



St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Committed to 'Churches Together in England'

www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.co.uk

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

Parochial Administrator: Fr Anthony Uche, JCD

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Sat), 9am & 11am

Tel: 0208 669 6483

Weekday Masses: 9.30am (& 9.30am Sat)

Mobile: 0737 635 0370

Holy Days of Obligation: 9.30am & 7.30pm

Email: carshaltonbeeches@rcaos.org.uk

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 10.30-11.00am & 5.15 - 5.45pm & at call

A warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors



26th February 2023 [Cycle A Year 1]

First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 | Psalm 50

Romans 5:12-9 | Matthew 4:1-11

Theme: Salvific Repair and Rescue of Man and Woman

The forty days of the Lent Season began on Ash Wednesday. We will journey with the Lord this season to prepare ourselves for the commemoration of rescue from sin and death.

Thus, in St Matthew's gospel, our Lord Jesus is the New Moses who leads the stray not from a land of slavery, but from a graceless state of sin and death. In other words, Jesus' messianic mission not only re-echoes God's rescue of the Israelites from captivity in Egypt but it also inaugurates God's repair of the damage caused by the sin of Adam and Eve and the love-coded rescue of people from every nation.

Our Lord Jesus commenced that love-coded salvific project in the desert where He spent forty days and was tempted by the devil. Unlike the temptations of Adam and Eve and the Israelites' experiences in the desert, our Lord's temptations were self-mortifying moments wherein He reembraced His identity and renewed His commitment to God's plan of salvation. From the beginning of creation, man and woman were fashioned and ordered to have the fullness of Life from the nostrils of Divine Life. Having disobeyed the Lord's injunction by eating from the forbidden tree, the consequences of disobedience, pain, and death became the lot of men and women.

Thus, our Lord Jesus, the Son of God and bearer of divine grace, prepared Himself in the desert for the rescue hands of the prince of the underworld who caused and led man and woman into the desert of sin and death. And so, the *diabolos*, divisionist, or seducer was also in the desert to thwart the mission of our Lord Jesus.

First, after fasting for forty days and nights, the enemy of life asked our Lord Jesus to show off or display his powers by turning the stones before Him into loaves. Secondly, the seducer asked our Lord to throw Himself down from the parapet of the temple to define beforehand how people should describe him. Lastly, the *diabolos* showed our Lord the kingdoms of the world and their splendour from a very high mountain and promised to give it all to the Lord if He worshiped him.

In response to those temptations, our Lord reminds us that our ultimate end consists not in showing off our gifts and talents; neither does it consist in feeling good or pleasing others. It does not even consist in receiving honour, glory, or creating wealth either. Thus, our ultimate good consists in knowing and worshipping God who sent His Son to dethrone the seducer and establish a Kingdom wherein every man and woman is made righteous in Christ Jesus.

Fr Anthony



Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

Friday 24	9.30am	Mass
Saturday 25	8am	Lenten Prayer Breakfast
	9.30am	Mass
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
Sunday 26 1st Sunday of Lent	9am	Tommy Doran RIP (FC)
	11am	Tom & Kathleen RIP (CC)
<i>[Psalm Wk 1]</i>		
Monday 27	9.30am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 28	9.30am	Mass
	6.45pm	Lenten Reflection
	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 1 St David	9.30am	Mass
	6pm	Youth Choir Practice
	7pm	Central Choir Practice
	8pm	Bible Study
Thursday 2	9.30am	Mary O'Sullivan RIP
	7.30pm	Folk Choir Practice
Friday 3	9.30am	Mass
	12.30pm	Mass for the Sick
	7pm	Wholehearted Choral Adoration
Saturday 4	8.00am	Lenten Prayer Breakfast
	9.30am	Mass
	5.15am	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	Mass
Sunday 5 2nd Sunday of Lent	9am	Ronald Chalmers RIP (YC)
	11am	Sullivan Alexis RIP (CC)

FC= Folk Choir, YC= Youth Choir, CC= Central Choir,

TG= Thanksgiving, WB= Wellbeing, BT= Birthday Thanksgiving, SI= Special Intention, RIP= Rest in Peace, GP= God's Protection and PI= Private Intention

NOTE: Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration follows every weekday Mass, until 11am on Tuesday through Thursday, and until 8pm on Friday.

Anniversaries: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur this month.

Prayer requests: Paul Ford, Michael Colairo, Richard Neal, Catherine Roberts, Paula Seradi, Maria Luisa Mappley, Sheila Sharp, Michal Pacala, Hilda Gill, Michael Rowback, Max & Isabelle Mifsud, Kristine Harvey, and Margaret Fox.

Our Lenten Programme 2023

- Every Saturday during Lent, Lenten Prayer Breakfasts will take place from 8am.
- Every Tuesday during Lent there will be a Lenten Reflection at 6.45pm (presented by a parishioner), followed by Stations of the Cross at 7pm.
- Ecumenical Lent House Groups will meet weekly, including a group which will meet every Tuesday at 8pm at St Margaret's.
- A Lenten Alms box can be found on the sanctuary. The proceeds will go to Mary's Meals.
- A Reconciliation Service will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 27th March.

You are very welcome to take part in these activities in order to make Lent a time of prayer, fasting, almsgiving and preparation for Easter.

Pope Francis's Message for Lent 2023

You can read the Pope's full text that links Lenten Penance and the Synodal Journey at: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/46575>

Children's Liturgy, on Sunday 26th

Paper lanterns and a tangram puzzle will be available for the children's liturgy, on Sunday 26th February at 9am Mass. This is preparation for the World Day of Prayer on March 3rd.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

In preparation for Family Fast Day (3 March). CAFOD's David Murray will provide us with an update on the work of CAFOD at our Masses on February 25th and 26th. CAFOD would also love for you to join their volunteer team and you are warmly invited to contact the local CAFOD centre at: southwark@cafod.org.uk. If you have any questions or want to know more about volunteering, please do chat to David after Mass.

CTIC Clergy Support Fund Second Collection: 25th/26th Feb

The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church and His People. In 2022, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1.33 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese. Please be generous with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers.

Thank you! - You can also donate online at:

<https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf>

Flame 2023 - The UK's Largest Catholic Youth Conference

On 4th March 10,000 young people will fill OVO Arena Wembley, for an inspiring day of prayer, adoration, catechesis, reflection, celebration and praise. The theme of Flame 2023 takes the scripture "Mary arose and went with haste" and crystallises it into the theme, "Rise Up!" Rise up after the pandemic, Rise up as young Catholics, Rise up – as Mary did – for the surprising and beautiful adventure that is our Catholic faith.

Change in Legal Age for Marriage

The Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022 will come into effect on Monday 27th February 2023. From that date, 16 and 17 year-olds will no longer be able to marry or enter into a civil partnership in England and Wales under any circumstances.

Community First Aid Project

The British Army and citizenAID are proud to announce the citizenAID community first aid project. The project is about teaching first aid for catastrophic bleeding and lifesaving skills such as CPR. Community First Aid training engages and educates the public to know life-saving skills and the citizenAID system. The course is now available for you to book directly on the website to secure your place. The course lasts about 2.5 hours and is FREE. At the end of the course the student will get a certificate they can download online and a challenge coin on the day. Please can you pass the word around about the course and share the booking link below amongst your communities:

<https://www.communityfirstaidproject.co.uk/community>



The independent Commission on the Integration of Refugees invites you to submit evidence on how the current refugee and asylum system affects refugees' integration into wider UK society. Your evidence will be used to support the Commission's report and recommendations for changes to the way the UK processes and supports refugees and asylum seekers. The Commission hopes that these recommendations will be adopted by policy makers and will result in tangible changes to the current system. We welcome submissions from people with diverse views and experiences, especially those with lived experience of being refugees or asylum seekers themselves. We also encourage submissions from integration service providers, refugee and asylum seeker experts, and the general public. You can submit evidence up until 31 March 2023 by completing the form on the Commission's website:

<https://refugeeintegrationuk.com/call-for-evidence/>

[Requested by Bishop Paul McAleenan]

Leaving the ECHR?

In an interview on LBC radio recently, Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, said he would be prepared to withdraw the UK from the European Convention on Human Rights if it blocks his plans to crack down on Channel crossings and the Rwanda deportation policy.

Dean of Sutton Deanery

Fr James McGillicuddy, parish priest of Our Lady of the Rosary in Sutton, has been appointed to be Dean in the Archdiocese of Southwark for the next three-year term from 1st January 2023-31st December 2025.

Not too late for CTIC Lent 2023!

Churches Together in Carshalton Lenten ecumenical groups, will be starting from the week of 27th February. Send an email to adrian.clifton@gmail.com with your: Name and email + Church + Preferred day + Whether you would prefer Zoom or in person.

Adrian Clifton



Tutor available for Primary aged children.

I teach in a local Catholic Primary School & have been teaching & tutoring for 24 years. I also spent 10 years teaching children's liturgy at St Margarets. Many of you will know me now as a Welcomer at Mass. I am happy to come to your home OR teach via Zoom. Please contact Lisa Conroy on 07956

350848 for more details.