

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 30 JANUARY 2022 - Year C

In Peter writes:

Great claims were made during the late 18th century and beyond about the power of human reason. Clear-sighted thought, un-encumbered by the prejudices of religion, would be able to grasp the truth of reality. Contemporary advances in the sciences, especially those that seemed to touch on the truth of the Bible, geology and biology, seemed to have answered questions that had been only answered through myth and revelation.

Now as the Covid pandemic continues its fitful decline the aftermath has raised serious questions about the reach and power of reason. Scientific advances have made creating a vaccine possible but that has been coupled with the widespread reluctance to accept these advances as being beneficial. There are many reasons given for vaccine refusal, from the serious to the infantile, but what each explanation shares is the profound distrust in scientific discovery. The reasons for this remain obscure, but I believe, go back to the Enlightenment's attempts to turn religion into a private, and thus in-communicable issue. Religious faith is never just a private matter because it is communicated by a shared language of words, insights, symbols, rituals and essentially communication from God. What is largely forgotten in the abandonment of religion is that it provides a total explanation of reality, not simply an explanation of a single part. Scientific discovery and theory sit within this wider vision, as part of humanity's drive to understand reality.

Placing reason and science on a public pedestal does not insulate them from the moral questions that might be asked of motivation for such reasoning. This is a new human world not God's world, and knowing humanity from the inside, as it were, makes people rightly suspicious. Without God, human thought, as well as scientific and political thinking become the victims of the culture of suspicion. This explains the ubiquity of conspiracy theories about the vaccine programme and everything else too. QAnon is the current political form of the conspiracy theory. Secularists rail against the unjust quality of God's world but the same and more may be said about the quality of the human world too.

Religious faith does not have to deny the power of scientific discovery nor its ability to change lives for the better, because religion seeks to grasp all reality as God's, the scientific, the artistic, the immaterial and spiritual. Possessing an implicit understanding of the whole, and humanity's place within it, makes it possible to give due proportion to the foibles of others and of oneself too. When Jesus was asked to judge about

Mass Times & Liturgical Services (29/1 – 6/2)

Saturday	10.00 am	
Sunday	8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6.30 pm	
Mass	Monday, Wednesday & Thursday	10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Friday	10.00 am
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thur & Friday	
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00 – 10.20 am

some unfortunate sinner, explained to the mob, that whoever was without sin throw the first stone.

A world based on shrunken knowledge and endemic suspicion has become very angry. Whatever happened in Downing Street regarding social events might be hypocritical in the light of legal restrictions of the time, but the reaction is much worse. The law is there to be followed, but one follows the law not because others do not but because it is the correct course of action. Much of the vitriol exists because of the failure to recognise that personal judgement led to breaking the restrictions in individual circumstances while at the same time keeping to the general tenor of the legislation. The hysterical reaction betrays the guilty conscious of the authoritarian. The incident between the sinner and Jesus concluded with the words, 'go away and do not sin anymore'. Life continued at a lower octane level. Mercy does not include saying everything is OK nor of abandoning the law, but of seeing both the law and human fallibility are part of one reality.

Modern culture betrays its secular intolerance by becoming a public lynch mob railing against anyone that breaks a public taboo while those braying individuals engage in that taboo itself. Reason without religion consumes itself, and what is left behind are the shrill tones of authoritarians lecturing the rest on issues that would pass quickly were they treated differently. Most of us would be hard-pressed to recite the scandals of governments from the last 40 years, yet at the time it seemed of the utmost importance and acres of newspaper given over to their dissection. Now they have become just a footnote in a larger narrative. Christian faith, on the other hand, sees the whole as God's world, that reason possesses its rightful place, and that the moral law is tied to mercy, because that remains the only way to unite obligation and fallibility.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrccchurch.co.uk

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 29/1 – Sun 06/2

29/01	Sat	10.00am	Yvonne Hilder recently deceased	Kenneth James
30/01	Sun	8.30 am	Irene Starzecki RIP	Jean McGinley
		10.30am	Brendan Sugrue RIP anniversary	Catherine Sugrue
		6.30 pm	Francesco Signorini on his birthday	
31/01	Mon	10.00 am	Sue Rolph	Teresa & Chris Smith
01/2	Tues	2.20 pm	Funeral Mass for Irena Starzecki RIP	
02/2	Wed	10.00 am	Elena	
03/2	Thu	10.00 am	Kathleen Cassidy RIP anniversary	Margaret Roberts
04/2	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
05/2	Sat	10.00am	For you the people	
06/2	Sun	8.30 am	Jo Heffernan RIP anniversary	Su Slattery
		10.30am	John & Rita Lavery and Lynda Ban-Lavery	Gerard Ban-Lavery
		6.30 pm	Margaret Quinn RIP	Geraldine Quinn

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Sue Rolph, Rose Blackman, Stanislaw Wozniak, Adriana Posse de González (Valeria's Mum), Rachel Rose, Fr Paul Bigirwa, 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, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Kevin Sweeney, Christopher Cousins, & Judith Thomas

Anniversaries - Bishop Gerald Mahon, Fr. Stephen Hinde, Molly Weare, Martin Leahy, Howard Bingham, Frank Sparlis, Cesarina Grecas, Harry Proctor, Mary Mangan, Millicent de Lord, Edwin Atkinson, Veronica Pierce, Rosamund Chalkley, Gertrude Mason

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed

through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen



Entrance Antiphon:

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

Response to the Psalm:

My lips will tell of your help.

Irene Starzecki RIP

Funeral for Irene will take place at St Margaret's Church on Tuesday, 1st February at 2.20 pm. Tea and coffee will be served after Mass and everyone is welcome. Burial will take place at 4pm at Mortlake Crematorium.



The family has requested instead of flowers, if donations could kindly be made towards the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you

St Margaret's Youth Choir

Starting 13 of Feb, 2nd Sunday of the month to coincide with Children's Liturgy, Mark Underwood will be developing a Youth Choir for those aged 8 – 13 years.



If your son or daughter would like to join our new venture, please contact the parish office and turn up at 10.00 clock Sunday 13th February.

I really hope this venture will be a success in the years to come.

**COME JOIN US for our much loved
tea afternoons
that take place every alternate
Wednesday from
2.00 pm - 3.30 pm.**



HOLD THE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February 9th & 23rd & March 9th & 23rd

All are welcome. Please feel free to bring along a friend or a neighbour.

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 30 JAN 2022	Jeremiah 1:4-5. 17-19	Psalm 70	1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:13	Luke 4:21-30
5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 6 FEB 2022	Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalm 137	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11

Sacramental Programmes

Baptism

The next available Baptism course is as below:

March 8th & 15th 2022

Should you wish to have your child baptised in this parish, attendance at these courses is compulsory. Please either speak to Fr Peter after Mass or contact the parish office.



First Holy Communion 2022

Sessions are now underway. **Applications have now closed for the year.** Please contact the parish office if you have any queries.



Confirmation 2022

The course has now commenced. If anyone is looking to receive Confirmation, please contact the parish office for more information.



Marriage Preparation



The next course will run at St Margaret's on **Saturday 9th April 2022**. Please contact the parish office to register.

Courses at The Brompton Oratory - **Sat 5th March and Saturday 21st May 2022**. Kindly contact Fr Michael Lang (michaellang@rcdow.org.uk) for further details.

Lenten Project 2022



As part of our programme of outreach activities, every year during Lent, the parish chooses one (or two) charities to be a focus for our almsgiving. Last year the parish raised £6,000 for Richmond Furniture Scheme, to provide essential household basics for those moving into accommodation following homelessness or difficult domestic situations.

The parish pastoral council now invites nominations from charities that would like to be considered as beneficiaries of St Margaret's Lenten Project 2022. The proposer should be a parishioner of St Margaret's and involved in some way with the suggested charity.

Please email the parish office for a nomination form.

Deadline for nominations: Monday 7th February.

The sponsors of the charities that are shortlisted will be required to make a short presentation about their project at all Masses on Sunday Feb 13th. Voting will take place shortly afterwards.

Thank you,

The Parish Pastoral Council

REPAIR CAFE

Twickenham Repair Café

"Twickenham Repair Cafe" in St Margaret's Hall



ONLY 3 WEEKS TO GO



We are very excited to announce that we are kicking off our new Repair Cafe with a soft launch on Saturday 19th February 2022 in the church hall from 10:30 to 13:30. After that we will be there on the third Saturday of each month.

We will be covering repairs to: clothes, textiles, household and garden electrical, knitting repairs and tips, mechanical, ceramics, radios, bikes - adult and kids, and will have a plant hospital, glueing things station and a "Kids take it apart" table. So dig out all your treasures that you would love to have repaired and bring them along.

Any questions just give me a shout on: colinmessenger1@gmail.com.



We now need volunteers to help us on the day, 19th February as welcomers, guiders, servers at the cafe, overseeing the Kids assembly table etc. Please let us know on the email given above.

On behalf of: Twickenham Repair Cafe Team.
Pat, Gavin, David, Cliff, Joe & Colin

Looking for a party venue?

The newly refurbished church hall, kitchen and bar facilities, with access to the lovely outdoor space, are available for hire during the day and at weekends.



£125 for a 4-hour booking for children's birthday parties. Some slots for regular weekday bookings are available - rates on application.

Please contact the parish office: 020 8892 3902

stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk



306 Richmond Road,
Twickenham, TW1 2PD
www.crosswaypregnancy.org.uk
Charity number: 1148979

Baby Loss.....Feelings of no.....



Crossway Pregnancy Crisis Centre in Twickenham is running an 8 week baby loss support programme for couples starting from February 2022.

The programme will be facilitated by two experienced and trained facilitators. Plus it will provide a safe space where couples feel supported and are able to share their feelings, thoughts and emotions around their journey of loss.

A Couples Baby Loss Program starting in February 2022

8 Gentle Steps to explore the painful journey of:

- Struggling to understand
- Working through strong emotions & feelings
- Sharing your similar experience with other couples
- With experienced and trained counselling facilitators....Free & Confidential

.....To find out more:

Please call: 020 8892 8483/ Text 07776 482350

Email: mandy.brockwell@crossway.care

Visit: www.crosswaypregnancy.org.uk

(Full COVID guidelines followed)

Refreshments will be provided along with lots of tender loving care.

You are invited to join pilgrims of all ages for a one time only Scripture Festival, organised by the Agency for Evangelisation in the beautiful setting of St Albans Cathedral. There will be a wide variety of activities, events and different ways to explore and experience the God Who Speaks. The Scripture Festival will be open from 10 am—4 pm on Thursday and Friday and from 10 am—3.30 pm on Saturday. To find out more and book on the free events please visit: <https://rcdow.org.uk/scripturefestival/> or find us on Facebook@[TheGodWhoSpeaksScriptureFestival](https://www.facebook.com/TheGodWhoSpeaksScriptureFestival) and Instagram: [@ScriptureFestival](https://www.instagram.com/ScriptureFestival)

For more information please visit <https://rcdow.org.uk/scripturefestival/whats-on/>



Princess Alice Hospice is holding the below dates for **Bereavement Support Training courses** for anyone who would be interested. Each course is for two full days.



Day	Date	Time
Friday DAY 1	4th Feb 2022	10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Friday DAY 2	11th Feb 2022	10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Friday DAY 1	17th June 2022	10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Friday DAY 2	24th June 2022	10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Friday DAY 1	14th Oct 2022	10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Friday DAY 2	21st Oct 2022	10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Sally

Community Bereavement Support Co-ordinator

Direct line: 01372 461996

CHORISTER OPPORTUNITIES
AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL



Every September Westminster Cathedral Choir School welcomes upto six choristers into Year 4. Are there any boys with music potential, in Years 2 or 4 who might be interested?

We have 2 Golden Tickets available which will be given on a first come first serve basis. Kindly contact Director of Admissions, Miss Lucy Auger.

Email—office@choirschool.com

New Year's Resolution – Volunteer for CAFOD



A vital aspect of church is people being willing to share their talents, experience and energy. Could your New Year's resolution be volunteering for CAFOD? We have lots of different ways you can get involved such as:

- **In the parish** - where you will be highlighting CAFOD's work to support communities globally who are living with injustices and in poverty.
- **In local schools** – where you'll deliver assemblies and workshops about CAFOD's work. No experience necessary. Full support, resources and regular training provided. DBS Check & references part of application.
- **Coordinating volunteers** to help us support, encourage and bring together a small group of volunteers.

If you'd like to know more, please get in touch with Tony tsheen@cafod.org.uk Tony Sheen, Community Participation Co-ordinator -CAFOD