



St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Committed to 'Churches Together in England'

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.co.uk

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

Parochial Administrator: Fr Anthony Uche, JCD

Weekday Masses: 9.30am (& 9.30am Sat)

Tel: 020 8669 6483

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



18th December 2022 [Cycle A Year 1]
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Isaiah 7:10-14, | Psalm 24
 Romans 1:1-7 | Matthew 1:18-24



Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

Friday 16	9.30am	Peppe Olireh RIP
Saturday 17	9.30am	People of the Parish
	4pm	Carols by Candlelight
	5.15pm	No Devotion to Our Lady
Sunday 18 [Psalm Wk 4] 4th Sunday of Advent	6pm	Mass
	9am	Tom Begley TG (YC)
Monday 19	11am	Mass (CC)
	9.30am	Lucy Manuel RIP
	6pm	Advent Adoration
Tuesday 20	7pm	Mass
	9.30am	Fr Kevin Michael Pelham RIP
Wednesday 21	9.30am	Nan Cantillon GP
	6pm	Youth Choir Practice
	7pm	Central Choir Practice
	8pm	Bible Study
Thursday 22	9.30am	Mass
	6pm	Folk Choir Practice
Friday 23	9.30am	Mass
Saturday 24	9.30am	Victor De Lima RIP
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	Children' Mass
		Fiozinda & Jozef Kurowski RIP
	10.30pm	Carols
Sunday 25 CHRISTMAS DAY	11.30pm	Midnight Mass
		People of the Parish
	9am	Castelino & Sykes
	10.30am	Families TG(FC)
		People of the Parish (CC)

The mystery kept secret for long ages, promised through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, is today revealed (see Romans 16:25–26).

This is the “Gospel of God” that Paul celebrates in today’s Epistle—the good news that “God is with us” in Jesus Christ. The sign promised to the House of David in today’s First Reading is given in today’s Gospel. In the virgin found with child, God Himself has brought to Israel a saviour from David’s royal line (see Acts 13:22–23).

Son of David according to the flesh, Jesus is the Son of God, born of the Spirit. He will be anointed with the Spirit (see Acts 10:38), and by the power of the Spirit will be raised from the dead and established at God’s right hand in the heavens (see Acts 2:33–34; Ephesians 1:20–21).

He is the “King of Glory” we sing of in today’s Psalm. The earth in its fullness has been given to Him. And as God swore long ago to David, His Kingdom will have no end (see Psalm 89:4–5).

In Jesus Christ we have a new creation. Like the creation of the world, it is a work of the Spirit, a blessing from the Lord (see Genesis 1:2). In Him, we are saved from our sins, are called now “the beloved of God.”

All nations now are called to belong to Jesus Christ, to enter into the House of David and kingdom of God, the Church. Together, through the obedience of faith, we have been made a new race—a royal people that seeks for the face of the God of Jacob.

He has made our hearts clean; He has made us worthy to enter His holy place, to stand in His presence and serve Him.

In the Eucharist, the everlasting covenant is renewed, the Advent promise of virgin with child—God with us—continues until the end of the age (see Matthew 28:20; Ezekiel 37:24–28).

St Paul Centre for Biblical Theology, Steubenville, Ohio

St Margaret of Scotland CATHOLIC CHURCH
 180 Club email: carshaltonbeeches180club@rcaos.org.uk

This Month's Winning Numbers (December)

180 CLUB

1st Prize £50 Winning Number: 68
 2nd Prize £25 Winning Number: 18
 3rd Prize £10 Winning Number: 42
 PLUS
 Quarterly Prize £50 Winning Number 145

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: Wendy Counsell, Paula Seradi, Maria Luisa Mapple, Sheila Sharp, Michal Pacala, Hilda Gill, Michael Rowback, Max & Isabelle Mifsud, Catherine Roberts, Kristine Harvey, Margaret Fox and Richard Neal.



Christmas at St Margaret's

Monday 12th Dec
Reconciliation Service at 7.30pm

Saturday 17th Dec
Carols by Candlelight at 4pm

Christmas Eve
Children's Christmas Vigil Mass at 6pm
and at 10.30pm Carols followed by
Midnight Mass at 11.30pm

Christmas Day
Masses at 9am and at 10.30am

Monday 26th Dec (St Stephen's Day)
Altar Servers Mass at 10am

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Pope's travel plans

Pope Francis will visit the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan from 31 January to 5 February 2023. The Holy Father will visit the city of Kinshasa in DR Congo meeting aid agencies there. In Juba, South Sudan

he will meet internally displaced persons and take part in an open-air Ecumenical Prayer Service together with the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Government handling of refugees and migrants

The Archbishop of Canterbury has delivered a scathing condemnation of the government's "immoral" and "cruel" treatment of migrants and asylum seekers. In a speech to the House of Lords, Justin Welby said that the principle of offering protection to refugees has been "politically degraded" and that "When we fail to challenge the harmful rhetoric that refugees are the cause of this country's ills, that they should be treated as problems not people, invaders to be tackled and deterred - we deny the essential value and dignity of fellow human beings."

Down's Syndrome

The Court of Appeal's recently decided that the Abortion Act did not interfere with the rights of those with disabilities. Heidi Crowter, a woman with Down's Syndrome, lost her appeal to change the law and challenge people's perception of Down's syndrome. Bishop John Sherrington, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster and Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference, commented "We must continue to advocate for greater support for families caring for a child with disability. I offer my prayerful support as Heidi considers seeking permission for the case to be heard at the UK Supreme Court."

Religious Affiliation in England & Wales

For the first time in a census of England and Wales (2021), less than half the population (46.2%, 27.5 million people) described themselves as "Christian", a 13.1 percentage point decrease from 59.3% (33.3 million) in 2011. The headline figures for those who stated a religious affiliation are: Christians – 27.5 million, Muslims – 3.9 million, Hindus – 1 million & Sikhs – 524,000.

Taken from <https://lawandreligionuk.com>

Vacancy for Foundation Governor at St Philomena's Catholic High School for Girls

There is a vacancy available for a Foundation Governor from the Spring term of the academic year 2022/2023. We would be most interested to hear from practising Catholics with expertise in either Law, Finance or HR.

If you are interested please contact our Clerk to the Governors by email cmingay@stphils.org.uk at your earliest convenience.

Appeal for Homeless Shelter Volunteers

Farm Street Church in Mayfair are opening an emergency night shelter, starting from Monday, 12 December. If you would like to volunteer at the shelter, please email: Catholiclisteners@gmail.com or call 0800 448 0704.

Pope brings prayers of the world to Our Lady

Here is an extract from the Pope's prayer at the Column of the Immaculate Conception in Rome:

"I bring you the dreams and anxieties of young people, open to the future but held back by a culture rich in things and poor in values, saturated with information and deficient in education, persuasive in deluding and ruthless in disappointing. I especially commend to you the children, who have been most affected by the pandemic, that little by little they might resume spreading and flapping their wings and rediscover the enjoyment of flying high.

Immaculate Virgin, I would have liked to have brought to you today the thanksgiving of the Ukrainian people for the peace we have long been asking the Lord for. Instead, I still have to present to you the supplication of the children, of the elderly, of the fathers and mothers, of the young people of that tormented land. But in reality, we all know that you are with them and with all who are suffering, just as you were beside the cross of your Son.

Thank you, our Mother! Looking to you who are without sin, may we continue to believe and hope that love might conquer hatred, that truth might conquer lies, that pardon might conquer offenses, that peace might conquer war. So be it!"

The full text of Pope Francis' prayer can be found at: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/46080>

Catholic Union's Survey on Assisted Dying

The recent announcement from the House of Commons Health and Care Committee that they will be holding an inquiry into assisted dying in England and Wales, is the latest attempt to ratchet up pressure for a change in the law. You are invited to provide your view at: <https://tinyurl.com/3t42cwtv>