ST MARGARET'S PAGE

4th Sunday of Eastertide – Good Shepherd Sunday 3rd May 2020



Fr Peter writes:

The last six weeks has presented every possible problem, economic, social, spiritual and psychological to the people of this nation and beyond owing to the closing of public life and effects of social distancing. I doubt if anyone knows quite what a post-Covid world will look like, but there is one aspect that might outlast the lifting of lockdown. Before lockdown everyone's lives were controlled by deadlines, some imposed on us, schools, universities, workplaces and others self-imposed clubs, sports and take away food. This no longer holds true. Family and personal diaries remain largely empty and the opposite problem emerges of needing to create one's own timetable to maintain a functional level of personal and family life as well as the maintenance of our general sanity.

The same is true of the practise of our faith. The normal structure of Sunday Mass has disappeared for the moment replaced by Zoom Masses or other internet religious services. Strangely they demand a greater commitment watching from home as the experience lacks the bodily qualities of worshipping together in a shared space. These times are demanding so much more of us, and so ask us to become our own shepherds, taking care of ourselves and thus becoming able to take care of those around us. This may seem counter-intuitive, especially for a Christian who is asked to serve others and deny himself or herself, but like the announcement on an aeroplane about fixing your own mask first before helping anyone else, this makes sense - without a functioning oxygen mask one can help nobody else. These strange days in the Church's life are turning all of us into shepherds as well as being the sheep of traditional imagery.

Every Christian life comprises both the call to become one's own shepherd, and simultaneously become the sheep listening to the voice of the Good Shepherd and benefit from His care. The call to become our own shepherd is not the call to become completely independent and think it possible to worship God in our own way. Jesus is always the gateway to life, and as sheep we recognise His voice. The Christian was never intended to become the mute animal of popular misconception, of passive acceptance or resistance sitting somewhere at the back of Church. The power of the image of 'The Lamb' as painted by so many artists is that though mute in its suffering it once heard its leader's voice. Jesus as the Lamb of God, lived, heard and proclaimed His Father's voice, yet chose to remain silent in His suffering.

The discerning power to hear the appropriate voices is fundamental. It is what children know instinctively, that something is just wrong. This discerning power lies at the base of faith and provides the mandate to create something positive with one's life. This power is the voice of conscience that invites everyone to seek and live the truth. With national and personal life no longer run on auto-pilot the need to become one's own shepherd has become obvious. Now that there is no outside social force commanding you to practice your faith in public, now is the time to choose to worship. The large numbers of parishioners who tune into Sunday Mass at St Margarets, a pattern happening all over the world, such signs demonstrate that though this is a difficult time, the Church is still very much alive with those who wish to be the disciples of Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Juliet Grafton, Mary Reagan, Pauline Slawson, Janet McAllister, Ben, Mark Titmus, 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 and Patricia Parkes, Judith Thomas, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Bernard Sharratt, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Paul Costello and Kevin Sweeney

RECENTLY DECEASED

Donal Dwyer (brother of Mary Ibbett), Rose Mitchell, Anne Nobel, Juliane Ditsche, Antonio Lopes

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like Mass said for your intentions or for the repose of the soul of someone, please contact Cynthia at the Parish Office. She will compile the list which will be published on the Parish website each week.

Fr Peter offers up the Sunday Mass for the intentions of all the Parish, but Masses may be said for specific intentions from Monday to Saturday.

MASSES FOR FRONTLINE CARERS AND THE SICK

Every Thursday evening, at 7pm, a bishop, in turn, will celebrate Mass in his cathedral, live streamed, for all those frontline workers in the NHS and care homes, for the sick and their families.

The dates, locations and live-streaming information (link in the name of the cathedral) for the next five Masses have also been announced. They are as follows:

30 April: Bishop Richard Moth, Arundel Cathedral

7 May: Bishop Marcus Stock, Leeds Cathedral

14 May: Bishop Robert Byrne CO, Newcastle Cathedral

21 May: Bishop Mark Davies, Shrewsbury Cathedral

28 May: Bishop Terence Drainey, Middlesbrough Cathedral

THE FINANCIAL WELFARE OF ST MARGARET'S

The St Margaret's Virgin Money Giving is now live. You can donate via the "Donate Now" button on the parish website under Support us, or via the link above. This is a secure method for giving.

Even if you are only able to donate less than you might normally do, every gift is valuable.

Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

PENTECOST CARDS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LYNDE HOUSE

The production of the Easter Cards and the matching of helpers to housebound has become part of the attempt to establish some inter-generational contact and thus reinforce the bonds of the Parish community. The present crisis will not last forever and these efforts now point the way the Parish should move in the future when we are allowed back together in Church.

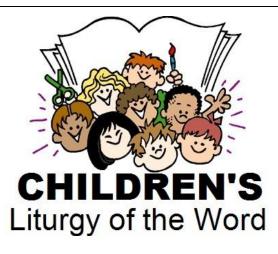
Over the next few weeks I would like to ask the children of the Parish to create some Pentecost cards for the Care Home in St Margaret's Parish, Lynde House. The Signup sheet that will allocate a residents' name to a particular child will be published soon. There are approximately 75 residents in Lynde House so this is a mighty project but I am sure one that is manageable.

I have received lots of grateful emails for the Easter cards sent out a few weeks ago. They were all much appreciated by both housebound parishioners and residents in the Care Home in Ham.



LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

CAFOD are offering a webinar of a Liturgy of the Word with Children at home. Parents and children are encouraged to join online for prayers and reflection on this Sunday's Gospel. It is based on CAFOD children's liturgy resources. The link to register is: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/ register/5095942131288155403



After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

For family support, TenTen are also making freely available resources for families, called Prayers for Home, which include 'Sunday Liturgy for Families' and 'Daily Prayers for Home'

https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/ prayers-for-home/sunday-liturgy-for-families/

https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/ prayers-for-home/daily-prayers-for-home/

Please find the link to **LOOK**, color in sheets to find what is in the Gospel today. https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/regular-downloads-catholic-rt2x

Marriage Week 2020



11th – 17th May is the week that is nationally set aside to celebrate commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage. The theme this year is "*The Forever Conversation,*" recognising the need for continual open communication to enable a marriage to be long lasting. Marriage Encounter is working in partnership with Marriage Week UK to promote events and celebrate marriage.

For more information see link below

https://marriage-week.org.uk/ OR https://wwme.org.uk/

and https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7aPwW6AIOVszW3yjFlbrOA/



TEACHING ASSISTANT – Required September 2020 Monday – Friday - term time only 8.30am to 3pm Sc1 FTE £17,364 plus £874 fringe, (pro-rata £11,431.27 plus £575.38, totalling £12,006.65)

Are you interested in supporting Students with Special Educational needs in a main stream setting?

Would you like to develop your skills in a supportive, friendly and experienced team?

Are you a Graduate looking for Teaching Experience?

Do you have aspirations to go into Teaching?

Are you in 6th Form and not sure what to do next year?

St Paul's is one of the most successful schools in the country and our GCSE results are in the top 10% nationally.

We are seeking to appoint Teaching Assistants to work as part of our experienced team. We are looking to recruit candidates who will provide a strong and positive role model for children with emotional and social difficulties.

Duties will include supporting students with Special Education Needs in their learning, both in the classroom and one to one. You will have an ability to support students by differentiating work, pre-learning key words and explaining tasks. You will need to be patient, understanding and capable of establishing a good rapport with a wide variety of people, particularly children and teachers. ICT skills are required. Previous experience or an interest in teaching would be an advantage.

St Paul's offers local government pension scheme, subsidised nursery and the possibility of accommodation and provides a caring school environment for staff and students.

Application packs are available at <u>www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk</u>. Completed applications should be sent to: <u>jobs@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk</u>. If you require further information regarding the role please contact Mrs De Rosa at <u>mderosa@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk</u>. CV's will not be accepted as applications.

Suitable candidates will be contacted upon application.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced disclosure check by the Disclosure and Barring Service.





LAY CHAPLAIN - Full time/Part time Required September 2020 Term time only - 39 weeks a year Sc28 £31,371 plus fringe of £874 per annum (full time equivalent)

St Paul's is one of the most successful schools in the country and our GCSE results are in the top 10% nationally. We seek to appoint a highly motivated and enthusiastic Chaplain to work at this fantastic school.

We are looking for a professional who:-

- Is a baptised practising Catholic.
- Supports the spiritual wellbeing of students and staff regardless of faith or belief.
- Will have good social skills, both with young people and also with adults (parents and staff), showing flexibility where needed, but also the accountability and a high degree of reliability and formal organisation required in a school context.
- Will have a good sense of the Church's Liturgy and be able to recruit and enthuse large numbers of students to take part in school worship. Competence in music would be a welcome skill.
- Will be confident in leading large and small, formal and informal, groups of pupils and adults.
- Will be an articulate speaker with presence and the ability to present, credibly and enthusiastically, the challenges of the Gospel.
- Will have good administrative and organisational skills, including scheduling events, making bookings, arranging itineraries and timetables, obtaining and conserving resources, delegating responsibilities and providing clear briefings and instructions.
- Will have the freedom and willingness to work flexibly, including in the evenings and weekends, and to arrange your working days and hours to ensure you have entitlement time off, but are available for school events and activities as needed.
- Will develop and maintain links with local communities, other schools, churches and charities.
- Will attend where possible the Upper Thames Deanery to represent St Paul's Catholic College.
- Will attend a Chaplains' Conference where possible throughout the year.

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Completed applications should be sent to: jobs@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk.

If you require further information regarding the role please contact Mrs De Rosa at <u>mderosa@st-</u> <u>pauls.surrey.sch.uk</u>. CV's will not be accepted as applications.

Closing date: Monday 11 May 2020 at 9am

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