change. They are effective ways in which we can each reaffirm our personal vocation to be stewards of creation.

This Pentecost comes at a time of remarkable challenge and opportunity. We are gradually emerging from the tragedies and restrictions of the pandemic. We have the ability to make changes. Our countries are also hosting two most important meetings this year, the G7 in June and COP26 in November. These meetings will gather together men and women who have the power to make defining choices and policies which will help us build back better, provide for our brothers and sisters, and take care of our common home.

In all our human endeavours, we need the presence of the Holy Spirit, “the Lord, the Giver of Life”, whose gift to the Church and the world we celebrate again at Pentecost. Let us keep this Feast with that enduring hope that we can begin to repair the damage we have done and provide a healthy home for future generations. Our hope will be strengthened by our prayer. May our constant request be that the Holy Spirit guide us, strengthen our resolve and ‘renew the face of the earth’.

May God bless you all,

✠ Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster