

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT – 27th NOVEMBER 2022 - Year A

In Peter writes: It is hardly surprising that many people are feeling profoundly depressed about the state of the world; climate change; war in Europe again; the country; the NHS; the job market; the rising price of energy. Not much good news on offer. Maybe it is worse now than before. There is certainly more news about than ever before but far from providing insight has created nothing other than a perennial downpour of despair.

Such a background to life can easily make us fail to see the shafts of light, the intimations of the Good News that occasionally illuminate our existence. These were called in the early Church, the seeds of the Word, the Gospel as it were hiding expectantly within the flux of our daily life. Acts of heroism, examples of wisdom, engagements with the beauty of creation and humanity, love, and friendship stand out but every day there are moments of divine light casting its rays, that both create a well of light or identify a pool of shadow. Reflecting on these seeds of the Gospel and their origin points towards something deeper still, that all creation possesses the stamp of the Word made flesh, a way that links each of us to creation. Since creation possesses this human stamp, though it is often wildly distorted through sin is always redeemable through grace. Catching hold of this dynamic, in my own life, and in my world, is the beginning of the journey of faith. Faith brings both hope and sanity to life.

Advent, the short season before Christmas is the opportune time to reflect as to where are the seeds of the Gospel active in our own lives, and where are the shadows cast by these divine rays. Intimations of grace will be turned into reality with the birth of Jesus Christ, who brings hope in Himself. What was a matter of hope will the matter of life on Christmas Eve. At one level the birth of the Christ child affects countless people who might never darken the doors of a church till this child will die and rise again on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. However, some might take this opportunity to reconnect with their faith, of undertaking once more their spiritual journey in an active and not passive way.

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Weekend	Saturday Sunday	10.00 am & 6.00 pm 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6.30pm
Weekdays	Mon, Tue, Wed & Friday	10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Thursday	10.00 am
Rosary	Monday to Saturday	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday Sunday	10:30-11:00am 10.00 – 10.20 am

This is not much new in the Church. St Paul encouraged the Christian community in Rome to re-discover the ardour they possessed when they first converted. So must we in our own times. I hope this first, hopefully Covid free Christmas in three years will be an opportunity to invite back parishioners who have not returned since the end of lockdown. The reasons why they failed to return in such large numbers are academic. What matters is the living community of the Church.

Covid has accelerated the process of secularisation throughout western Europe, by cutting at the roots of community. Isolation, necessary as it was during the peaks of the pandemic, has sadly lingered in working life, in communal life and social life. Now what was taken for granted must be positively engineered or desired.

Today living in a society replete with Christian memory, of buildings, of language, of morals and customs, it has been easy to be lulled into a false sense of spiritual security. Key to this false sense of security in the idea of the perennial parish that will always be there for me, and more widely in society the Christian virtues of forbearance, forgiveness, and reconciliation. Sadly, this is no longer true. Parishes are closing throughout northern England and the tide is fast moving southwards. Often the lack of priests is cited, but the credible explanation is the collapse from within taking place in so many communities, of not feeling the need or relevance to believe. Often, I hear the sentiment expressed that there is nothing of value to assist in my life, but those types of questions give the wrong emphasis which should be on the worship of God in thankfulness for all entails. Christmas allows the best access to this worship of God, through the birth of the infant child.

Thus, Advent is our time to prepare and invite others to do the same by coming back to our Parish. This is our shared missionary endeavour and thank you for your help.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrccchurch.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 Sat 26 Nov – Sun 4 Dec

26/11	Sat	10.00 am	Geny Anderson RIP	Kasia
		6.00 pm	The families of St Margarets Parish	
27/11	Sun	8.30 am	For the Holy Souls	
		10.30 am	Ronald Cooper RIP anniversary	Margaret Watkins
		6.30 pm	John & Rita Lavery and Lynda Ban-Lavery	Gerard Ban-
28/11	Mon	10.00 am	For the Holy Souls	
29/11	Tues	10.00 am	Eileen Winter RIP Anniversary	Winter
30/11	Wed	10.00 am	Kyra Daly RIP recently deceased	Gal-lagher
01/12	Thu	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
02/12	Fri	10.00 am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
03/12	Sat	10.00 am	Works of charity in the neighbourhood	
		6.00 pm	The families of St Margarets Parish	
04/12	Sun	8.30 am	For you the people	
		10.30 am	Bernard Sharratt RIP	Maria Sharratt
		6.30 pm	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Cathy McKendry, Sue Rolph, Rose Blackman, Rachel Rose, Arthur Mathewson, Pat Friel, Mary Regan, Pauline Slawson, Ben, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter Coughlan, 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), Judith Thomas, Allan de Souza, Tony Tucker, Dr Christopher Khoo, John Wood-Collins, Eleanor Drew, Theresa Bulpitt (sister of Margaret Crowe) & Michael Barnes

Anniversaries - Nina Gumbleton, George Noonan, Gertrude Pugh, Michael Ryan, Kathleen Chidzey, Ben Merricks, Eileen Winter, William Dexter, Lucienne Tybershein, Cyril Roberts, Margaret Lydon, Maureen Joseph, Bernard O'Hara, Betty Cameron-Waller, Veronica Flood, Gertrude Ulrich, Nan Cobbing, Monica Scriven, Irena Starzecki

Recently deceased - Mary Maguire RIP

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

Entrance Antiphon:

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.

In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.

Nor let my enemies exult over me;

and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Response to the Psalm:

I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house."

LAS POSADAS 2022

Calling the inn-keepers and pilgrims.



Mary and Joseph's itinerary is now arranged for Advent and they will be setting off on their journey with a blessing at Mass this Sunday.

If you signed up to host the Holy Family but have not yet received an email from Ann, please get in touch. annxedes@gmail.com or 07837 095 837.

HOLY HOUR

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God'. (Phil 4:6)



Please come and join us in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on Friday's – Holy Hour at 8:00 pm ending with Benediction.

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A - 27 NOV 2022

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 121

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A—4 DEC 2022

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 71

Romans 15:4-9

Matthew 3:1-12

Foodbank Collection,
Sunday 11th December – please give generously

Our First Holy Communion families are organising a Foodbank collection for the Foodbank at St Pauls' Church, Hounslow. The Foodbank has supported over 5000 households this year and is experiencing increasing demands as families struggle to cope with rising prices.

Donations required

Milk (UHT/powdered), Breakfast Cereal, Jars Of Pasta Sauces, Pasta & Rice, Baked Beans, Tinned Pulses, Packets Or Tins Of Soup, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Puddings (Sponges, Custard,

Rice Pudding, Angel Delight), Cereal & Porridge, Biscuits And Chocolate, Tinned Fish & Meat, Tinned Vegetables, Fruit Juice (Long Life), Tea, Coffee & Sugar, Baby Wipes & Nappies, Toiletries (Shower Gel, Shampoo, Conditioner, Sanitary Towels, Toothpaste & Toothbrushes), Washing Powder

Please – only tinned or dried food; nothing fresh or perishable.

Please bring your donation to the church hall before or after any Mass on Sunday 11th December. We can't accept donations before this day as there is no storage space.

Thank you for your generosity.



Sharing pictures of our Children's Advent Wreath making session that took place on 13th November. **Come join us after 10.30 am Mass on Sunday 27th November.**



"The Mustard Seed Prayer group

is meeting in the Church Hall for an evening of Praise and Worship on **Saturday 10th December 2022; 19:45** for tea and coffee with a 20:00 start.

Please join us celebrating Advent as we prepare for the coming of the Lord!"



We need helpers to clean the Church, Could you help?

Sat 10TH Dec 2022 , 10.30 am—1.30 pm

Could you spare one hour or so to help spruce up the Church. Lots of small jobs need undertaking. Come for an hour or come for the whole morning. Refreshments provided. Please sign up at the back of the Church or drop a note to the parish office, or even just turn up on the day.



For more information contact via email - stmargaretson-thames@rcdow.org.uk or chat to Patrick Collins & Jimmy Green after Mass. Or reach the parish office: 020 8892 3902.

Fr Peter and the parishioners at St Margarets wish **Maggie Thomson** a Very Happy 80th Birthday on 30th November 2022.

Maggie has been a loyal & selfless member of St Margaret's parish community since 1968

Wish you good health & Happiness!



Congratulations to our 100 Club Winners

Winners for the month of December 2022

1st Prize No. 58 Peter Coghlan £100/-

2nd Prize No 62 Mary Marriage £50/-

(Numbers are generated by a random number generating website)

the **GIFT** a life in the Spirit course

As we gradually begin to turn our attention to Advent and Christmas, come join us as we start to explore "The Gift," a course that will help us develop a much closer personal relationship with God: The Catechism reminds us that we can actually come to know the Father's love like Jesus did while on earth.

'This is the most beautiful moment of any creature's life: to know that one is loved, personally, by God, to feel oneself lifted to the bosom of the Trinity and to find oneself in the flood of love that flows between Father and Son, enfolded in their love, sharing their passionate love for the world.' Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, Come, Creator Spirit.

We will be running the first three sessions of the course before Christmas, on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm starting on November 17th and then 24th November and 1st December. In 2023, we will have the sessions on 12th, 19th & 26th January.

The teachings are relaxed, personal and informative, rooted in the Bible, the Catechism, Evangelii Gaudium and reflections on the Holy Spirit from Pope Francis. Sessions are comprised of a 30 minute video followed by small group discussion over tea and biscuits. Please do join us!

Sixth Form Tours

We have a number of tours to visit the Sixth Form during the College Day before the application deadline of 14th January 2023.

Primary School Tours

St Richard Reynolds Catholic Primary School is delighted to announce a series of Primary Tours starting on the 9th September.

[SRRCC Primary School Tours](#)

High School Tours

High School tours are now complete for this year and will be starting again in May 2023 for September 2024 entry. The deadline to submit application forms for Year 7 entry in September 2023 was 31st October 2022. Should you have any questions,

please contact admissions@srrcc.org.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you to our College soon.

St Anne's Nursery At St James's Catholic Primary School

Places available now for January 2023! The nursery at St James's has everything you would expect for your child's initial experience of education. The children have access to a large open plan learning space that leads directly to a well-resourced outdoor space.

There are many well-documented advantages of sending your child to a nursery provision at a primary school but the most immediately obvious, is the extensive amount of resource available. The nursery is led by our highly experienced practitioner, Mrs Hayes, who has specialised in this area of education for many years. Mrs Hayes and her team of practitioners ensure that the children are immediately recognised for their strengths, nurtured for their individuality and are readied to make the best possible start in their primary education.

Children of St Anne's Nursery really know how to 'Put out into the Deep'. We would love to welcome your child to our nursery. More information is available on our website and we offer prospective parent tours every Friday morning. Call the school office for a space. <https://www.st-james.richmond.sch.uk/> Contact: 02087448860



It is now just nine months until the next World Youth Day celebration in Lisbon. As many of you know, World Youth Day takes place roughly every three years and brings together millions of young Catholics from all over the world with the Holy Father, to be inspired in their faith and experience a deeper sense of the great communion that is the Church. As usual, Westminster Youth Ministry is really excited to be taking a group of young people from our diocese.

The two-week pilgrimage will include "days in the diocese" in Porto before travelling to Fatima and Lisbon.

We are only offering 50 spaces so we really encourage early sign up and preferably by 16 December 2022 when we will close applications. This is mainly because of significant further rises in fees and cost from January 2023.

Find more information and booking forms here: <https://dowym.com/events/world-youth-day-lisbon/>

If you have any questions and would like additional information, we remain at your service. Just get in touch with Phoebe

Prendergast at phoebeprendergast@rcdow.org.uk or Holly Cook at hollycook@rcdow.org.uk



Andrzej Wdowiak, Director, DoW Youth Ministry,