

ST MARGARET'S PAGE

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 24th January 2021 Year B



Fr Peter writes:

Lockdown has put paid to any collective acts of worship other than Mass, so this year's Christian Unity week has passed without notice. Yet this year's theme 'abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit', words spoken by Jesus to His disciples the night of the Last Supper, is addressed to us in the midst of the third lockdown, bleak statistics about hospital occupancy and the numbers dying from Covid. Only God can bring fruit out of this tragedy, both personally and collectively, and abiding in Him on our part remains fundamental for such an outcome.

The first meditation for the week struck me in particular, in that to abide in God's love is to become progressively reconciled with oneself. Abiding becomes 'the path of self-acceptance, and reconciliation with our personal and inherited histories.' This meditation from the ecumenical sisters of Grandchamp, Switzerland, illuminates the barrier that makes us unable to absorb God's love, the inability to love oneself, especially with regard to the historical baggage of life experience. Often this process of assimilation can be very difficult but the Good News is that Jesus breaks into our lives, often unannounced, and initiates the path of self-acceptance and reconciliation.

To let Jesus break into our lives is not about remaining passive, or taking a stoical position towards life's sufferings, of just accepting everything that comes. Jesus breaks into our hearts at some point after we have heard His word and become receptive to His message. His grace is what will change us but at some level, even if inchoately, we need to desire such change already. That desire for change is continually fostered by our openness to His message found in the Word of God.

Over the last few weeks I have been listening to Fr Mike Schmidt who is running a daily podcast of Bible readings that will cover the whole Bible in a year. So far this year he has read through most of Genesis, Job and some of the Book of Proverbs. One might think, not much of that applies to me, the family lives of the Patriarchs, and the monologues of Job in front of his so-called friends, but the cumulative effect is profound. Someone wrote those words under divine inspiration and someone within the Church is reading

| 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 - 11:00 |
| 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 |

them to me. I am entering the drama of their lives, asking their questions, sharing their disappointments and joys, benefiting from their sage advice. This divinely inspired book takes on a life of itself. It has become performative, not just recitative. The Bible is helping me understand my own history and vocation as a follower of Jesus.

This Sunday has been declared by Pope Francis as 'Word of God Sunday', with the express purpose of focusing the Church on 'the treasury of His word' and to enable us 'to proclaim its unfathomable riches.' Pope Francis emphasises the performative aspect of the Word of God, how it can change our lives, open us up to Jesus. Hearing the world proclaimed is the best context, and hearing it as a podcast gives the word a dimension lost by reading the Scriptures just by oneself. The Bible is a document of faith, of faith shared with others, and best heard through and with others.

Word of God Sunday coincides with the opening mission statement and first public action of Jesus as recorded by St Mark: 'Repent, the kingdom of God is near at hand', and the call of the first four apostles. Jesus creates a community to live the message before giving the details. No teaching is recorded in the early chapters of St Mark, only signs of His messianic status. Jesus heals first, and those healings raise questions about His identity, fertile ground for Him to teach the expectant crowds. The same principle works with the proclamation of Scripture in the Mass. The Bible contains the divine answers to the questions we bring about life, questions from our own experience but also from our response to the recorded actions of Jesus who through His life, death and Resurrection has broken into our lives. Entering the world of the Bible is to allow God's Word to transform us, to understand ourselves, and build the community that is the Church.

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 23rd January – Sunday 31st January

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 23 Jan | Sat | 10.00 am | Brian Gregory de Souza RIP | Barbara de Souza |
| 24 Jan | Sun | 8.30 am | Desmond McGinley RIP | Maureen Davis |
| | | 10.30 am | Brendan Sugrue RIP | Catherine Sugrue |
| | | 6.30 pm | Mgr Mark Langham RIP | |
| 25 Jan | Mo n | 10.00 am | Pat Doyle RIP | Maureen Davis |
| 26 Jan | Tue | 10.00 am | Desmond McGinley RIP | Susannah O'Leary |
| 27 Jan | We d | 10.00 am | Veronica McGill (RIP anniv) | Maz & Bernard |
| 28 Jan | Thur | 10.00 am | John Walker RIP | Kathryn McGuinness |
| 29 Jan | Fri | 10.00 am | Eucharistic Service | |
| 30 Jan | Sat | 10.00 am | Sr Elizabeth Emmett RIP | Maz & Bernard |
| 31 Jan | Sun | 8.30 am | Desmond McGinley RIP | Maz & Bernard |
| | | 10.30 am | For you the people | |
| | | 6.30 pm | Desmond McGinley RIP | Kathryn McGuinness |

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Mo Walker, 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 and Patricia Parkes, Judith Thomas, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Bernard Sharratt, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga) and Kevin Sweeney, Cora Fitzgerald (Gretta's sister)

Recently deceased – Anthony (Anton) Barber RIP, David Barchard RIP, Desmond McGinley RIP, Father David Palmer RIP (Isleworth Parish), Monsignor Mark Langham RIP, Pat Doyle RIP, Sr Elizabeth Emmett RIP

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

Anniversaries - William Harris, Jonathan Dawes, Harold Taylor, Ron Webb, Fr. Peter Beazley, Dorothy Albrecht, Bridie Wallace, Ben Watson, Ron Jones, Adam Hallal, Bridget Walsh, Michael Kennedy, Bishop Gerald Mahon, Fr. Stephen Hinde, Molly Weare, Martin Leahy, Howard Bingham, Frank Sparlis

Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

Response to the Psalm:

Lord, make me know your ways.



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
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 on Zoom)

Government guidelines allow Churches to remain
open for worship.

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|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 24 January - 3rd Sunday in OT | Jonah 3:1-5,10 | Psalm 24(25):4-6,7b-9 | 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 | Mark 1:14-20 |
| 31 January - 4th Sunday in OT | Deuteronomy 18:15-20 | Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9 | 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 | Mark 1:21-28 |



Dates for Pre Baptism Course 2021

Session 1 & 2

23rd February & 2nd March

Session 1 & 2

11th May & 18th May

Please contact the parish office via email for more information.

First Holy Communion Sessions 2021

The session will now start after half term on **Saturday 27th February**. This will mean that the date for the celebration of First Holy Communion will have to move from May to July, in order to make sure there is enough time to prepare your child.



The revised date for First Holy Communion will now be Saturday 3rd July.

Confirmation 2021

The Confirmation course, for those in Year 9 and above will begin on **Saturday 27th February at 5:15pm followed by Mass**.



This year the Course is being led by Deacon Joseph Estorninho, Joseph Kilsby, a recent graduate from St Marys and Kirsten Roy, long standing parishioner.

If you would like to participate please contact Fr Peter at the Parish Office to obtain an application form.

Marriage Course

The next Marriage Preparation Course will take place here at St Margarets on **Saturday 27th March**, either in person, if permissible, or on-line. The cost of the day-long course is either £80 per couple (if held in person) or £50 per couple (if held on line). A decision as to the form of the course will be taken at the beginning of March.



Interested in becoming a Catholic?



The Parish will be running a set of meetings starting Tuesday 26th January from 7:30pm to 8:45pm. We will use the Alpha material as a prelude for discussion on a specific topic and read parts of one Gospel, probably St Luke.

The proposed dates are

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tuesday 26th January | Tuesday 2nd March |
| Tuesday 2nd February | Tuesday 9th March |
| Wednesday 10th February | Tuesday 16th March |
| Tuesday 16th February | Tuesday 23rd March |
| Tuesday 23rd February | Post Easter dates to follow |

We will start online using Zoom but with any hope might meet face to face once the strictures of lockdown are eased.

If you know of someone who might like to know more about the faith please let them know about this course.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

Lenten Alms

Having just celebrated a rather denuded Christmas and New Year, it might seem strange to start talking about Lent already but Wednesday 17th February will come around soon enough.

This Sunday, 10th January, marks the opening for nominations for a charity that St Margarets Parish might support as a collective endeavour over Lent and a little beyond. Applications will close on January 27th January, and if you would like to nominate a charity on which the Parish can vote on Sunday 6th February (for those who are unable to attend Mass, an email vote will be permissible) please send your application to the Parish Office before 27th January .

Timetable

Jan 10th - 27th Application period - forms available on the parish website and by emailing the parish office: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk

January 27th: closing date for applications.

Pastoral Council to review applications

February 6th: short-listed charities will be invited to make a presentation to the parish and parishioners will have an opportunity to vote (in person and on-line)

February 14th: Announcement of chosen charity in newsletter and on-line. Winning Charity to propose some zoom-friendly fund-raising activities and some post-Easter social events (legislation permitting)

February 17th: Ash Wednesday

April 4th: Easter Sunday (More dates to follow)



**'Heart speaks to Heart' Prayer course
January to March 2021**

Start date - Thursday January 21st, 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Fully Booked

Caritas Volunteer Fair

"Step Forward in Love"



Online Event

Wednesday 10 February from 11am -1pm

Whether you want to try volunteering for the first time or are looking for a new role, come and find out what volunteering opportunities are out there at the moment. Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/caritas-volunteer-fair-tickets-135713539851>



Diocese of Westminster

Racial Justice Sunday 2021 is on 31st January.

Events of 2020 make this year's RJS particularly important. Reflection, a Message and a Prayer resources. Further resources will be added to the diocesan website in the days before 31st January including videos made by (1) The Youth of the Zimbabwean Chaplaincy (2) Our Lady of Fatima, White City Parish. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/racial-justice-sunday-2021/>

With prayers and best wishes.

+Paul McAleenan



ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE • UNITY • SERVICE

**Determined admission arrangements for the
academic year 2022-23**

Details on our website www.st-ignatius.surrey.sch.uk/admissions



**New Parishioner On-line gathering
Tuesday 9th February 8:00pm-9:00pm**

Over the last two years a number of new parishioners have started coming to Mass at St Margaret's. Due to lockdown restrictions, it has proved impossible to welcome them to our Parish or explain something of the life of the Parish and what went on here week by week.

If you have arrived here in the last two years please contact the Parish Office for an invitation from your hosts Fr Peter and Angie Keane.

I look forward to meeting you on-line and with hope in person sometime soon.

Your Support in Action



Join CAFOD online this coming Saturday 30th January from 1030am to 1230 and listen to CAFOD's representative live from Ethiopia talking about how your support is enabling communities gain access to clean water.

Contact westminster@cafod.org.uk for registration link and further information.

Thanks for your support,
Tony Sheen

Community Participation Co-ordinator – CAFOD Westminster

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A big thank you to all at the Parish for your donations to CAFOD this year. We raised £278.60 during 2020 via various events, which excludes direct donations via CAFOD's fundraising pages.

- Family Fast Day (£84.60)
- Allotment veg sales (£84)
- Festive fun run (£110)

There will be fundraising events throughout 2021, however if you would like to donate in the meantime, please go to <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Coronavirus-appeal>.

Thank you once again, and Happy New Year!
Ellie



Desmond Joseph McGinley
Rest in peace
3rd September 1929 - 20th December 2020

Obituary for Desmond McGinley – in dialogue of a sort with his sister Ann Donohoe in Donegal

Ann: Desmond was born near the ‘Hills of Donegal’, in the County’s market town of Letterkenny, on 3rd September, 1929.

Paddy: *He was born into a big family, well known and well regarded in political, cultural and medical circles, some of whom are still with us and present on line. [Hello Niall and hello Ann in Letterkenny, and hello Joe in Africa.] Desmond’s life and mine weaved in and out of each other.*

Ann mainly: Growing up, he was a quiet and studious boy. In 1942 he was sent to Castleknock College in Co.Dublin, a **Vincentian boarding school generally regarded as one of Ireland’s best.** He was of an academic bent and usually came at or near the top of his class. He excelled in Mathematics. **Of which, more anon.**

Ann mainly: When his school days were over a place was reserved for him in Hatch St. Hall, a Hall of Residence for male students of University College Dublin. It was envisaged that he would study engineering. But after much careful thought – **and Desmond would remain a properly careful, far-seeing, thinker –** he decided that he wanted to become a priest. And so it was in September 1947 he entered the novitiate of the Vincentian Fathers in Temple Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin - *as I also would 12 years later.*

Ann: He spent the next nine years there, cut off completely from the rest of the world – except for his time in University College.

Paddy: *‘Cut off completely’? A sibling memory, perhaps, of Desmond’s absence for all of 9 years from those special family occasions when the McGinleys would come together again at the family home? Unlike clerical students signed up for diocesan work who got generous home leave, we who entered religious orders could not ordinarily ‘stay over’ at home during our formation years. (The thought was that we’d left home and parents to follow Christ!) We could visit home – provided home was within reach! And, certainly by my time, we could be visited by family and friends – on a monthly basis, I think. All the same.....Desmond himself as a later Spiritual Director of the Vincentian students won a wise moderation – limited stay-over time for students with their families and homes, wherever their homes were.*

Ann: There were two universities in Dublin – Trinity College and University College. But Catholics were forbidden to attend Trinity College. At that time in Ireland the seminaries were brimming over with young men in training for the priesthood. So all the seminarians attended University College and every morning they were to be seen in their droves as they made their way on bicycles, wearing their black clerical suits and black felt hats, from the suburbs to the University. They did not mix with the other students and tables were especially reserved for them in the canteen.

Paddy: *Some contextual elaboration. Right up to the early 1960s nearly all Catholic Secondary Schools in Dublin were not only owned by religious orders, male and female, but also mainly staffed by nuns, brothers and priests who had to be trained subject teachers. Hence the high visibility that Ann mentions of the younger, undergraduate versions of those religious teachers in University College, all in their distinctive dress and habits. Furthermore, most lay students were alumni of those schools and were practising Catholics. So when the many churches around us rang out their bells for the midday Angelus, the great majority of everyone working in the main library would get to their feet to mutter it. That seemed quite natural to me, until I saw how it stunned a visiting Italian Vincentian. This was 1961 and how quickly things would change!*

Ann and Paddy: In 1952 Desmond graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Chemistry. That had been *a 4-year course and after 4 more years of pretty traditional theology*, he was ordained to the priesthood by John Charles McQuaid, Archbishop of Dublin in February 1956. *His first appointment was back to Castleknock College* where he then spent 6 or 7 years teaching Mathematics and for a time he acted as Prefect of Studies. *That’s where I first met Desmond: as my teacher of maths, pure and applied, and General Science in my two final school years. A novice teacher, yes, but endlessly patient and kind and I still remember some of the chemistry he taught us.* Continued...

[Obituary for Desmond McGinley continued]

In 1964 he went to the Vincentian seminary in Blackrock where he was Spiritual Director and he continued in this capacity after the seminary moved to St. Kevin's in Glenart, Co Wicklow. **In this role he initiated some overdue reforms like the one already mentioned, emboldened no doubt by the Second Vatican Council which was still in session when he began.**

In 1968 he went to St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, to teach not science but theology for the purpose of which he spent a sabbatical year 1969/70, at the University of Washington D.C., doing an MA in Religious Education. **I was already at St Mary's to welcome him, which felt like a reversal of the natural order. We were confreres there for five or six years, though in different departments. He quickly became a go-to person for students in trouble or needing advice. I had left St. Mary's when he was made a Vice-Principal, a senior role that played well to his combination of kindness and creative organisational skills.**

Ann: In June 1983 Desmond retired from the Vincentians and left Strawberry Hill. He immediately took up the post of Principal at a training centre of Age Concern England in Birmingham. The following year, he moved back to London and became Chief Executive Officer of Age Concern in Kensington and Chelsea. He held this post until his retirement, due to ill-health, in 1995 – though, in a voluntary capacity, he acted as Treasurer of The Friends of Barnes Hospital for a decade or more.

In 1991 he married Jean Jones in this Church. The celebrant was the parish priest, Father Desmond Swan. His brother Joe and wife Lili were present and Father Stan Brindley CM, as well as Jean's children and grandchildren.

Ann also remarks how he and Jean were very active in this parish until quite recently. Jean acted as Parish Administrator and Desmond was a Minister of the Eucharist and of the Word. **But now we have Jean to consult and our own memories.**

Desmond was a parishioner from 1984 and for the next decade he also looked after both the Monday counting and banking of the Offertory collection and the writing of our communal Bidding Prayers – each of these onerous – and he continued to contribute to those tasks for much longer.

After recovery from serious illness in 1994, and now retired, Desmond remained a wise, humble and deeply prayerful presence at parish meetings, indeed a crucial calming presence and voice at times of parish crisis.

Away from the parish, Jean observes that he loved his garden and was an excellent gardener.

He was also, as we all could observe, a powerful support for Jean in her role of Parish Administrator as she was of him. A blessed marriage!

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam uasal. At God's right hand may his noble soul be. (That is at once a tribute to the person being mourned and a prayer for the person, for Desmond.)

