

ST MARGARET'S PAGE



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - 9 JANUARY 2022 Year C

Fr Peter writes:

Most of us, I am sure, are looking forward to some return to pre-January 2020 normality, of being able to meet, socialise and travel without numerous rules about masks, testing and isolating. For now, the return to normality still looks just over the horizon, and so the present moment might be the time to reflect on just what sort of 'normality' I would wish to return. Changes in lifestyle are popular pre-occupations around New Year, but for the Christian this pre-occupation should be of lifelong concern.

What makes the Christian pre-occupation in changing lifestyle may be described broadly as the move from selfishness to solidarity. Thinkers describe how philosophy changed in the 17th century from concern with the whole of creation and with the human person as the microcosm of the whole, to the exclusive concerns about the individual standing over and against the world. This seemingly abstruse change in perspective might sound meaningless. Yet each of us lives this reality every day and this change explains the antagonism experienced and offered by ourselves in daily life. Are we solitary individuals trying to get on together or are we already in relation with each other and trying to learn how to behave appropriately?

Turning inwards and becoming the individual of modern culture will always entail that community and solidarity never really come naturally. Solidarity in this setting can only ever become enlightened self-interest, whether for the family, community or nation. A famous 19th century thinker Max Weber thought that the expansion of capitalism and the emergence of Protestantism went hand in hand. Anglo-Saxon countries. With their sense of individuality these nations marching ahead in the Industrial Revolution compared to Catholic Europe more concerned with living in relationship, emphasising the wider family and for Weber the baleful effect of the Catholic Church. There is something in this theory but such sweeping explanations never reveal the richness and depth of human experience.

The solitary individual looking into himself or herself cannot discover the peace desired by himself and the remedies, often provided, whether psychological or therapeutic, are sadly predicated on the same erroneous foundations. The secular solitary individual is a child of the Reformation rather than the product of Catholic tradition. What makes the difference between the two denominations is not the unique role of Jesus Christ as Our Saviour, but how Jesus Christ relates to each of us through His humanity. Jesus Christ is a person in relation, to his mother, the Virgin Mary, the Holy Family, His larger group of relations. Later this same style of relationship will inform the foundation of the Church, not a community of bloodline, but of the Holy Spirit

Mass Times & Liturgical Services		
Saturday		10.00 am
Sunday		8:30 am, 10:30 am & 6.30 pm
Mass	Thursday	10.00 am
Eucharistic Service	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday	10.00 am
Rosary	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday	
Confessions	Saturday	On request

who creates and sustains the community. Protestantism sees salvation through Jesus Christ alone, and the Church, in their eyes, does not possess much of a role, other than being the community where a group of like-minded individuals can worship together. Catholics believe that the Church has an essential role because it mirrors our own natural relationships and responds to our need to share life with others in some form of community.

This Sunday the Church celebrates the Baptism of the Lord, the event when Jesus submits to the penitential baptism of John the Baptist. Jesus does not require such a baptism as being born without sin, but does so both to validate John's mission but also to line up in solidarity with those seeking reconciliation. Over the last two weeks the Church has celebrated Christmas, the birth of the Saviour, the night of pure joy infused with all the hope that the birth of a child brings; Epiphany when the three wise men recognise their journey to the infant king ends in adoration. Now, thirty years later, the Church celebrates another beginning, that of His public life. Today we glimpse how that public life will be conducted, in solidarity with sinful and put-upon humanity. Jesus is in solidarity through His humanity, and through His divinity, expressed through His mission to forgive sins, bring healing, and the sacramental means to achieve closer union with God, the source of all life. This Sunday's Gospel demonstrates that the joy of Christmas night has not disappeared but is being offered here and now by one like us, at our level, not casting judgement but offering hope for spiritual and moral transformation in this life. None of this would be possible if Jesus Christ was not in relationship and solidarity with us.

Thank You

May I thank you for all the Christmas cards and for the many gifts which I have received over the last two weeks. Prudence tells me to spread consumption over the next few months for health reasons. May I also thank you all for the Christmas collection which raised £3540/-. This personal collection, along with that of Easter, Mass Stipends and Stole Fees pays my annual wage for which I am very grateful.

May I wish you and your families every blessing for the year. With good wishes Fr Peter

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

E-mail: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk • Website: www.stmargaretsrccchurch.co.uk

Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes
Office Hours: Monday to Friday (9.30 am - 12.30 pm) Emails are not checked out of office hours.

Mass Intentions Sat 8/1 – Sun 16/1

8/01	Sat	10.00am	For you the people	
9/01	Sun	8.30 am	Mary Heffernan recently dead	Su Slattery
		10.30am	Brian Faul RIP anniversary	Faul family
		6.30 pm	John & Rita Lavery and Lynda Ban-Lavery	Gerard Ban-Lavery
10/01	Mon	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
11/01	Tues	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
12/01	Wed	10.00 am	Eucharistic service	
13/01	Thu	10.00 am	Fara de Souza RIP anniversary	Barbara de Souza
14/01	Fri	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
15/01	Sat	10.00am	Deceased members of St Margarets Parish	
16/01	Sun	8.30 am	Alison Lesley Gosnell RIP	Sylvia Dixon
		10.30am	For you the people	
		6.30 pm	Missionary spirit of the Parish and the Church	

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Rose Blackman, Georgina Lotitto, Stanislaw Wozniak, Adriana Posse de González (Valeria's Mum), Rachel Rose, Fr Paul Bigirwa, 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, Wanda Ostrowska, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Carmen Ruibal, Ann Macpherson, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Kevin Sweeney, Christopher Cousins, & Judith Thomas

Recently deceased - Irena Starzecki RIP who was 99 years old. Funeral on 1st February at 2.20 pm at St Margaret's.

Anniversaries - Bernard Joseph Sharratt, Patrick Joseph Doyle, Eleanor Geary, Nigel Pratt, Margaret Tobback, Benedict Elliott, Andrew Grant, Patricia Heavey, Thomas Dreehan, Rose Pollard, Nellie Proctor, Len Swinhoe, Agnes Shorter, Muriel Dommersen, Mgr Mark Langham
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed

through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen



Entrance Antiphon:

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Response to the Psalm:

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are.

Fr Peter is going to be on leave for 2 weeks from Monday 10th till 22nd January inclusive of both days.

Visits to the sick and housebound.

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact Deacon Joseph via the parish office.



Readers' Training Sessions

For new readers and those who would like a refresher, please come along and let the parish office know in advance which session you will be attending.

Either Sunday 16th January at 2.30 pm

OR

Wednesday 19th January 7.30 pm



Guidelines to follow when at Mass

Please remember that facemasks are now mandatory for adults in places of worship, unless you have an exemption.

If you feel at all unwell, please do stay at home.

Sacramental Programmes

Baptism

The next available Baptism courses are as below:

January 12th & 19th 2022

March 8th & 15th 2022



Should you wish to have your child baptised in this parish, attendance at these courses is compulsory. Please either speak to Fr Peter after Mass or contact the parish office.



First Holy Communion 2022

Sessions are now underway. Please contact the parish office for more information. **Applications close on**

December 19th .



Confirmation 2022

The course will begin with an ice-breaker session on 29th February. If anyone is looking to receive Confirmation, please register through the parish office.



Marriage Preparation

The next course will run at St Margaret's on **Saturday 9th April 2022**. Please contact the parish office to register.

Courses at The Brompton Oratory - **Sat 5th March and Saturday 21st May 2022**. Kindly contact Fr Michael Lang (michaellang@rcdow.org.uk) for further details.

Our next Afternoon tea will take place on **Wednesday 12th January 2.00 pm—3.30 pm .**

All are welcome. Please feel free to bring a friend or a neighbour along.



Used stamps: collection for Medical Missionaries of Mary

MMM
'Rooted and founded in love'
MEDICAL MISSIONARIES
OF MARY



Used stamps needed for the MMM who sort and sell them to raise money for their work overseas.

Please cut round them with a small margin and put in the box in the porch (and please, not the ordinary "Queen's heads")



REPAIR CAFE

Twickenham Repair Café

"Twickenham Repair Cafe" in St Margaret's Hall

Have you ever replaced a bike inner tube, shortened a pair of trousers, renewed the bearing of your daughter's scooter, loaded new software on your laptop, knitted a scarf, glued a cracked vase, given teddy a new life when his arm fell off or re-soldered the light fitting on your favourite lamp?

If answer Yes then you may enjoy being involved in our exciting new adventure.

We are setting up "Twickenham Repair Cafe" and you can relish using your talents and skills as one of our volunteers.

The idea is that items can be brought along for a volunteer, with the appropriate expertise, to not only repair the item (hopefully!) but, at the same time, share their skills to give people the confidence to do their own repairs in the future, show how much fun and how rewarding this can be, and how easy it often is.

If you want to volunteer your services, or just find out more, then contact Colin Messenger on colinmessenger1@gmail.com.

If this really is not your thing but you know someone with these skills then please pass this message to them.

On behalf of: Twickenham Repair Cafe Team. Pat, Gavin, David, Cliff, Joe, Colin

Pictures from Las Posada 2021



(continued on Page 4)

Pictures from Las Posada ... continued.



'London SW Catholic Social Group is looking for people to help lead and organise events for 18 to 35s and over 60s. Please let us know if you are interested in participating or organising. Our main contact details are londonswcatholicsocial@gmail.com and London SW Catholic Social Group on Facebook.'
Brendan Baker



Peace Sunday



Peace Sunday, the day when the Pope's message for World Peace Day is celebrated in our parishes, will take place on 16th January 2022. The theme of the Pope's message for this year is 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace'. For resources to assist in this celebration, please visit Pax Christi's website at <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022/>

Mass for World Day of the Sick – Provisional Arrangements. The annual Mass for the World Day of the Sick will take place at 2pm on Saturday 12th February 2022 at Westminster Cathedral. We are hopeful that the Mass will go ahead as planned and that we'll be able to welcome all those who wish to attend in person. However, at the time of writing, it is unclear whether this will be possible. Thus, plans are provisional at this stage.

Anyone who wishes to attend with wheelchairs may please contact their respective parish office so that adequate provision can be made in the Cathedral.

Further information will be circulated closer to the date.



Sixth Form at St Richard Reynolds Catholic College (SRRCC)
The deadline for SRRCC Sixth Form applications is **Friday 14th January**. Apply by visiting our website: <https://www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/sixth-form/sixth-form-admissions>. We welcome applications from all faiths and none. If you have any questions, we would be really pleased to help. Feel free to email sixthformadmissions@srrcc.org.uk.

Vacancy

We are looking for outstanding practitioners who can teach GCSE and A-level to join us from September 2022 to deliver high-quality lessons to ensure great learning.

Current vacancies:

- Deputy Subject Leader of Maths
- Teacher of RE
- Subject Leader of Physics
- Teacher of Economics

Salary negotiable dependent upon calibre and experience. We are also looking for a Lunchtime Supervisor to join us as soon as possible, Monday to Friday 11.30am to 1pm. Please also get in touch if you would like to talk in more detail about the role. <https://www.strichardreynolds.org.uk/our-college/work-at-srr>



Peace Sunday 16 January 2022

"The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Our vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, we work with all who share our values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice"