

ST MARGARETS PAGE

3rd Sunday of Lent (A)

15th March 2020



Fr Peter writes:

Everyone has a story to tell. Most stories never get an airing, the details forever locked in the silence of mute memory. The attempts to recapture the voices of the First World war has now concluded. The voices of the Holocaust and the mid-century drama of fascism and communism are quickly going silent, age is catching up with that remarkable generation of survivors from the camps. The richness of current historical understanding of the nation's past and the plethora of newly published history books testifies to our obsession with history. The school history lessons of the past might have fixated on kings and queens, battles and conquests but today there is a broader understanding of history that is the combination of both big picture drama and countless individual and collective stories.

The power of any story, real and fictional, lies in its ability to communicate the truth and inspire us to action. This truth is not something abstract, a theorem of science or abstract moral norm but as something individual and lived. The actions, struggles, temptations, failures and decisions of any individual are examples on which to reflect, to recoil or be inspired depending. There is a dynamism in the retelling of personal stories, the sense of a thin current of hope that despite whatever had happened in the past, will triumph in the end. This hope may be imbodyed in the person involved in the drama, or in those listening to the story-teller face to face, or the reader through the text of the novel or history book.

Every story teller whether real or fictional requires a listener and the better the listener the more profound the story becomes. The polite couplet, 'how are you', 'I'm fine thank you' does not penetrate the depths of our soul. This dialogue might suffice for a brief encounter in the street or place of work but often time something deeper is required from both the narrator and the listener. The need that every story-teller possesses for a listener indicates how tough it must be for someone who has no-one to listen to them.

Jesus demonstrates throughout the Gospels that He is both the imaginative preacher and sympathetic listener. Both are vital tools for the mission of the Church today. The communication of the faith in this Sunday's Gospel finds fertile ground only after Jesus had initiated a dialogue with the woman at the well. This began with their common need for water, and Jesus moves the dialogue onto questions about

Mass Times & Liturgy Services

Vigil	Saturday 6.30pm
	Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 6.30pm
Mon. Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat	10.00am
Thursday Communion Service	10.00 am
Rosary	Monday & Friday 9.30am
Adoration	Wednesdays 8-9.15pm
	Fri 10.30-11 am, Sat 10.30-11.00am
Confessions	Saturdays 10.30-11.00am
	Sundays 10.00-10.20am

living water. Interspersed with their erudite conversation on Jews and Samaritans Jesus both lets her speak her story and prophetically identifies salient facts about her life. Though Jesus only gave one fact, the Samaritan woman later told the townspeople that He had told her everything. The woman at Jacob's Well received more than she anticipated when she headed to the well in the midday sun.

There is much more to this Gospel than simply the dynamics of faith conversations between narrator and listener but the content of faith finds no better way than this to communicate its saving power. The Church possesses a coherent faith built on the foundation stone of Jesus: His birth, life death Resurrection and Ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit. The first task of catechetics, the systematic explanation of the faith, is to find the entry point in someone's life story. The entry point is deeper than just family background; maybe it is an unexplained experience of God, the meeting with a holy person, some misfortune or tragedy. To take hold faith requires this intimate and personal connection and so faith becomes, in such situations, much more self-validating. Faith makes sense even if it cannot be put in words.

The sharing of our life-stories, whether in the role of story-teller or listener might be a fruitful way to occupy the evenings when we are indoors reticent about going out when the Corona virus is in full swing. Maybe the rediscovery of the art of listening and narrating might led to rediscovering the sparks of faith that already exist within us but have been smothered by layers of transitory noise and business of life. As one Bishop working in the Vatican, remarking about his adopted country, suddenly everyone is talking about life, about preserving it and finding strategies to maintain life, rather than death. All this talking of life is a wonderful prelude, in his opinion, for talking about faith too.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church, 130 St Margaret's Road, Twickenham TW1 1RL

Tel: 020 8892 3902 E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk

for Web: <https://www.stmargaretsrchurch.co.uk>

Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes

The Parish Office is open Monday-Friday 9:00 am –11.30 am

Entrance Antiphon:

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

Response to the Psalm

O that today you would listen to his voice:
“Harden not your hearts.”

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Sick:

Janet McAllister, Ben, Mark Titmus, Mary Ibbett, Carol Sam-
ba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter
Coughlan, Hilary Sudell, Rose Lorden, William Hamilton,
Mary Arnold, Ethan Knott, Cesar Juan Urrutigoity, Mary
Ethel Arnolda, Francesca Bianchin, Sydney and Patricia
Parkes, Judith Thomas, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher
Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Bernard
Sharratt, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Donal Dwyer
(brother of Mary Ibbett), Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga),
Paul Costello and Kevin Sweeney

Anniversaries Winnie Craig, Eileen Ethridge, Alan Ebel,
Nora Denny, Eileen Mason, Charles Byrne, Antoinette Lunn,
Cyril Bowers, Thomas Savage

Deanery Intentions: For Fr Dominic Byrne and parishioners
at Hampton-On-Thames

**Funeral for Peter John Cassidy will
take place at St Margaret's Church
on Thursday 26th March at 10.00 am
followed by Burial at Twickenham
Cemetery at 11.30am**

Tickets will be on sale after all masses for

Big Band Night

Please join us!!

Tickets are now on sales for the annual

Murder Mystery Play.

You can buy tickets after each Mass this weekend
and next weekend. To avoid disappointment get
in quick as last years was a “Sell-Out” with 176
people attending.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 14th - Sunday 22nd March

Sat 14th	10.00am Mass 10.30-11.00am Adoration 6.30pm Mass	For you the people Davis Family (Thanksgiving) (Davis)
Sun 15th	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Bessy Slattery (Anniv) (Peter Slattery) Jovencio Bertos Jr. RIP (Claire & Paul Chapple) Laurence Pinto RIP (Walker)
Mon 16th	9.30am The Rosary 10.00am Mass	For the homeless
Tue 17th	10.00 am Mass	Helen McLeish (Annv.) (Winter)
Wed 18th	10.00 am Mass	For the sick of our Parish
Thurs 19th	10.00 am Communion Service	
Fri 20th	10.00 am Mass	For the sick of our Parish
Sat 21st	10.00am Mass 10.30am-11.00am Adora- tion 6.30pm Mass	For you the people Eileen Wilhare (Recently de- ceased) (Mary Stone)
Sun 22nd	8.30am Mass 10.30am Mass 6.30pm Mass	Dan Heffernan (Annv.)(Slattery) For the sick of our Parish Fr Christopher Gawecki RIP (Walker)



MARCH SOUP LUNCH

**Unfortunately, in view of Corona Virus, we are having to
cancel this month's Soup Lunch.**

**DONATIONS CAN STILL BE MADE AND ARE MOST
WELCOME.**

Please contact Maz Winter (020 8943 0824)
Or Maggie Thomson (020 8560 0411)

All donations will go to aid Fr David Cullen's work among the
very poor in Chipata, Zambia. For instance, he helps people to
start small businesses to support themselves, gives money for
extra food to help people tolerate treatment for HIV infection,
supplies money for school fees or training, gives gifts of soap,
baby food etc to prisoners, buys blankets for the elderly and
gives money for the fare home for people recently in hospital
or prison, often many miles from their homes. 100% of our do-
nations will be used to help the poor and needy.

15th March - 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm 94

Romans 5:1-2. 5-8

John 4:5-42

22nd March - 4th Sunday of Lent

1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

Psalm 22

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41



Welcoming newcomers to St Margaret's parish

This Lent, St Margarets will have a special focus on welcoming newcomers to the parish.

Sunday 10.30 Mass: At coffee after 10.30 am Mass, there will be two tables where we encourage newcomers to the parish and also those who would like to get to know others in the parish community to sit together. Each table will have a "welcoming host" allocated so there should be someone to chat to always. There is a rota of hosts for the six weeks of Lent.

Sunday 6.30 pm Mass : After the evening Mass on Sundays 15th & 22nd March, Ellie and John McCoy are hoping newcomers will join them for a drink at the St Margaret's pub (3 mins walk from the church).

Sunday 8.30 am Mass: On 22nd March, Su and Peter Slattery will welcome newcomers to join them for coffee and croissants in the hall.

We do hope that if you are new to the parish or if you've been here a while and don't know many people yet, you will join one of these occasions.

For more information or to offer to act as a host, please contact Lily McCaw or email Cynthia in the parish office. stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk

Thank you

Fr Peter

Settled Status

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: gov.uk/eusettdstatus

Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Information on assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme

The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities.



The Council's Fuel Grant Scheme is now available to residents.

This is not a statutory grant, but one that Richmond Council allocate funding for every year for residents who are on benefits or have a low income. Residents can apply online, or by picking up an application form from a local library or the Civic Centre in Twickenham. The Closing date for application is 5 pm on Friday 27th March 2020.

For more information please visit https://richmond.gov.uk/fuel_grants.

Flyers are in the porch if you would like to pick one.



CAFOD Family Fast Day – Collection this weekend

CAFOD works with poor communities overseas on our behalf, helping them to tackle poverty and injustice.

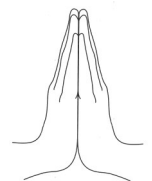
Last Friday was Family Fast Day, please return your CAFOD envelope this weekend, with your donation and contribute to of the second collection which will take place at all Masses.

Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

For further information see www.cafod.org.uk

Advise from Bishop's House is No Hymn Books for Mass and No Precious Blood of Jesus at Communion.

The Sign of Peace will be Mother Teresa Style.



CATCH IT
Germs spread easily. Always carry tissues and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.



BIN IT
Germs can live for several hours on tissues. Dispose of your tissue as soon as possible.



KILL IT
Always use hand soap to wash your hands.

ADVICE REGARDING CORONA VIRUS

Information from the Diocese of Westminster (<https://rcdow.org.uk/news/advice-regarding-coronavirus/>)

Lenten Project 2020

Save the Dates

Events in aid of the Lenten Project

MURDER MYSTERY PLAY

Saturday 21st March
3.30 pm (Matinee) & 8.00 pm

BIG BAND NIGHT

Wednesday 25th March 7.30 pm—9.30 pm

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 3rd April



Our Big Black Box For your Lenten alms

You may not be in a position to support our social events, but please remember the Black Box for your alms. Envelopes are provided at the back of the church.

Catholic History Walks Some Springtime walks are coming up soon... ·

13/3/20 11.00am RICHMOND walk along the Thames to St John Henry Newman's house in Ham. Meet at the Church of St Elizabeth of Portugal, TW10 6AQ – Mass at 10.00am · 15/3/20 3.30pm ISLINGTON hear about the ancient shrine of Our Lady of the Oak and modern Catholic heroines. Meet at St John the Divine Church, N1 8AL · 22/3/20 3.30pm RICHMOND walk along the Thames to St John Henry Newman's house in Ham. Meet at the Church of St Elizabeth of Portugal, TW10 6AQ · 30/3/20 6.30pm WESTMINSTER Parliament, the Abbey and more. Meet at Victoria Cathedral steps- Mass at 5.30pm Cost: £10 - Go to Eventbrite to book or simply come along. We look forward to meeting you there. chwalkslondon@gmail.com 07495 205 568 catholichistorywalks.com



In 1381, England was dedicated to Mary by King Richard II and was 'set apart for her among the nations. This year, the Christians of England are called to make a personal dedication to Mary, taking up her example as Christ's first disciple.

History shows us that when the people pray a surrender to God's will for their lives, society is transformed. By taking up this personal dedication in 2020, you can be a part of the renewal of this nation, drawing ourselves closer to the will of our loving God, through Mary.

The Rededication will take place throughout the country on Sunday 29th March and you're invited to take part at St Margaret's at 12:00 on that day. If you have an icon or statue of Our Lady please bring it along to be blessed during the Rededication ceremony.



QUIZ NIGHT

(This is a real Quiz Night with questions!!)

FRIDAY APRIL 3RD 7.30 PM

Tickets £12 (includes supper)

Tickets available after all Masses
March 21st/22nd and 28th/29th

Or from: cjpsmith@outlook.com or 07951959054

Get your teams of 6 together (or we can put you in a team on the night)



The Joy of HOPE



An inspirational four session course for Lent from CaFE

Monday's 10:45 – 12.00 noon (Library)

- 16th March – Do Not Be Afraid
- 23rd March – The Best is Yet to Come
- 30th March – Heaven on Earth
- 6th April – The River of Life

Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church to secure a place.

Contact – Gavin Evenhuis
Gavin.evenhuis@gmail.com

Used stamps for Medical Missionaries of Mary

Since 1940 the retired Sisters at the Medical Missionaries of Mary have sorted and sold used postage stamps. During Lent there will be a box in the porch to collect used stamps (**not** everyday "Queen's Heads" please). Stamp albums also welcome!

These will not be used directly for the Lenten project in Malawi, but will raise funds for the MMM's work in areas of greatest need throughout the world.