ST MARGARETS PAGE

The Baptism of the Lord

12th January 2020

Fr Peter writes:

Over the last two Sundays the parish has hosted two consecutive Vineyard Lunches which were attended by over 35 patrons each time. They like coming to St Margarets because we invite them to come for coffee after the 10.30am Mass. The patrons might sit together at their separate tables in the very English custom, of keeping yourself to yourself. They all complimented the organisers at how welcome they feel at St Margaret's, and obviously that is owing to the quality of food, service and attention given by the volunteer hosts, chefs, servers and porters. There is also something deeper of being with parish families socialising together after Mass. The Vineyard lunch patrons feel part of something larger than just themselves. The last two Sundays therefore were more than just the hard work of preparing and running the Vineyard Lunches. The presence of our guests in the Hall emphasises a key aspect of catholicity, and that is of depth which belongs to other better-known characteristics such as universality and right teaching

The 'depth' of catholicity embraces people from every walk of life, social situation and country of origin not just in their uniqueness but in their solidarity. This solidarity is something that can only be discovered through ritual because everyone becomes an equal. Something of the same sort may be discovered in the unfolding ritual of a team-game. The Catholic anthropologist, Victor Turner, described the Mass as a privileged moment because the social structures of power and utility, the stuff of daily life, give way to a deeper bond between people. He described this type of community as 'communitas'. Communitas in his view possesses three key characteristics, the experience of standing on the threshold between this world and the next, 'betwixt and between' in his words; the ritual is celebrated by outsiders, namely religious leaders who do not fit into existing patterns of living; and the poor who represent humanity as a whole. This understanding of the poor includes but extends beyond just material poverty to those who stand in need of God and in solidarity with the poor.

Therefore, the desire to create moments of 'communitas' becomes the template for every parish community. This involves participation in Mass to experience the threshold between this world and the next, the care for the community of worshippers and solidarity expressed outwards in the local community. These last two Sundays were just two irenic examples of what 'communitas' means in practice and it was a privilege to have been involved. Though the diners wanted to come to St Margarets every week, that would both be beyond our capabilities

Mass Times & Liturgy Services
Vigil 6.30pm (Sat).
Sunday 8.30am, 10.30am & 6.30pm
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat.10.00am
Thursday Communion Service 10.00 am
Rosary 9.30am Monday & Friday
Adoration Wednesdays 8-9.15pm
Friday 10.30-11.00am Saturday 10.30-11.00am
Confessions Sat. 10.30-11.00am Sun. 10.00-10.20am

and more importantly deny the other churches the ability to build 'communitas' themselves. So with that said, the next Vineyard lunch at St Margarets will take place on Easter Sunday, April 12th.

The desire to create 'communitas' finds its origin in the way Jesus Himself set about His ministry. His first public act was to submit to the Baptism of John the Baptist, not because He needed to be ritually purified Himself but out the desire to validate John's ministry and in solidarity with those submitting to John's baptism. This solidarity of Jesus with sinners is the spiritual ground for understanding poverty because if we deny our spiritual poverty or our need for solidarity, we will never really grasp the reality of material poverty. The creation of 'communitas' as at the recent Vineyard lunch demonstrates just this point because poverty is related to exclusion as well as to the material.

When Jesus submitted to John's baptism He validated John's mission, but also the Old Testament as a whole for John was the new Elijah. The ritual of baptism performed by John is the crossover point between the rituals of the Old Testament and those of the New Testament and the Church which will be the work of Jesus Himself. These new rituals, the seven sacraments, will communicate divine power but also bring with them a new social order that forever sits at the margins between this

world and the next. This social order does not mimic any human social order but creates its own, one which the Church and every parish community tries to emulate, one of solidarity and spiritual poverty.

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

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

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

Recently Died Patricia O'Callaghan, Antonio Vera, John White

Anniversaries

John Gates, Nita O'Brien, Nellie Proctor, Len Swinhoe, Anne Collery, Agnes Shorter, Muriel Dommersen, Martin Breheny, Connie Orton, Winifred Collins, Brendan Sugrue, Louis Tobback, Helen Owens, Laurence Roche

Deanery Intentions:

For the religious living and working in our Deanery



Fr. Peter would be happy to visit any sick or housebound parishioner to offer Confession and Holy Communion.

Please contact the parish office to arrange a time.

Also if there is a parishioner you have not seen recently at Mass and feel they may be unwell, please let Fr Peter know.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 11th - Sunday 19th January

Sat 11th 10.00am Mass 10.30-11.00am Adoration 6.30pm Mass Sun 12th 8.30am Mass Special Intention (Walker) 10.30am Mass Brian Faul RIP Anniv. (Faul) 6.30pm Mass Maria & Tom Dunford RIP Mon 13th 9.30am The Rosary 10.00am Mass For prisoners and their families Tue 14th 10.00 am Communion Service Wed 15th 10.00 am Communion Service Fri 17th 10.00am Mass For the homeless For the lonely and isolated Sat 18th 10.00am Mass For the poor and marginalised 10.30am-11.00am Adoration
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6.30pm Mass Brendan Sugrue Anniv.
(Catherine Sugrue)
8.30am Mass Tony Slattery Anniv. (Slattery)
Sun 19h
10.30am Mass Bailey Family (All deceased
members) (Margaret Crowe)
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6.30pm Mass Helen Edes RIP (McGinley)
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We invite all parishioners to a

Thanksgiving mass on Saturday, 25th January
10.00 a.m. for the many years of
dedicated service offered by

Jean McGinley to this parish.

Mass will be followed by light refreshments

Please do join us!!

Achieving for Children have written to say a massive thank you for the wonderful response to the Christmas Angel appeal.
They told us that the families



who received the gifts and hampers were extremely pleased and commented on the difference this made to them.

12th January - The Baptism of the Lord A Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7 Psalm 28 Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17

19th January - Second Sunday In Ordinary Time Isaiah 49:3. 5-6 Psalm 39 Corinthians 1:1-3 John 1:29-34

Thank you to all parishioners who helped this year with the Christmas leaflets drop. We intend to repeat this at Easter.

A kind request to all who have not returned the hemp bags to do so at their earliest convenience. **Thank you!**

We have launched our new website - please take a look.



https://www.stmargaretsrcchurch.co.uk

We will be adding more content in the coming weeks.

Save it as a "favourite" or clear your browser history as the old website will no longer be updated.

If you would like to receive copies of The Page electronically, you will need to **register again** with your email address on the new website.

Please also remember to **UNSUBSCRIBE** from the distribution of the old website

Jesus, A Pilgrimage (2014), by James Martin SJ (Available in digital as well as traditional book form)

Our **Reading Group** meets on Tuesday evenings, 7.30-9pm in the upstairs Library THE MEETINGS WILL RESUME FROM TUESDAY 14th JANUARY

There is space for **some New Members** Contact Paddy Walsh on 07974693389 - or just turn up

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.

LENTEN PROJECT 2020

The parish pastoral council invites nominations from charities that would like to be considered as beneficiaries of St Margaret's Lenten Project 2020.

We will choose one local and one overseas charity that are raising funds for a specific project. The proposer should be involved in some way with the suggested charity and should have a link to the parish.

Application forms available by emailing the parish office: stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk



Soup Lunch

Friday 17th Jan 12:15 - 1:30 pm

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!!

We're back and planning to continue supporting Fr David in Zambia.

There will be copies of his most recent letter detailing how our money was spent and how far it can stretch in Zambia.

Our donations literally change lives.

If you have not come to a Soup Lunch before, come and give it a try - a resolution for the New Year perhaps? You are guaranteed good soup, bread, cheese, delicious cake plus tea or coffee and excellent company.

Hope you can make it. Feel free to bring a friend!

London SW Catholic Social Group is a group for Catholic adults living, working or staying in London to meet for regular social and networking events.

Please contact us on our Facebook page or <u>londoncatholicsocial@gmail.com</u>.

Our next event is a Mass, Walk and Meal at St Patrick's

Church, 21A Soho Square, London W1D 4NR on 19th January at 11 a.m. We aim to visit a different parish church each month.

Please join us in exploring new parishes and making new friends.



Thursday Mornings Faith Sharing Group

Meets Thursdays 10.30 am—12.30 pm in the lower sacristy
In Lent, the group will be using the faith sharing resource:

"A Word for Lent"

Using Sacred Scripture and Sacred Art, this will take us on a Lenten journey, a journey of seeing salvation through the eyes of Gospel women and men. It is an eye-opening resource, specially commissioned by the Diocese for this *Year of the Word*.

If you would like more information, please speak to Maz Winter or contact the parish office.



Use your free time to inspire young people to build a fairer world – CAFOD, Westminster is looking for volunteers who have a passion for, and experience of, working with young people.

We need people who have a commitment to CAFOD's aims and values and an interest in sharing our work in primary and secondary schools through delivering assemblies or workshops.

CAFOD will provide training and support, and expenses will be paid.

Volunteering assignments will be in local Catholic schools and you can either work on your own or as part of a team. None of our work is possible without you, so join us and put your faith into action.

If you are interested please email Chris Driscoll at wschools@cafod.org.uk or call 07776 493162

Date for your diary



Saturday 21st March
Proceeds to the Lenten Project



Marriage Preparation Courses

Will be held at St Margaret's on Saturday March 28th Saturday May 30th Please contact the parish office

for more information.



St James's Catholic Primary School in

Twickenham is a high achieving, vibrant school (rated 'Outstanding' by OFSTED), serving the parishes of St James, St Margaret's, St Francis de Sales and St Theodore's. Each individual child at St. James's grows in the knowledge and love of Christ. In partnership with parents and the whole community, our purpose is to provide a high standard of education, giving the maximum opportunity to realise each child's potential.

There is nursery provision (mornings only) for 52 children. Applications are now open for Sept 2020 nursery places.

Parents are warmly invited to visit the school. Please contact info@st-james.richmond.sch.uk for further details.

Closing date for applications is 6th March and application forms can be downloaded from the school website.



Next Baptism Courses

Tues Jan 14 & 21

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 9.30 am -11.30am 020 8892 3902