

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



4th SUNDAY OF EASTER - 25th April 2021 Year B

Good Shepherd Sunday

In Peter writes: Behind the petition signed by large numbers against the proposed installation of a modern set of bronze doors at the cathedral of 'El Cid' in Burgos, lies a dangerous view that contemporary artists cannot do revealed religion. There is plenty of contemporary so-called religious art that is plainly weak, lacks the human figure, owing to the collapse of figure drawing in art schools, and poorly executed. Yet that is not the whole story of contemporary art, and figurative artists do exist, and can communicate the faith.

Bundled along with such views of contemporary art is the view that only a naturalistic style with pietistic resonances could be considered as Christian art. The consequence is that the Christian faith, at least in its imaginative form remains a memory of the past, both personal and collective, of childhood prayers and spiritual world, of visits to darkened churches at Christmas. Such childhood memories cut off from a living faith can only lead to an adult sense of loss. Such faith can never really touch life beyond childhood, so in teenage years and beyond, faith is rejected because its meaning has evaporated and the experience of faith just a memory. Strawberry Hill House was built on just such a premise, the myth of a golden age of faith now lost in the adult world of technology and the city. The façade of the little chapel in the woods is the exact replica of the façade of a chantry chapel in Salisbury Cathedral, a chapel dedicated for praying for the dead. The Romantic movement fixation with the past has warped our Christian self-understanding which is also includes an orientation towards the future and the coming of the kingdom of God, the celestial city of Jerusalem.

The loss of meaning regarding faith, handed on from generation to generation, once the certainties of childhood faith are passed is one of the signs of the current age; history in this sense is repeating itself. The Roman Empire collapsed because it finally lost its sense of civic duty; Marxism lost its meaning after the fall of the Berlin Wall; sexual liberation is fast losing its original meaning after 'Me Too' and 'Everyone's included'; now cancel culture is trying to do the same for the last remaining great narrative of the human condition, the Christian faith. Most organisations collapse from

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Saturday	6.30 pm	
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	10.00 am	
Eucharistic Service	Friday	10.00 am
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed & Thu (via Zoom; please email the office for link)	9.30 am
Confessions	Sunday	10.00 am – 10.20 am

within, their leaders finally abandoning the tenets of faith that held those civilisations and religions together.

The ability to hold any organisation together requires the ability to speak to the world that is, not as one might wish that world to be. Therefore, if religion cannot speak to the world today through its message and cultural achievements then it is on the path to collapse from within. So, I wonder how many of the 55,000 who complained about the proposed bronze doors are 'memory' Catholics only, clutching to straws in the chilled winds of contemporary secular society. These are questions to answer before judging these contemporary figurative works of art themselves. To write off the ability of all contemporary artists to create works of art that resonate with symbolic meaning is tantamount that the Christian faith has nothing much to say about the world today.

Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have each spoken about the ability of artists to penetrate the mysteries of faith, of assisting in the formation of our conscience. Pope Francis gives rich visual images to emphasise his points, the suffering flesh of Christ, the field hospital, the village square. All images that lend themselves to artistic expression.

The destruction of many fine church interiors by zealous priests who thought they were imposing a new world order after Vatican II obviously makes one cautious about priestly artistic or architectural projects. Much of that destruction was unwarranted, more a transient fashion, than a positive proposal about the architectural and artistic setting of the Liturgy. The proposed church doors at Burgos Cathedral allows a conversation about whether contemporary can provide symbolic richness to a church. The answer is not a blanket yes, but yes within the figurative tradition that has marked western art since the cave paintings in Neolithic times.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@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: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30 am – 12.30 pm. Emails are checked regularly.

Mass Intentions Saturday 24th April – Sunday 2nd May

24 Apr	Sat	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
		6.30 pm	Works of charity in the neighbourhood	
25 Apr	Sun	8.30 am	Emily (Eve) Hooper (RIP anniv)	Maz & Bernard Winter
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	HRH Prince Philip Mountbatten RIP	Barbara de Souza
26 Apr	Mon	10.00am	Eileen & Patrick Coughlin (RIP anniv)	Maureen Davis
27 Apr	Tues	10.00am	Works of charity in the neighbourhood	
28 Apr	Wed	10.00am	Work of missionaries throughout the world	
29 Apr	Thur	10.00 am	Funeral Mass for Patricia Powell	
30 Apr	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
01 May	Sat	10.00 am	Pupils and staff of St James School & St Richard Reynolds Catholic College	
		6.30 pm	Jonathon Ware RIP & family	Maggie Thomson
02 May	Sun	8.30 am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	The families of St Margarets Parish	

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.



Mass Arrangement

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday
- 10.00 am
(No booking needed) (live stream available)

Thursday (Funeral Mass) - 10.00 am

Friday

Eucharistic Service 10.00 am

Saturday

10.00 am & 6.30 pm

Sunday

8.30 am

10.30 am (Booking needed) (live streamed)

6.30 pm

Rosary on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at 9.30 am (on zoom)

Amended Mass schedule for May

Please note that there will be no Thursday 10:00am Mass for the month of May as Fr Peter celebrates Mass at St Richard Reynolds Catholic College and St Marys university in the morning too.

Thursday 10:00am Mass will resume in June.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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 Master-son, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Kevin Sweeney, Christopher Cousins & Simon Barber

Anniversaries - Iolanda Henderson, Elizabeth Anderson, Mary Otterway, Arnold Hill, William Gauci, Jim Doyle, Thomas Ford Millar, Rose Mitchell, Ignatius Ashton, Charles Rowe, Ann Osborne

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed

through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER - 25 APRIL

Acts 4:8-12

Psalm 117

1 John 3:1-2

John 10:11-18

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 2ND MAY

Acts 9:26-31

Ps 21:26-28, 30-32 r. 26

1 John 3:18-24

John 15:1-8

Do you speak Turkish or Ukranian?

Fr Peter is looking for a parishioner who might speak either Ukranian or Turkish, or both to help with preparing a family for Baptism. If you might be able to help, please contact the parish office.

Priest training fund

This Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday and we are doing a collection for the Priest Training Fund.

This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 42 men studying at the Allen Hall seminary, 18 of whom are for our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also for our Diocese. Last year two men who studied at Allen Hall and one who studied in Rome ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests.

Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serve God's people.

Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests. If you do not have a donation leaflet, plenty are still available at the back of the church. You can donate online anytime at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

Information from Retrouvaille ... a lifeline for married couple.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

We have raised an *amazing £4500/-* via donations 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.

Thank you for your generosity and for helping us raise this fantastic amount.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, via live-stream from Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 15th May 2021 at 3.00pm



The Cardinal will be celebrating a live-streamed Mass for 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 2021.

If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy/parish office the following details:

- ♦ husband and wife's names
 - ♦ wedding date
 - ♦ full postal address and
 - ♦ email (or telephone number if no email)
- and these details will be sent to those organizing this celebration.

An Order of Service can be downloaded from the Cathedral website before the event www.westminstercathedral.org.uk.

Congratulations to our 100 Club Winners

Winners for the month of April

1st Prize No. 9 £100/-

Maria Byrne

2nd Prize No 22 £50/-

Dr S Heffernan

Cheques will be in post shortly.

(Numbers are generated by a random number generating website)



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** - 11th May & 18th May at 8 pm (online)

First Holy Communion Programme 2021



The celebration of First Holy Communion will take place on Saturday 17th July.

The course has begun on 17th April and will run over 12 weeks.

Marriage Course 2021



Next marriage course will be at the Oratory on Saturday October 30th. If you would like to book please contact Fr Michael Lang, on michael-lang@rcdow.org.uk St Margaret's alternates with the Oratory in providing Marriage Preparation Courses.

HELLO!



New Parishioners evening

Every few months the Parish holds a New Parishioner meet to welcome those who have arrived in the neighbourhood and have started coming to Mass at St Margarets.

If you are a new parishioner, come and hear about Parish life here at St Margarets and share in our mission as a catholic community.

I look forward to meeting you zoom-wise and speaking in person here at the Church.

Wednesday, 19th May

8.00 pm - 8.45 pm

Please email parish office for joining details.



Children's Liturgy on Zoom; on

alternate Sunday mornings

9:45 – 10:15 am

For children aged 4 – 11 (roughly)



Upcoming dates: May 2 & 16

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.



Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience™ will be streaming on Saturday 1st May at 5:00 GMT.

Join our pilgrimage guide, Deacon Dan Revetto of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for this wonderful experience. The *Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience™* will last about 90 minutes.

Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence for all who take part in the *Lourdes Virtual Pilgrimage Experience™*.

The link to join will be put on the website in due course.

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!