



# St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

Parochial Administrator: Fr Anthony Uche, JCD

Committed to 'Churches Together in England'

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Sat), 9am & 11am  
 Weekday Masses: 9.30am (& 9.30am Sat)  
 Holy Days of Obligation: 9.30am & 7.30pm  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation:

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 web: www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.co.uk  
 Safeguarding Officer: Andrea Fernandes  
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Saturdays 10.30-11.00am & 4.15 - 4.45pm & at call

*A warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors*



2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 [Cycle C Year 1]  
**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 Sirach 27: 4-7 | Psalm 92 (91): 2-3, 13-14,  
 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58 | Luke 6: 39-45



In today's readings we hear Jesus speaking in Galilee as well as a Jewish sage named Sirach writing in Jerusalem more than a century earlier. The two of them touch upon a single truth: The words that come out of us make known the hidden thoughts within us. Speech reveals the secrets of the heart.

Sirach teaches that speaking is "the test of men" and their character. One who is upright will utter words that are truthful and encouraging to others. But one whose heart is cluttered with "refuse" will be exposed, since the "fruit" of his mouth speaks volumes about the "tree" that produces it. Sirach also compares the testing of our words to clay fired in a kiln—if properly prepared, a useful vessel emerges; but if the clay is not fully dried, it will break apart in the extreme heat.

In a similar way, Jesus insists that a person speaks "out of the abundance of the heart." He too compares our speech, whether good or bad, to what grows on a tree: "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit."

Both readings urge us to make wholesome speech a habit. After all, much about who we are is brought to light through what we say. But there's an additional step: The Lord is asking us to look inward, to examine our hearts and fill them with the "good treasure" that God desires.

Why do purity of heart and speech matter so much? Because, as Jesus declares elsewhere: "by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned" (Matthew 12:37). They matter because they help to decide our final judgment, and this is where the Second Reading comes in. Paul reminds us that God will destroy death forever, and if we are to share in this victory and live forever with the Lord, then we must take all steps necessary to give our hearts and lips to what is good.

*Taken from St Paul Center for Biblical Theology*

## Lenten Prayer Breakfasts at St Margaret's from 1st March

All parishioners are invited to help shape the future of our parish and the archdiocese, using the resource 'Called to Bear Fruit'. Prayerful discussion on this topic will take place in the meeting area on Saturday mornings at 8am from March 1<sup>st</sup> until April 5<sup>th</sup> (6 weeks). Each session will last about 45mins and will be followed by breakfast, comprising of Fairtrade Tea, Cafetiere Coffee and Croissants. All are very welcome!

## Funeral of John Goodger will take place on Ash Wednesday

John was a long-standing parishioner and sacristan of St Margaret's. His funeral service will be held at All Saints Church, Carshalton on Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 12noon. Christine, John's wife, is a parishioner at All Saints and John was well known there.

## 2025 CTIC Lenten ecumenical groups

'Hope in Hard Places' is the study guide for this Lent. If you would like to participate, please send an email now to Adrian at: [adrian.clifton@gmail.com](mailto:adrian.clifton@gmail.com) with your name, your church, your preferred day and whether you would prefer Zoom or in person.

## Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

<b>Friday 28</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass, Michael Cain RIP</b>
<b>Saturday 01</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>Called to Bear Fruit</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>10.15am</b>	Legion of Mary
	<b>5.15pm</b>	Devotion to Our Lady
<b>Sunday 02</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Mass, John Goodger RIP (YMG)</b>
	<b>11am</b>	<b>Mass, People of the Parish (CC)</b>
<i>Psalm week 4</i>		
<b>Monday 03</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	Confirmation Class
<b>Tuesday 04</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday 05</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	Youth Music Group Practice
	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Thursday 06</b>	<b>8pm</b>	Bible Study via zoom
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Friday 07</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	Folk Choir practice
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Mass for the Sick</b>
<b>Saturday 08</b>	<b>7pm</b>	Wholehearted Choral Adoration
	<b>8am</b>	<b>Called to Bear Fruit</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>10.15am</b>	Legion of Mary
<b>Sunday 09</b>	<b>5.15pm</b>	Devotion to Our Lady
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass</b>
	<b>9am</b>	<b>Mass, Theresa &amp; Jim Fox WB (FC)</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Mass, People of the Parish (CC)</b>

FC= Folk Choir, YMG= Youth Music Group, 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 weekday Masses, until 11am on Tuesday through Thursday, and until 8pm on Friday.

**Please pray for:** Pope Francis\*, Anne Towner, Fred Hewson, Neil Ockenden, Keith Ockenden, Maria Furtado, Tom O'Regan, Elizabeth Cuffy, Annabelle Colairo, Paul Ford, Michael Colairo, Paula Seradi, Maria Mapple, Sheila Sharp, Michael Rowback, Kristine Harvey and Margaret Fox.

**Lately dead:** Gina DiBenedetto (Aunt to Enza Duggan). May she rest in peace.

## St Margaret's is praying for Pope Francis

Please continue to pray for Pope Francis who remains under treatment in Rome's Gemelli Hospital. The Holy Father entered hospital on February 14th after struggling with bronchitis and breathing difficulties for the previous 10 days. His doctors found that he also had an infection which was causing pneumonia in his lungs. He is being treated with medication and receiving oxygen through a cannula. On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February he received concentrated blood cells and his blood tests showed a mild renal insufficiency. His medical team say that he is slowly improving but that his prognosis remains uncertain. On Tuesday evening, 25th February, his condition was described as "critical but stable".

Pope Francis has issued a statement expressing gratitude for the outpouring of messages and prayers in recent days. The statement ended with the words: "I entrust you all to the intercession of Mary and I ask you to pray for me."

Pilgrims currently in Rome for the Jubilee Year (including some parishioners from St Margaret's) are praying the Rosary for the Holy Father in St Peter's Square every evening at 8.00 English time. The Rosary is broadcast live each evening on the Vatican News website.



### This month's winning numbers:

1<sup>st</sup> prize £50: 110  
2<sup>nd</sup> prize £25: 2  
3<sup>rd</sup> prize £10: 134

## Community Outreach

During the month of March, St Margaret's will be praying for the residents on Gordon Road, even numbers 2 to 84. Cards will be put through residents' letterboxes informing them of this.

## Aid to the Church in need Pilgrimage

Join Aid to the Church in Need (ACN UK) on their Pilgrimage to York: York and the North - heartland of faith and hope from 21st July – 26th July 2025, led by Fr Dominic Robinson SJ (Spiritual Director). For more information or to book a place contact Bridget Teasdale ([bridget.teasdale@acnuk.org](mailto:bridget.teasdale@acnuk.org)).

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025**  
**Friday 7 March**  
A service for everyone!

**1-30pm**  
**Holy Cross R.C. Church**  
46 North Street, Carshalton  
SM5 2JD

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**7-30pm**  
**St. Mary's Church**  
Church Road, Beddington  
SM6 7NH

**Cook Islands** *I made you wonderful*

**INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION**  
24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led  
[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk) Registered Charity Number 233242

## Saints of the Month – Saints Perpetua and Felicity



Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity were African women who were martyred in 203 AD at Carthage (in modern day Tunisia). They are among the martyrs listed in

the Roman Canon (the First Eucharistic Prayer). Perpetua, a noblewoman, had an infant son. Felicity, a slave, was pregnant and gave birth in prison two days before her martyrdom. They were among five catechumens who were put to death during Roman games held in honour of Emperor Septimus Severus. Perpetua wrote an account, published after her death, entitled "The Passion of Perpetua and Felicity" which described their sufferings in prison before their martyrdom. The martyrs were thrown to wild beasts, following which Perpetua and Felicity were killed with a gladiator's sword. Their feast day is celebrated on 7 March. They are the patron saints of mothers and expectant mothers.

## Turning Tables - a new resource on Catholic Social Teaching

The Catholic Bishops' Conference and The God Who Speaks have produced a new resource entitled "Turning Tables". This is a toolkit which aims to help Catholics to use Scripture and the faith to inspire action for social justice. In a Foreword Bishop Richard Moth writes: "I am pleased to recommend this resource as a means to explore the riches of Catholic Social Teaching, grounded in the Scriptures." You can download "Turning Tables" at [www.cbcew.org.uk/turning-tables-a-toolkit-for-scripture-and-social-action/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/turning-tables-a-toolkit-for-scripture-and-social-action/)

## Archbishop John's podcasts on Facebook



In Eucharistic Adoration we can pour out our hearts to 'the one who loves you and is calling you to spend time with him in Eucharistic Adoration.....' Adore him with Eucharistic amazement in silence before the presence of Christ.' Please find the link to the podcasts via Facebook below ↓

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/18BXhxDP4S/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

## 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

The Holy Father has proclaimed 2025 as a Jubilee Year, a sacred time of renewal, reflection, and grace celebrated every 25 years. With the theme "Pilgrims of Hope" this Jubilee invites all Catholics to embark on a journey of faith and transformation.

*"Every tree can be told by its own fruit; people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles."*

*(Gospel, Luke 6: 39-45)*