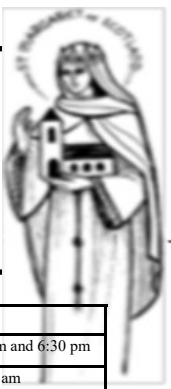


ST MARGARET'S PAGE

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 7th February 2021 Year B



In Peter writes: Listening on a regular basis to the Daily Bible Podcast read by Fr Mike Schmidt, introduced by a jaunty jingle for Ascension Press, made me realise the gaps in my knowledge of the Bible. These are the secondary scenes connected to the lives of the Patriarchs in the Book of Genesis, the monologues of Job's fickle friends and the prescriptions from Leviticus. Hearing these accounts being read out has fleshed out my understanding of the Patriarchs, of Job's laments and the centrality of worship for the Israelites. Each in their own way help to identify prophetic points about Jesus. Knowledge of the Bible is both necessary for salvation being the essence of the Church's faith, but is also one foundation stone for the Western Canon of Literature. The Bible, along with the writings of classical Greece and Rome form the nucleus of Western culture. This does not mean that every book, poem or play is a footnote to them, as one English philosopher thought, but that the western tradition of writing and thinking takes its cue from these foundations.

Identifying the Western Canon with set books has always been an enterprise fraught with difficulty, because arguments will ensue as to which books to include or which to exclude; on how to expand its remit to embrace writers from outside Europe, from Africa, South America and Asia; the incorporation of more female writers, and much more besides. These are legitimate questions and concerns but do not deny the role such a canon plays in education and creating a shared culture. Should Shakespeare be taught at GCSE in this country remains a question to answer? Whatever the answer to these individual questions, a shared cultural heritage at least allows people to participate in a common imagination and expressions of thought. This is not just high culture but also true in terms of popular culture. Back in 1970s television shows like Morecambe and Wise drew massive numbers of viewers, and their 1977 Christmas show that drew an incredible 28 million viewers, a feat impossible today in our fragmented entertainment market. Maybe the funeral of Princess Diana, the wedding of William and Kate generated similar numbers but they were marking national event, not just providing entertainment.

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

Taking about a shared history of culture falls foul of antagonists from both left and right who perceive the richness of our culture through their personal telescope of perceived wrongs, historical and current. Conspiracy theories which loomed large in the recent US election and the focus on pulling down statues in this country demonstrates what happens when a people's history and culture is no longer known or shared. The internet has proved a rich feeding ground for such theories because the possession of learning is unrequired since there is no real debate, and nothing much more than simple assertion demanded. Thus, those who shout loudest wins. Sadly because of our fractured culture shares little common ground, no sense of social progress can ever be recognised. Yes, many English upper class and trading families did well out of the slave trade, yet the same country was one of the first to abolish the trans-Atlantic slave trade. Slavery still continues in different forms in many parts of the world today, and perhaps here is where effort should be expended, but that requires a commitment beyond being a 'woke warrior'.

Pope Francis recently spoke about the necessity for the Church to embrace the full teaching of Vatican II. The Pope implies that knowledge of the full content of all the documents, their historical context, the Bishops' intentions in writing them and the context of their composition is necessary for understanding the mission of the Church today. Thus, the Second Vatican Council is where the Church can stand firm against those with the loudest voices who pedal half-truths and outlandish conspiracy theories, both about the Church and the world. Such a collective task begins by embracing the fullness of our faith, through catechesis, prayer and pastoral outreach. It is easy to criticise other conspiracy theorists and half-baked crackpots but can we offer the full vision of faith ourselves?

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 6th February – Sunday 14th February

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
8 Feb	Mon	10.00 am	For the intentions of Margaret Bass RIP	Stanley & Dee Nicholas
9 Feb	Tue	10.00 am	For the recovery of Amparo Plaza Rodriguez	Margaret Crowe
10 Feb	Wed	10.00 am	For the repose of the soul of Hernando López RIP	Margaret Crowe
11	Thur	10.00 am	James Quinn RIP	Teresa Histon
12 Feb	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
13 Feb	Sat	10.00 am	Sarah Jane Edwards RIP	Teresa Histon
14 Feb	Sun	8.30 am	Ruaidhre Boyle RIP	Su & Peter Slattery
		10.30 am	Deceased members of the Bailey Family	Margaret Crowe
		6.30 pm	Joseph de Souza RIP	Barbara de Souza

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

Anniversaries - John McHugh, Alexander McDonnell, Dan Kavanagh, Julia Mangan, Frank Morgan, Emma Jarman, Charles Nuttall, Edith Fowler, Mona Keegan, Mary Newman, Rosemary Innocent

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

Entrance Antiphon:

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Response to the Psalm:

Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.



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)

Ash Wednesday (17th February)

10.00 am & 6.30 pm

Government guidelines allow Churches to remain open for worship.

Thank you from Jean

Jean McGinley and her son, Duncan, are truly grateful for all the kindness and sympathy extended to them on the death of her husband, Des. They have received very many cards and letters of condolence and are particularly touched by the offerings of so many Mass intentions. Jean regrets that she is unable to write to thank everyone personally but she is very appreciative of your thoughts and prayers.

Thank You

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

14 February - 6th Sunday in OT

Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46

Psalm 31

1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

Mark 1:40-45



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 remaining dates for the course are

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

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.

*Coming back to you.....
by popular demand*



Parish Pub Quiz: the second of the new series will take place on **Friday 12th February at 8:30pm.**

Please join Father Peter as quizmaster via Zoom for another virtual Parish Pub Quiz.

Everyone is welcome.
please bring a bottle!

We look forward to 'seeing you' then.



Punishment and prisons in 21st century Britain

The Benedict XVI Centre at St. Mary's University, together with the Caritas Social Action Network and the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, are hosting an evening discussion on Punishment and Prisons in the 21st Century Britain with Bishop Richard Moth and Rev Jonathan Aitken, chaired by Professor Philip Booth.

Date:

Wednesday 10 February 2021

Time:

6.00pm - 7.15pm

Venue:

Zoom

There is more information and a link to registration at: <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/events/2021/02/punishment-prisons-in-21st-century-britain> or you can register directly via: https://stmarys.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-d2qmrsgSAuFch657JENdg

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.

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



Last Year's Lenten Alms—Appreciation Letter & pictures of new equipment

Malawi, in common with other southern and central African countries has experienced a wave of coronavirus in January and cases of the new South African variant have been confirmed in the country. St Kizito's has had several cases. Malawi is hoping to start vaccinating in March, having just secured supplies of the Astra Zeneca vaccine.

