

ST MARGARET'S PAGE

Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord — 24 March 2024 - Year B



In Peter writes:

Soon after his election as Pope, Pope Francis wrote his first letter, *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) which began with a simple statement of what every Christian believes: that Jesus died on the Cross, rose to new life and wishes to share His Holy Spirit with His followers (the Church). At another time the Pope spoke of himself as a sinner touched by the mercy of God. Both the recollection of the basic Christian message and the powerful meeting in faith are at the heart of the celebration of Holy Week.

Each Gospel writer sets the scene for the unfolding of the events of Holy Week. The basic message of Christianity, the kerygma, did not evolve in quiet contemplation but within the drams of often violent and antagonistic historical events. Throughout the final week of His life, Jesus is meeting opposition: 'the chief priests and scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus'; the crowds demanding His death; and jeering at the foot of the Cross. Despite the antagonism, Jesus is not just a passive victim but takes the initiative, to gathering His apostles for the Last Supper, to His prediction of seeing them again in Galilee after the turmoil of Good Friday and the quiet of that first Easter Sunday morning. The Passion account is full, too, of predictions about the future, and the power of Christian memory; the woman anointing the feet and head of Jesus, the careful observance of the women at the tomb, that is the foundation of faith. Despite the religious and political opposition Jesus is amongst friends at this key moment, and though he chose and guided the Twelve Apostles, they prove to be only fair-weather friends, fleeing at the time of His arrest. The account of the Passion is also the account of the Church, those gathered around Jesus.

To celebrate this week, after nearly 2000 years since the events took place, is the opportunity to re-remember the foundations of our faith, and so become spiritually invigorated by its lasting power. This is the spiritual power that animates and gives purpose to our lives and of offering a pattern of conduct that is life-giving; faith, courage, fidelity, hope, charity and compassion. No one need be perfect to undertake this journey and there is only one place, now, to start to become Christ-like. Through the renewed sense of sacraments (the Last Supper), charity (the women anointing Jesus), prayer (Jesus praying the Our Father in the Garden of Gethsemane), we can all return to the source and become His follower within life's drama and

not just in name.

The Twelve and the women gathered around Jesus were never merely passive bystanders. They actively engage in the unfolding drama. The Twelve ask where Jesus wishes to celebrate the Passover and take the initiative in making the preparations after Jesus told them to go into the city; the women choose to stay behind at the crucifixion and note carefully where the body was laid, in order to return after the Sabbath, to complete the customary burial rites. Little did they know they would become the first witnesses to the sacramental system when they sat down that melancholy evening, and the Resurrection when they returned to the tomb that first Easter Sunday morning.

Both apostles and the women participated in the unfolding of religious history. Their participation gives the broader context for the Second Vatican Council's document on the Liturgy which encourages the intensive participation of the people. Such liturgical participation only makes sense if participation in life is both the prequel and the sequel of the Liturgy. Such active participation was demonstrated by the Twelve and the women in the Passion account. Their lives are models for us. They participated in events greater than themselves.

We too are asked to participate in events greater than ourselves, and to trust that answering God's call in the daily round of family life, working life or school or college life will somehow make sense. Not much does seem to make sense if one is honest. Changes in contemporary mores leave many confused. Civic society looks marred in contradiction. Yet the Passion account gives hope because Jesus Christ is at the centre orchestrating not just the events themselves, but the response offered by his followers. Whether it was the commendation of an act of charity, the celebration of the last Supper, or the promise to meet them again in Galilee, these events both shaped the participants and prove so memorable that they formed the basic message. When our lives are part of something greater than ourselves, then we find reassurance that despite every appearance to the contrary, Jesus Christ will still call us out of our solitude and alienation, and gather us for worship and shared life.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

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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: 23/3 - 27/3

23/03	Sat	10.00am	The families of St Margarets Parish	
24/03	Sun	8.30am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	
		10.30am	Cathy Mckendry RIP	Kevin & Moira Wood
		6.30 pm	Cathy Mckendry RIP	Ann Edes
25/03	Mon	10.00am	Cathy	Thomson family
26/03	Tue	12.00pm	Mick Carrick RIP	The Catenian Brothers
27/03	Wed	10.00am	Deceased members of St Mar-	

Details from Maundy Thursday till Easter Monday can be found under Holy week & Easter Liturgies

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 - Alicia de Souza, Elizabeth Underwood, Catherine Rayson, Charles McQuorquada, Belinda Smith, Agnes Condron, William Affleck, Hazel Fabian, Henry Bird, Molly Flynn, James Barry, Margaret Pini, Gladys Wilcockson, Barry Foulkes, Mark Dilley, Mary Reilly, Neville Stracey, Peter Cassidy

Kindly keep the recently deceased in your prayers - Ursula van der Westhuizen RIP, Cathy McKendry RIP, Joyce O'Connor RIP (Mo Walker's mother), who has died at the age of 101 years and Albarosa Maccione RIP

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. ~Amen~

March Prayer Intentions - For new Martyrs - Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

Entrance Antiphon - The children of the Hebrews, carrying olive branches, went to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: Hosanna in the highest.

Response to the Psalm – My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Saturday 6.00 pm Mass - 6 pm Mass will take place when the First Holy Communion children meet. The dates are **April** - 13, 20, 27 (TBC), May 4.



CATHOLICISM

If you are a non-Catholic and attend Mass with your Catholic spouse and would like to learn more about what Catholics believe we have a course for you. After Easter we will be running a short course especially designed for non-Catholics to explain the beliefs of Catholics and (perhaps) dispel some of the myths about Catholics.



The course will be on Tuesday evenings from 8:00-9:00 pm and run for 5 weeks.

Please contact Cynthia in the office to register your interest.

Holy Week and Easter Liturgies

Maundy Thursday, 28th March

Mass - 8.00 pm; Night Prayer - 9.45 pm, Watching at the altar of repose to 10.00 pm



Good Friday, 29th March

- Stations of the Cross – 10.30 am
- Children's Stations of the Cross – 12.00 pm
- The Liturgy of the Passion of our Lord – 3.00 pm

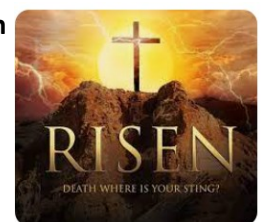


Easter Vigil: Mass - 8.00 pm

Easter Sunday: Mass - 8.30 am and 10.30 am

There will be no evening Mass on Easter Sunday.

Easter Monday: Mass - 12.00 noon



LENT AT ST MARGARETS

• Lenten Devotions

⇒ Stations of Stations of the Cross and Holy Hour - On Fridays during Lent held at 7:30 pm followed by Holy Hour.

⇒ Good Friday - Stations of the Cross at 10.30 am

• Lenten Alms Project- Cardinal's Lenten Appeal

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give



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).



At every moment of every day, somewhere in the world, Christians are praying the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. When said in liturgy or in devotional prayer, together or privately, the Lord's Prayer is a like a gentle, multilingual hum of heartfelt praise and petition.

St Thomas Aquinas once wrote that 'The Lord's Prayer is the most perfect of prayers... In it we ask, not only for all the things we can rightly desire, but also the sequence that they should be desired. This prayer not only teaches us to ask for things, but also in what order we should desire them.'

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. I am pleased, then, to commend to you *We Dare To Say*, a faith sharing resource on the familiar and powerful words of the Our Father taking place at St Margarets on **Monday's commencing April 8th, followed by 15th, 22nd & 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,

Cathy McKendry Funeral Mass of Thanksgiving, **11am Friday 5th April.**

Please join us for the Mass of thanksgiving to celebrate the life of Cathy McKendry (1935-2024).

Cathy passed to heaven peacefully in her sleep, at home aged 88, deeply loved by our family, friends and neighbours who gathered around her bedside with Father Peter. Cathy's Mass will



be at 11am on Friday 5th April at St Margaret's Church, and then she will be cremated at South-West Middlesex Crematorium, followed by a reception in the Church Hall. Her ashes will be laid to rest in London and Ireland.

A Vigil will be held on the eve of 4th April in the Lady Chapel. We request donations to CAFOD and the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Action Charity.

Please join us and wear purple to remember and celebrate Cathy's life.

Tony, Sarah & Rachel McKendry

Good Friday March 29th

Ecumenical Walk of Witness

Join other Christians from local churches in a walk of witness on Good Friday. Meet at 9am on Twickenham Green, outside Arthur's café. Father Ulick of St James's RC Church will bless the walkers. The walk will move along Heath Road and Wharf Lane to the Diamond Jubilee Gardens on Twickenham Riverside. If it is difficult for you to walk, please join the service directly at Diamond Jubilee Gardens at 9:20 am. The short service will be led by the Venerable Richard Frank, with a scripture reading by the Reverend Stephen Lewis of the United Reformed Church. Walkers are welcome to carry a cross if they wish.



One of questions we asked ourselves as a Parish in the recent synodal meetings was "how do we witness as a Parish to proclaim our faith to those who have not heard of Christ and those who have ceased walking with Christ?"

Participating in this walk of witness would be one way of doing just that.

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

Remedial works to the roof

As with many other public buildings built in the 1960's reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC), a lightweight concrete, was used in the construction of the roof. Conscious of some of its more recently known shortcomings, Fr Peter commissioned an initial survey of the building last summer. A more detailed survey, testing the structural integrity of each concrete plank, was undertaken in the autumn. The engineer reported that the building is safe, and that continued use of the building is allowed, but advised that some action would be needed in the medium term to address the issue. That is now underway. A proposed solution, with initial designs that would provide additional support to the roof, has been developed. As the church is a Grade II listed building, plans for all such works need to be submitted to the Historic Churches Committee. This has been done and the designs will be discussed at the HCC meeting on April 25th.

We will keep the Parish updated of the outcome and share the proposals after Easter. In the meantime, if you would like further information, please speak to Fr Peter or contact him by email via the parish office.

Fr Peter & the Parish Finance Committee

St Richard Reynolds is advertising a few vacancies as below at their college.



- Subject Lead in Chemistry
- Teacher of English
- Teacher of PE (girls)

If interested to know further details, please contact us on 020 8325 4630 or to follow the link provided: <https://strichardreynolds.org.uk/whole-college/vacancies-2>

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Reflection on Saturday 13 April 2024 from 1 pm to 4:30



pm at St Mary's R C Church, 157 Aldershot Road, Guildford GU2. The Reflection will include the Holy Rosary, teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday
25th May 2024 at 2:30pm. **(Last date
to send details—15 April 2024)**

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 2024. 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).