# ST MARGARET'S PAGE

### 31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 30 OCTOBER 2022 - Year C

In Peter writes:

Next Saturday the 2022-2023 First Holy Communion Class

will begin and with it a new season of hope that another generation will experience the joy of receiving Holy Communion and engage fully in the dynamic of the Mass. The course book used by the catechists begins with this Sunday's Gospel, of Jesus wishing to stay at Zacchaeus' house that evening. Much to the surprise of the crowds Jesus chooses to stay which someone whose profession of tax-collecting was anathema to the local population. Jesus does not validate the profession of tax-collecting but sees in Zacchaeus someone in need of His saving presence. By extension Jesus wishes to stay with us too.

Just as Jesus chooses to stay with Zacchaeus, so He desires to come to us. So the same dynamic applies to the Mass, and through the celebration of the Eucharist, Jesus wishes to stay with us through the reception of Holy Communion. This is the direct offer of Jesus to each of us, and to each of the children beginning their First Holy Communion. The preparation course is designed to understand that we wish to see Jesus too, and we need to allow Jesus to stay with us.

Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, so he makes every effort to do so by climbing the tree to look over the heads of those in front of him. Climbing the tree might be seen as an image of making the effort to participate in Mass every Sunday. Every year I hope that some more of the families whose children have been prepared might still find 'climbing the tree' and participating in Mass a key moment of reflection and renewal in the busy week. Sad to say that in a good year may be between 5 and 8 come back out of 25 to 30 who originally participated. The traction discovered during the course does not remain, easily blown away by the cares of life and the idolatry of constant activity.

If every family whose children had received First Holy Communion and Confirmation over the last six years were still coming to St Margarets there would easily be another 300 here each Sunday. weekly parish numbers would double. Lapsed Catholics form a substantial group here in the neighbourhood and they should become the focus of our evangelisation and invitation to return. My hope is that most families will receive, through the post, a personal card inviting them to the Church over Advent and Christmas.

Most Catholics fear evangelisation. They see it as the

Mass Times & Liturgical Services			<b>V</b>	
Weekend	Saturday	10.00 am		
	Sunday	8:30 am, 10:3	0 am & 6.30	pm
Weekdays	Mon, Tue, Wed & Friday		10.00 am	
Eucharistic Service	Thurs		10.00 am	
Rosary	Monday to Saturday		9.30 am	
Confessions	Saturday		10:30-11:00am	
	Sunday		10.00 – 10	.20 am

religious version of being told what to do, something no-one liked outside the world of the family or work. Yet what strikes me about Zacchaeus is that no-one told him to see Jesus, he just wanted to because he knew he needed to do so. Potentially meeting Jesus embodied in a confused manner, all his hopes. Zacchaeus had no fully worked out plan, only that the meeting with Jesus would somehow change his life. This transformation Zacchaeus' conduct, as for us, comes later. Only after Jesus expressed His wish to stay did Zacchaeus offer to give away his fortune and recompense anyone he had defrauded. Returning to Mass the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ as Mass will transform us too. Receiving His full biography in Holy Communion, is to receive His life for us. Receiving Jesus gives us hope; it might help solve some knotty problem, shed some merciful light in dark recesses of our hearts, or make us appreciate what we already possess; 'to see the good things of the Lord'.

Our life journey might not change as dramatically as Zacchaeus', but the powerful presence of Jesus as supernatural food for the journey of life does foster change. We would not be the same people if we never went to Church. What one discovers at Church is that the shared meaning of life has supernatural origins, that meaning is made known to the Christian through Jesus Christ.

Zacchaeus sort of knew that, and he wanted to belong. Jesus was his access to this shared meaning. He experienced the alienation of secular culture and saw that it cut away at the shared meaning of life as the primary experience of humanity. Recognising his desire to belong changed his understanding of his own personal responsibility. This is our invitation to those who have for one reason or another stopped coming on a Sunday. The Church is true antidote to the alienation experienced all too easily in today's culture of personal entitlement, personal advancement, and personal satisfaction alone. We offered a shared meaning that gives the personal its life-giving setting.

#### Mass Intentions Sat 29 Oct - Sun 6 Nov 29/10 Sat 10.00 am Works of charity in the neighbour-8.30 am 30/10 Sun Kathleen Ban-Simon Bannister nister RIP 10.30 am Anthony Cunning-John Cunningham RIP ham Gerard Ban-6.30 pm John & Rita Lavery and Lynda Ban-Lavery 31/10 10.00 am Mon Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church 1/11 Tues 10.00 am intercession of members of the Communion of Saints 6.00 pm intercession of members of the 2/11 Wed 10.00 am Deceased members of St Margarets Parish 3/11 Thu 10.00 am **Eucharistic Service** 4/11 Fri 10.00 am Matt Cornelia Ann Edes 5/11 Sat 10.00 am For the Holy Souls 6.30 pm The families of St Margarets Parish 6/11 Sun 8.30 am For you the people 10.30 am Madie RIP Mercedes & Chris 6.30 pm For the Holy Souls

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Cathy McKendry, Olga Romero, 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.

<u>Anniversaries</u> - Leonard Collins, Cecilia Sykes, Nuala Persson, Kathleen Dwyer, Lily Ashton, Peter Argent, Dan Fitzgibbon, Toby Watkins, Harold Bearman, James Gumbleton, Jeff Walsh, Bridget Collis, Archibold Lowe, Marie Wright

**Recently deceased** - Ann Ratcliffe RIP (Cousin of Olga McLoughlin)

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

### **Entrance Antiphon:**

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;

be not far from me!

Make haste and come to my help,

O Lord, my strong salvation!

#### Response to the Psalm:

I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

### Mass arrangement

**Tuesday, November 1st**, All Saints day - Mass will take place at 10.00 am & 6.00 pm

Also, Mass at St Mary's University will take place at 1.05 pm

SATURDAY EVENING MASS will commence on 12th November, 6.00 pm. This Mass is for the First Holy Communion children but others are welcome to attend. It will run till 6th May 2023 other than Christmas break and half term.

### Sacramental Programmes

Sacramental preparations are open for parishioners and those who attend Mass regularly at St Margaret's.

#### **Baptism**

Our November course dates - 18th & 25th November 2022.

#### First Holy Communion 2023

If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, please speak to Fr Peter after any Mass that you attend. The closing date for applications is 16th October 2022.

#### **Confirmation 2023**

Applications are now open for the Confirmation 2023 course. Kindly speak to Fr Peter or Deacon Joseph after any weekend Mass that you attend.

### **Marriage Preparation course**

St Margaret's will hold a course in the first half of 2023. The London Oratory will have their marriage preparation

day on Saturday 5th November.

For further information on courses at The Brompton Oratory Kindly contact Fr Michael Lang (michaellang@rcdow.org.uk)

31ST SUNDAY IN OT - 30 OCT 2022 Wisdom 11:22-12:2 Psalm 144 2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2 Luke 19:1-10 32ND SUNDAY IN OT - 6TH NOV 22 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14 Psalm 16 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5 Luke 20:27-38

## St Margaret's Forthcoming events



Monday, 7th November - New parishioners evening taking place on Zoom at 8.00 pm. Invitations will be sent out shortly and the joining details will be emailed to you nearing the event. Please contact the Parish Office via email if you are interested.



## Sunday, 13th November at 2.00 pm

Blessing of the graves Twickenham cemetery, Hospital Bridge Rd, Twickenham TW2 6LD



Sunday, 20th November 10.30 am Mass Feast day of St Margaret's

There will be a shared lunch in the hall after Mass. All are welcome.

## Flower arranging

May we invite anyone in the parish who might be interested in helping with



the flower arrangement from time to time at Church. You will be given basic training. Please get in touch with the parish office.



## A very Happy Birthday to Rose Blackman

Who will be turning **80** on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022.



A Parishioner at St Margarets for over 50 years.



Fr Peter, along with the parishioners at St Margarets wish her good health & happiness always.

British Summer Time ends – A reminder that the clock

goes back 1 hour at 2:00am on



Sunday, 30th October.

### **Coffee & Croissants**

Sunday November 6th Do stay to join us after 8:30 am Mass



Advent Wreath making activity for children after the 10.30 am Mass on

Sunday 13th November & Sunday 27th November



## Advent wreath making evening in the Church hall

Saturday 26th November, 8pm till 10pm £22 pp to cover the cost of materials.



We will be making a traditional wreath in oasis with foliage, berries, candles etc.

All materials will be provided along with a glass of mulled wine and mince pie.

Places need to booked and paid in advance to ensure we can provide all the materials.

This is not a tutorial it is just a nice get together to celebrate the start of Advent.

Limited spaces available. Please contact the office if you wish to book and arrange payment.

## The Mulberry Centre

The Mulberry Centre is a cancer information and support centre based at the West Middlesex hospital. We are welcoming them to have an information stall in the hall on <u>Sunday 6th November</u>, after both the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses to share information about the free services they provide and how they can support cancer sufferers and their families. Please drop by to chat with them.

## PLEASE SUPPORT THE SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

The Sick & Retired Priests' collection is next week

The second collection next week will be for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. By supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you can help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met.

This is our chance to say thank you to our sick and retired priests who have given so much. You will find a donation envelope at the back of the church today. Please take one home, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. You can donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online.



Caritas Social Action Network, in partnership with St John of God Hospitaller Services, an international Catholic charity with many services for the vulnerable in the UK and Ireland, have launched a service to bring together Ukrainian people displaced by the brutal war in their country with people in the Catholic community willing to host them in their homes for six months. Once the match is confirmed the Ukrainian guest can apply for their visa. We know that coping with the cost-living-crisis will be the main concern for many people this winter, but if you have room in your home and in your heart to consider welcoming a stranger displaced by war, then we'd love to from you. Please visit https://sjoghomesforukraine.uk/ for more information.

Thank you,

Raymond Friel, CEO, Caritas Scoak Action Network



## 3rd Saturday of every month

2.30—4.00 pm at St Margarets Church Hall, 130 St

Margarets Road, Twickenham TW1 1RL

Everyone experiences grief in a unique way.

The Bereavement Café is a place to meet others who have had similar experiences to your own.

It is somewhere you can speak freely and share stories with others coping with losing a loved one.

Want to join.. Call this number for any enquiries 07547 976 953



## Winners for the month of October 2022

1st Prize No. 16 Patricia Friel £100/-

2nd Prize No 10 Ann Edes £50/-

(Numbers are generated by a random number generating website)

## mary's meals



a simple solution to world hunger

Mary's Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity.

We spoke at the end of each Mass last weekend and were delighted with the donations we were given – £183.60.

As a result 11 children will be fed one good meal every day in their place of education for a whole school year.

Please continue to pray for our work and if interested in volunteering (e.g we always need people to speak at the end of Mass) then email

gerrard.mcmahon@marysmeals.org

God bless you all.
Thank you for all your support,
Gerrard