

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A 5th July 2020

In Peter writes: The sudden withdrawal of support that is the plight of every single-issue protest has now hit 'Black Lives Matter'. One of the British founders has been co-opting this single-issue to a number of other highly contentious ones such as defunding the police. What was rightly seen as a movement for greater awareness and justice with regard to ethnic groups in society is now being tainted with extraneous goals. This is patently not what the vast majority who signed up to the movement's precepts thought, this parish included taking its cue from the Bishops' statement.

This is the perennial problem presented to every single-issue devotee, however laudable it's aims, because no issue is ever single issue, everything in life is inter-connected. Broad visions about life which embrace multiple facets are the only ones that sustain over time. The recognition that every life matters can be held while simultaneously recognising the unjust historical circumstances suffered by immigrants from the West Indies and Africa that has spurred the Black Lives Matter movement. The national history of this country, good and bad can be judged in the light of progress achieved and by the principles with which its current life is governed. Every society is on the move, and what was acceptable 30 or 40 years ago is no longer acceptable today whether it be work practises, overt racism, sexual equality or humour. The combination of broad vision, the ability to forgive and the ability to look to the future with confidence demonstrates that the last word on such issues has not been said, and therefore thinking that everything can be 'business as usual' is wrong. Despite the fitful progress that is being made, there is still much to do in creating a society of genuine equal opportunity.

What hope does the Christian faith offer in such times? This Sunday's Gospel reveals something fundamental. Jesus stands as the hinge between knowing God as Father and communicating this knowledge to the whole world. This is Jesus' task alone, and on this stands His life and mission, and by extension everything to do with life, society and the world today. Every Christian is invited by Jesus to share in His relationship with the Father; that is to live in the Holy Spirit. The full vision of humanity is found in Jesus; His sense of purpose found in prayer and religious devotion; His ability to forgive and bring people forward; His ability to embrace His suffering and stay in charge in front of His enemies. For us this implies not letting others set our agendas or put more fashionably, allowing someone else to

write our narratives. The Church has something to say about the issue of racism because it possesses the widest and greatest possible vision for humanity, communion with God. The vision can never be imposed, it is too precious to be imposed. The message can only be accepted freely, but once accepted is transformative.

As Jesus says in St John's Gospel: 'You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free'. This vision can only be accepted with child-like trust because it is freely offered, and being such a gift stirs our thoughts and animates our actions. It is through faith that I can see the need to purify my mind and heart from every inappropriate thought or inclination, of become more aware of the consequences of my actions, personally and communally. To accept the gift of faith is to take responsibility for my life, the life of others around me, and ultimately the stranger in my midst.

The prospect of taking responsibility for one's actions can seem daunting, set as it seems within in a culture when it seems easier to blame someone for current social ills. Yet we should take courage from the words of Jesus who says that 'my yoke is easy and my burden light'. We might immediately start to turn to the burdens of family or working life but these words are addressed to conscience too. The formation of our conscience after childhood is sadly too often left to chance. Everyone bristles at what to be told what to do, but if the formation of teenage or adult conscience is left to chance, contemporary mores quickly fill the void. Therefore, the Church and every society need its prophets to puncture to cosy nostrums of half-formed consciences. Mary Whitehouse, the butt of many misplaced jokes, is the prophet that set the stage for the 'Me-too' movement. The current groundswell over the un-necessary death of George Floyd had its prophet too in Martin Luther King. Both individuals had how their conscience formed by the Gospel and they chose their fights only because they could see something wrong and had the spiritual strength to seek change. They glimpse the biggest picture. Even now somewhere in the Church there are a new generation of prophets, the fruits of whose mission will only become apparent in the future. Prophets keep the Church on spiritual message, and should inspire us to seek change in ourselves, in our communities, and in our society. Prophets take responsibility, can we? If not, who will? Will it be the message of life or something rather more sinister?

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

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

The Parish Office is closed because of Covid-19. Emails are continued to be checked regularly.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday 6th July - Sunday 12th July

Mon 6 th	10.00am Mass	All those who are struggling to find work
Tue 7 th	10.00 am Mass	Trixie Tobback RIP (Tobback)
Wed 8 th	10.00 am Mass	No Mass
Thu 9 th	10.00 am Mass	For health workers, Doctors & Nurses
Fri 10 th	10.00 am Mass	Robert & John Bailey RIP (Margaret Crowe)
Sat 11 th	10.00am Mass	No Mass
Sun 12 th	8.30 am 10.30am 6.30 pm	For you the people Terry Blackman (RIP Anniversary) (Rose Blackman) Ann Coughlan RIP

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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, Ann Noble, Juliane Ditsche, Antonio Lopes, Muriel Kelly, Juliet Grafton, Karina Kinnear

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like Mass said for your intentions or for the repose of the soul of someone, please contact Cynthia via [email](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk) (stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk). She will compile the list which will be published on the Parish website each week.

Sunday Mass will be offered for the intentions of all the Parish, but Masses may be said for specific intentions from Monday to Saturday.

St Peter & St Paul

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Ps 47:10-11)

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps 144:1-2.8-11.13-14)

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

Gospel Acclamation (Cf Mt 11:25)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon (Ps 33:9)

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

THE FINANCIAL WELFARE OF ST MARGARET'S

The St Margaret's [Virgin Money Giving](#) is now live. This is a secure method for giving. If you are using the St. Margaret's website, you will find the Virgin Money Giving under the 'Support' tab.

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.

SOUP LUNCHES

Sadly our lunches will have to remain suspended for the time being. The people in the community who Fr David Cullen cares for in Zambia still live with great poverty and the need for our help goes on of course.



Because of the great generosity of a number of people, we have managed to continue making a contribution to his work each month during the lockdown period.

It would be wonderful if we could continue to make a monthly donation to the poorest in that community. If you could make a contribution to assist in his work, it would be greatly appreciated. **Please contact Bernard or Maz Winter 02089430824/07769721975** if you would like to make a donation to Fr David's work among the poor.

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.

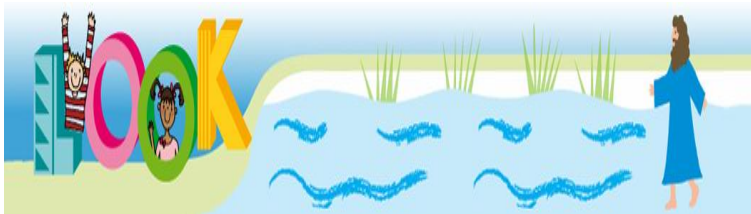


CHILDREN'S Liturgy of the Word

Please use [link to register](#): 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](#)'

Please find the **LOOK** color in sheets, for the month of June, to find what is in the Gospel.



Diocese of Westminster

Set of *Sunday Reflections* for *July*, kindly produced by Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz, for 'The God Who Speaks' initiative.

For more information on the 'The God Who Speaks' in Westminster see <https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/>

Updated website for further resources and ideas <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/>

Volunteers Needed!



A friendly presence to reassure visitors

A Request for volunteers at weekend masses to help maintain Social Distancing protocols during the summer.

We are looking to work on a Rota basis for

Saturday – 10.00 am
and

Sunday – 8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm

Please contact us via email stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk if you are happy to help.

Resumption of public Mass - Sunday Mass

READINGS & GOSPEL

Arrangements

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12th July

Reading 1 Isa 55:10-11	The rain makes the earth give growth.
Psalm Ps 64:10-14 r.Lk 8:8	Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.
Reading 2 Rom 8:18-23	The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons.
Gospel Acclamation 1 Sam 3:9; John 6:68	Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.
Gospel Matt 13:1-23	A sower went out to sow.

Public Mass will resume on Sunday 5th July under the following conditions laid down by the English Bishops following guidance from the Government. This is a welcome moment in the life of the Parish and I am sure many of you wish to chat with each other after so long. Please resist breaking social distancing however tempting! Everyone should be able to feel safe coming to Church so please respect each other in this regard.

There are a number of options with regard to Mass attendance though the Bishops have suspended the obligation to attend Sunday Mass for the time being. The 10:30am Parish YouTube Mass will continue.

Mass at 8:30am; 10:30am and 6:30pm. The maximum number that the Church can safely hold, following all distancing requirements is between 80 and 100. Every alternate bench will be unavailable for sitting and the middle part of available benches will be unusable. This will maintain social distancing.

Reception of Communion only at 4:00pm. If you have participated in the YouTube Parish Mass or another and wish to receive Holy Communion please come to the Church at 4:00pm.

Protocols

Entry: Please use the hand sanitiser available in the entrance.

Mass sheets and hymn books will be unavailable. There will be no public singing.

Reception of Communion: This will take place after Mass has finished. The priest will receive communion, then conclude Mass. The congregation will receive afterwards and then leave the Church.

Helpers

Every Mass will require two volunteers at the front to ensure everyone uses the hand-sanitiser, and further helpers to give a quick clean to the benches after the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses. Gloves and cleaning material will be provided.

Weekday Mass 10:00 am Monday to Saturday

This Mass will take place in the Main Church with the same protocols

Confessions

These will take place in the Library after the Saturday 10:00am Mass.

These arrangements may change slightly as the Parish works out how best to provide Mass whilst maintain government and episcopal requirements.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th July

Reading 1 Wis 12:13, 16-19	After sin you will grant repentance.
Psalm Ps 85:5-6.9-10. 15-16 r.5	O Lord, you are good and forgiving.
Reading 2 Rom 8:26-27	The Spirit expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words.
Gospel Acclamation cf. Eph 1:17.18	May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
cf. Matt 11:25	Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.
Gospel Matt 13:24-30	Let them both grow till the harvest.

Keeping St Margaret's parish connected!



A sponsored, socially distanced "relay" on Saturday, 18th July; start 9am

All our experiences of lockdown have been very varied. One thing for sure though, parishioners have very much appreciated being able to follow the Mass online with Fr Peter, and still feeling part of the parish with familiar faces and voices with our musicians and readers. We see that this will continue to serve a need for those of our community who may be unsure or unable to return to Mass immediately or even in the longer term, to support sick and housebound parishioners and help them to remain connected to our church and the liturgy.

Fr Peter's Zoom account and laptop perched on top of a pile of chairs have worked well for the past 3 months, but now we need to invest in some better equipment to continue to livestream Mass to enhance the mission of St Margaret's.

We would like to raise £4500 for new cameras, a laptop and a mixing unit. To do this, we are going to "connect the parish" through a sponsored, socially distanced relay, between parishioner's houses, on foot or by bike! Each participant will go from their front door to the front door of another parishioner and pass on a virtual "baton", that person will then go onto the next house. The last leg of the relay will end at the church.

All are welcome to join in – children or adults, singles, couples or families.

To sign up, please contact Cynthia on stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk with your name, address and postcode. We will then work out the "route" and confirm times and each stage.

All donations and sponsorship will be gratefully received. Thank you.

Ann 07837 095 837



THANK YOU !