

ST MARGARETS PAGE

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

2nd February 2020



In Peter writes:

This weekend the Queen, every Italian Parish, and a few priests in this country will be taking down their cribs this Sunday as the Feast of Candlemas marks the traditional end of Christmastide. For everyone else Christmas has become a memory with only the credit card bills left to settle. Forward-looking Christians can already see that Ash Wednesday is looming over the horizon.

Candlemas marks the moment when the infant Jesus is taken to the Temple. At Christmas and Epiphany the shepherds and the Kings had to go and find Jesus in the stable. Now Joseph and Mary take the child to the place of public Jewish cult, God's dwelling on earth, the Jerusalem Temple in order to give thanks to God for the birth of their child. To give such thanks is the most natural of all human emotions, and God as author of creation becomes the unknown recipient of this thanks even from those with little or no interest in religion. The implicit recipient of thanks may become the explicit recipient of thanks and the existence of God as the ultimate giver of life moves from the possible through the probable to the certain. The birth of a child brings a different perspective onto life. It is always a life-changing moment.

Something similar happens when we look after a sick patient or aged relative, the fragility of life becomes obvious but then so does its precious gift-like quality. This week marks the 75th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the combination of the fragility of human life combined with the richness of Middle European Jewish culture makes the reality of concentration camps in the Second World War so shocking. The most common question raised in response is to demand where was God in all this but that is the wrong question. The question should be where was the humanity in those who both purposefully, incidentally, or unconsciously engage in this enterprise. It is necessary to ask just what level of systematic thought and practical organisation did it require to both destroy this rich culture and to be able to kill six million Jews. The systematic brutality of the Nazi regime and the numbers murdered, however, is one side of the Shoah, but it is not the last word. There was also the underground story of humanity, Anne Frank, Primo Levi, the author of the letter to Mirabel, Edith Stein, Maximilian Kolbe and many others. They were lights glowing in the darkness, the resilience of fragile humanity in front of the forces of evil.

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

The solemnity of Candlemas is the necessary answer to the lack of humanity in the world. Candlemas renews our understanding of life as a gift and all that this entails with regard to morality based on the precious nature of all life and the environment within which life flourishes, the ecology of God's creation. The prophecy of Simeon moves beyond just giving natural thanks for the child but to faith-filled thanks as to what this child will achieve. This child will not just bring light to their parents' eyes but bring light to the whole world, and with that the reflective understanding of having been standing in the dark for far too long. To the pessimist that might be all that is possible but not to the Christian.

A famous philosopher introduced his system of knowledge with the classical image of 'the owl of Minerva' that only flies at dusk, in other words wisdom always comes too late, once something is over and too late to change the past. This depressing thought might be described as the perpetual tragedy of life, of never being ahead of events and of always knowing too late.

Yet for the Christian this cannot be so. It is never too late because the light of God is not subject to movement of the sun or earth, nor to the passage of time, nor to the hardness of the human heart. The light appeared in all its richness in the person of Jesus and that light still burns brightly in the Church and beyond too. So as we carry our candles into the Church we may recognise that we carry the light of Christ on purpose and because this light brings hope to my life, we naturally wish to give

thanks to God and share this light with others. This bright light of hope shines in a darkened world and encourages me not to be the victim of circumstance alone but become, within our own fragility, the courageous builder of our shared future

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

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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:

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

How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Sick:

Carol Samba, 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 Mary Mangan, Millicent de Lord, Kathleen Cassidy, Bernard Wheelwright, Edwin Atkinson, John McLeish, Veronica Pierce, Rosamund Chalkley, Gertrude Mason, John McHugh, Eileen Pluck, Alexander McDonnell, Dan Kavanagh

Deanery Intentions: For Fr. Sidon Sagar and parishioners at St. Michael's, Ashford.

Beginning Experience Weekend

A healing weekend for men and women who are separated, divorced or widowed will be held from **3rd to 5th April 2020** at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex.

For details please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email johnabrother-ton@hotmail.co.uk.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 1st February - Sunday 9th February

Sat 1st	10.00am Mass	For the lonely and the isolated
	10.30-11.00am Adoration	
	6.30pm Mass	
Sun 2nd	8.30am Mass	Dermot Clancy RIP (Slattery)
	10.30am Mass	Eugenie Sellors (Walker)
	6.30pm Mass	For you the people
Mon 3rd	9.30am The Rosary	
	10.00am Mass	For the homeless
Tue 4th	10.00 am Mass	For those struggling with debt
Wed 5th	10.00 am Mass	Fr Christopher RIP (Gawecki Family)
Thurs 6th	10.00 am Communion Service	
Fri 7th	10.00 am Mass	For the poor and marginalised
Sat 8th	10.00am Mass	For the homeless
	10.30am-11.00am Adoration	
	6.30pm Mass	For the sick of our Parish
Sun 9th	8.30am Mass	Kitty Burns (Blackman)
	10.30am Mass	John McHugh RIP (Mary McHugh)
	6.30pm Mass	For you the people

Jesus, A Pilgrimage (2014), by James Martin SJ

Our Reading Group will resume on Tuesday evening,



4th February, 7.30-9.00pm in the upstairs Library

There are spaces for **some New Members**

100 Club

Congratulations to our January Winners :

1st Prize £100/- Catherine Wigington

2nd Prize £50/- Mary McHugh

Cheques have been sent by post.

2nd February - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

Psalm 145

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Matthew 5:1-12

9th February - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 58:7-10

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Matthew 5:13-16

Lenten Project 2020

Next weekend is the time we consider which **two charities** we can support

There were no nominations for local charities.

There were three nominations for overseas charities:

GETA - Give Education to All, nominated by David Rose

Medical Missionaries of Mary Trust, nominated by Teresa & Chris Smith

ZANE - Zimbabwe, A National Emergency, nominated by Andrew Ledingham

All three charities have been invited to make a presentation to the parish at all the Masses next weekend, and parishioners aged 14 years and over will be asked to vote for their two chosen charities.

The results will be announced the following weekend.

CAFOD information afternoon - Wednesday 12nd February 2.30-4pm.

CAFOD will be hosting a supporter's information afternoon with a guest speaker, Christine Allen, Director, who has first-hand experience of our work overseas.

Come and hear how CAFOD is helping communities, thanks to your support.

Meeting will take place from 2.30 – 4pm at CAFOD's Volunteer Centre, 1st Floor, Church of Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood, N14 4HE

Bookings required and taken on 0208 449 6970 or email westminster@cafod.org.uk

Caritas Westminster is recruiting one Caritas Representative from each parish, to help two-way communication between the Parish and Caritas to support and grow charitable activities.

They will help to display posters, flyers, speak in Masses, learn about new tools and models for social action and share best practice between parishes.

If you would like to become a Caritas Representative, please first obtain consent from your Parish Priest, then contact us on 020 7931 6077 or email caritasreps@rcdow.org.uk

Talks During Lent (Tim Redmund)

Talk 1: 'Walking to Jerusalem with St Matthew'

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Talk 7:45pm, with questions and discussion.
Tea and coffee available beforehand. Evening concludes at 9:15pm

Talk 2: 'The last week in Jerusalem with St Matthew'

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Talk 7:45pm, with questions and discussion.



Tea and coffee available beforehand.

Evening concludes at 9:15pm

Further details of Lent activities will be announced shortly.

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, 04th May 2020.

£649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with breakfast and dinner. All excursions included. Lunches on days out. Single supplement £100.

Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

Soup Lunches for 2020

17 January

21 February

20 March

17 April

15 May

19 June

17 July

18 September

16 October

20 November

18 December



Welcoming newcomers to

St Margaret's parish

Every Parish must ask itself from time to time; **'Are we a welcoming community?'**

and ask of newly or recently arrived parishioners: Have you recently joined our parish and would like to get to know other parishioners? or 'Have you been coming here for six months and no one has spoken to you yet?'

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

At coffee after the 1030 Mass, we would like to have a couple of tables where people are encouraged to chat to new people. Would you be prepared to commit to doing this for 20-30 minutes on any 2 Sundays in Lent?

We aim to have a rota of about 12 people who would sign up for 2 Sundays to sit at these tables and chat to people who don't know anyone in the parish.

You might wish to consider this part of your personal Lenten project, of taking up this ministry for Lent.

If you would like to be involved, please either contact Lily McGaw or email Cynthia in the parish office on stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk

Thank you.

Fr Peter



Confirmation 2020

All young people (year 9 and above) who would like to be confirmed, please collect an application form from Fr. Peter or Deacon Joseph after mass.

The course comprises of **12 sessions**, which begin on **Tuesday 4th February, 7.30 pm—9.00 pm.**

The sacrament of confirmation will be conferred in early June. All course material will be provided.



Marriage Preparation Courses

Will be held at St Margaret's on

Saturday March 28th

Saturday 30th May

Please contact the parish office for more information.



Foundation Governor Vacancy



Would you like to serve the local Catholic community in an important and strategic way, ensuring that our children benefit from an education that reflects a Catholic vision and ethos?

St James's Catholic Primary School, Twickenham, has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. St James's is an outstanding school and Governors play a strategic role in the school's development.

Governors need to be willing to work as part of a team, read papers, attend meetings and ask constructive questions. There is free training available from the Borough and the Diocese. For this vacancy, we are particularly seeking applicants who either have a legal background or experience of education strategy.

This vacancy is open to Catholics who are not parents of children currently attending the school. Governors are appointed for a four-year term of office, which can be renewed.

If you would like to learn more about being a school governor please email Ann Edes, Vice Chair of St James's Governing Body at annxedes@gmail.com

Landings Programme Welcoming Returning Catholics

As part of St Margaret's pastoral outreach initiative the Parish will be reaching out to those Catholics who having been away from the Church for whatever reason now wish to return but feel unable or intimidated by returning. The Landings programme is not a judgement on what went before but a way to calm fears and make it easier to become a active member of this or another Parish in the future.

On Saturday 15th Fr Peter and Sally Evenhuis will be attending the training day at St Mark's School. The day will explain how Landings works, and how to ensure a safe landing for those Catholics who wish to return. The course lasts from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

If this ministry appeals please let Fr Peter know so that I can alert the organisers as to numbers. My hope is to run the programme during Lent.

Next Baptism Courses



Tues Mar 3 & 10

Tues May 5 & 12

At 8.00 pm in the lower sacristy

If you wish to be enrolled on one of the courses or wish to book a date for Baptism please talk to Fr Peter first and then contact the Parish Office 9.00-11.30pm 020 8892 3902