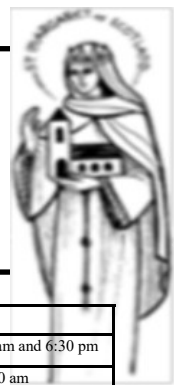


ST MARGARET'S PAGE

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31st January 2021 Year B



In Peter writes: Last Wednesday marked National Holocaust Memorial Day when we are asked to remember the tragic events that led to the murder of six million Jews during the Second World War. The scattering of survivors is itself part of a minute fragment of those that survived their incarceration in the concentration camps. There have been many acts of genocide, brutal in their intensity, since the Second World War especially in Cambodia and Rwanda, but they all lacked the industrialisation of death that marked the Holocaust.

Christian history has been marked by periodic bouts of anti-Semitism, expulsions from England, Spain and other European countries. Religion here being used as the cloak around envy at perceived economic success, their difference and role in the death of Jesus. The Holocaust was on a different scale utilising the bureaucratic instruments and post-Christian ideology about the role of the state. Pagan cults centred around the nation, nature and the people replaced the Churches as worldwide, multinational and humane institutions. Yet what made the Holocaust become possible was the public acceptance fifteen years earlier of this political ideology in the economic depression of the 1920s along with the passive acceptance of latent anti-Semitism as being normal.

When I visited Auschwitz with a group of parishioners I could hardly comprehend, gazing upon the four demolished gas ovens what had brought European culture to this point. How could the land of Goethe and Beethoven descend to this barbarity? The landscape of the brick piers of the former huts in serried ranks stretching out in different directions, the railway marshalling yards, the workshops and old barracks combined to make the place look like a disused 19th century industrial complex overtaken by technological advance. This deceptively calm landscape was the landscape of death and the local museum testified to the human suffering. A number of the rooms contained large glass boxes filled with spectacles taken by the guards on arrival along with small travelling cases and other personal mementos, material signs of life and hope, cruelly brought to a barbaric end. Here were the signs of humanity sacrificed and it made a poignant contrast to the inhumanity of the enterprise.

No-one will ever know quite why this tragedy was allowed to unfold in all its details. There are obvious culprits in the Nazi Party, and those who actively subscribed to its ideology. Yet what of the thousands involved, each in some small way, in this process of human destruction, those who passively subscribed to Hitler's message of national renewal, those who prejudices blinded them to the suffering involved, and those who cared not to listen.

The antidote to this or similar happening again is never

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Sunday		8:30 am, 10:30 am and 6:30 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday		10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Friday	10.00 am
Adoration	Saturday	10:30 am - 11:00am
Rosary	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Sat (via Zoom) (please email the office for link)	9.30 am
Confessions	Saturday Sunday	10:30-11:00am 10:00-10:20am

going to be provided by legislation alone, but only through the conversion of minds and hearts, that we may see the pain of the world, and actively participate in constructing and maintaining a civilised society. This is becoming increasingly difficult, not simply because of the threat of resurgent totalitarianism but more because western culture has become unable to make collective moral judgements about right and wrong. Pope Francis described the role of education as the place to learn the grammar of dialogue. Grammar is the shared resource for anyone speaking the same language and vital for communication. Western culture is finding this process difficult, assertion whether on internet platforms, in the media or even from ourselves has taken over from reason. Recent events here and in the US demonstrate the difficulty in finding the 'grammar of dialogue' and thus establishing common ground.

Here the Church has a unique role. At the heart of faith is the recognition that Jesus Christ reveals men and women to themselves, both as their Saviour and as role model. Jesus reveals both the situation from which we are emerging in faith, from dark into the light, and the destiny to which we are called, the kingdom of heaven, a foretaste of which may be glimpsed in the visible society of the Church. Life for the believer becomes a project, and not the assertion of identity over everyone else. The assertion of identity, of culture, and political preferences, and the demands for recognition is no prelude to dialogue with others, and instead is often the source of so much mental anxiety. When these deep-seated needs for dialogue are not met the slow decent into self-righteousness, condemnation of others may lead to forming with like-minded individuals an echo chamber of resentment that in turn moves to violence. Totalitarian regimes around the world would have no traction if there were not millions ready to see in that ideology a cure for their personal malaise. This is one lesson from the Holocaust, and by always emphasising the grammar of dialogue the Church can make a stand against such happening again.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: stmargaretonthames@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: Parish Office is closed. Emails are checked regularly.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 30th January – Sunday 7th February

30 Jan	Sat	10.00 am	Sr Elizabeth Emmett RIP	Maz & Bernard
31 Jan	Sun	8.30 am	Desmond McGinley RIP	Maz & Bernard
		10.30 am	For the recovery of Christopher Cousins	Philip Graney
		6.30 pm	Desmond McGinley RIP	Kathryn McGuinness
1 Feb	Mon	10.00 am	Pat Doyle RIP	Maz & Bernard
2 Feb	Tue	10.00 am	In Thanksgiving; intentions of the O'Leary family	Ann Edes
3 Feb	Wed	10.00 am	Mgr Mark Langham RIP	Helen Blake
4 Feb	Thur	10.00 am	Elizabeth Jenkinson RIP	Mary Gallagher
5 Feb	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
6 Feb	Sat	10.00 am	For the recovery of Cora Fitzgerald	Greta Gallagher
7 Feb	Sun	8.30 am	Desmond McGinley RIP	Greta Gallagher
		10.30 am	Hernando López RIP and family	Lily McCaw
		6.30 pm	John McHugh RIP 2nd Anniversary	Lisa McDermott

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Mo Walker, Stanislaw Wozniak, Adriana Posse de González (Valeria's Mum), Rachel Rose, Fr Paul Bigirwa, Patricia Mary Picton (Mary), 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 and Patricia Parkes, Judith Thomas, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Bernard Sharratt, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga) and Kevin Sweeney, Cora Fitzgerald (Greta's sister), Christopher Cousins

Recently deceased – Anthony (Anton) Barber RIP, David Barchard RIP, Desmond McGinley RIP, Father David Palmer RIP (Isleworth Parish), Monsignor Mark Langham RIP, Pat Doyle RIP, Sr Elizabeth Emmett RIP, Hernando López RIP

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

Anniversaries - 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, John McHugh

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:

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'



Current arrangement for Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday
at 10.00 am (streamed on YouTube)

Eucharistic Service on Friday's
at 10.00 am (not streamed)

Sunday Mass as normal
8.30 am
10.30 am (streamed) (Bookings via website)
6.30 pm.

Rosary on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday at
9.30 am (join via Zoom)

Government guidelines allow Churches to remain open for worship.

31 January - 4th Sunday in OT	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9	1 Corinthians 7:32-35	Mark 1:21-28
7 February - 5th Sunday in OT	Job 7:1-4,6-7	Psalm 146(147):1-6	1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23	Mark 1:29-39



Dates for Pre Baptism Course 2021

Session 1 & 2

23rd February & 2nd March

Session 1 & 2

11th May & 18th May

Please contact the parish office via email for more information.

First Holy Communion Sessions 2021

The session will now start after half term on **Saturday 27th February**. This will mean that the date for the celebration of First Holy Communion will have to move from May to July, in order to make sure there is enough time to prepare your child.



The revised date for First Holy Communion will now be Saturday 3rd July.

Confirmation 2021

The Confirmation course, for those in Year 9 and above will begin on **Saturday 27th February at 5:15pm followed by Mass**.



This year the Course is being led by Deacon Joseph Estorninho, Joseph Kilsby, a recent graduate from St Marys and Kirsten Roy, long standing parishioner.

If you would like to participate please contact Fr Peter at the Parish Office to obtain an application form.

Marriage Course

The next Marriage Preparation Course will take place here at St Margarets on **Saturday 27th March**, either in person, if permissible, or on-line. The cost of the day-long course is either £80 per couple (if held in person) or £50 per couple (if held on line). A decision as to the form of the course will be taken at the beginning of March.



Interested in becoming a Catholic?



The Parish will be running a set of meetings starting Tuesday 26th January from 7:30pm to 8:45pm. We will use the Alpha material as a prelude for discussion on a specific topic and read parts of one Gospel, probably St Luke.

The proposed dates are

Tuesday 2nd February	Tuesday 9th March
Wednesday 10th February	Tuesday 16th March
Tuesday 16th February	Tuesday 23rd March
Tuesday 23rd February	Post Easter dates to follow
Tuesday 2nd March	

We will start online using Zoom but with any hope might meet face to face once the strictures of lockdown are eased.

If you know of someone who might like to know more about the faith please let them know about this course.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

Lenten Alms

Having just celebrated a rather denuded Christmas and New Year, it might seem strange to start talking about Lent already but Wednesday 17th February will come around soon enough.

This Sunday, 10th January, marks the opening for nominations for a charity that St Margaret's Parish might support as a collective endeavour over Lent and a little beyond. Applications will close on 1st February, and if you would like to nominate a charity on which the Parish can vote on Sunday 6th February (for those who are unable to attend Mass, an email vote will be permissible) please send your application to the Parish Office before 1st February.

Timetable

Jan 10th - 1st Feb Application period - forms available on the parish website and by emailing the parish office: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk

February 1st: closing date for applications.

Pastoral Council to review applications

February 6th: short-listed charities will be invited to make a presentation to the parish and parishioners will have an opportunity to vote (in person and on-line)

February 14th: Announcement of chosen charity in newsletter and on-line. Winning Charity to propose some zoom-friendly fund-raising activities and some post-Easter social events (legislation permitting)

February 17th: Ash Wednesday

April 4th: Easter Sunday (More dates to follow)



Foundation Governor Vacancy. For details see link

below [Home - St Paul's Catholic College, Surrey \(stpauls.surrey.sch.uk\)](http://Home - St Paul's Catholic College, Surrey (stpauls.surrey.sch.uk))

The Alpha Course Online

Online Alpha Course
Tuesday's, beginning on 13th April for 12 weeks

The next Alpha Course will take place online, as meeting in groups, will probably not be possible. This way of meeting has proved unexpectedly successful in other parishes. The course will take place on Tuesdays beginning 13th April and last 12 weeks.

 **Mardi Gras**
16th February 8:00 pm

The Parish will host a zoom
Mardi Gras, an evening of folk
music & cocktail (online) which
will be lead by Joe Early.



Everyone is welcome.

Please bring your own pancakes
and drinks.



Refurbishment of the Hall, Lavatories and Basement



I am pleased to announce that both the Diocese and the Parish Finance Committee have agreed that the project can now proceed. Initially the Finance Office requested the Parish to pause the project at the beginning of Covid with which the Parish complied. If all goes well the building work will take place in the months of May, June and July and so be ready for later summer.

These are exciting times for the Parish and the refurbishment will allow the Parish to have both the Hall and expanded basement in use at the same time. There will now always be a fully accessible place for Parish Groups to meet even if the Hall is being used by a community group in the evening. The refurbished Hall with expanded kitchen will be something to look forward in our post-Covid Parish.

Daily Walk? Something positive this Lent

Could you walk 10000 Steps either on one day or everyday this Lent? The walk could be a sign of your solidarity with all those who do not have access to a safe water source and who have to walk for water each day.

Find out more or sign up online at cafod.org.uk/walk and go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

Thank you for your ongoing support, Tony



New Parishioner On-line gathering
Tuesday 9th February 8:00pm-9:00pm

Over the last two years a number of new parishioners have started coming to Mass at St Margaret's. Due to lockdown restrictions, it has proved impossible to welcome them to our Parish or explain something of the life of the Parish and what went on here week by week.

If you have arrived here in the last two years please contact the Parish Office for an invitation from your hosts Fr Peter and Angie Keane.

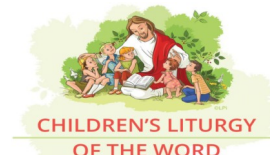
I look forward to meeting you on-line and with hope in person sometime soon.

Children's Liturgy on Zoom;
on alternate Sunday mornings

9:45 – 10:15 am

For children aged 4 – 11
(roughly)

Dates: Feb 7th, 21st, 28th & Mar 7th



Packs for the sessions after half term will be available to collect from outside the church on SATURDAY Feb 13th. 1030 am – 12 noon. Please also take cards and stencils to make Easter greeting cards for our older parishioners and the residents of our local care homes.

Suggested donation towards cost of craft activities: £2.50 per child. Thank you.

Congratulations to our
100 Club Winners

January 2021 Winners

1st Prize - £100/-

No. 31 - Chris Smith

&

2nd Prize—£50/-

No. 44 - Catherine Sugrue

Cheques will be in post shortly.

Numbers are picked by a Random Number Generating Website.