



# 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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Safeguarding Officer: Andrea Fernandes

Saturdays 10.30-11.00am & 5.15 - 5.45pm & at call

email: carshaltonbeechesg3a@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

*A warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors*



3rd November 2023 [Cycle B Year 2]

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8 | Psalm 79

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 | Mark 13:33-37

*'Stay awake! Be ready!'*



## Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

<b>Friday 1</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Martin Watters RIP</b>
	<b>12.30pm</b>	<b>Mass for the Sick</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Beeches Yule fest</b>
	<b>7pm</b>	<b>Wholehearted Choral Adoration</b>
<b>Saturday 2</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Martin Watters RIP</b>
	<b>12pm</b>	<b>Wedding</b>
	<b>5.15pm</b>	<b>Devotion to Our Lady</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Francis Ikphoh-Akah WB</b>
<b>Sunday 3</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Fr Albert Tomei RIP (YC)</b>
<b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Stanley Blackmore RIP (CC)</b>
<b>(Psalm Week 1)</b>		<b>Michael Dallison RIP</b>
<b>Monday 4</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Catherine Squires, Husband and Family</b>
	<b>7.30</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday 5</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Filomena Da Silva RIP</b>
	<b>7.45pm</b>	<b>The Sacraments in Scripture</b>
<b>Wednesday 6</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Richard Neal WB</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Youth Choir Practice</b>
	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Central Choir Practice</b>
	<b>8pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
<b>Thursday 7</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Martin Watters RIP</b>
<b>St Ambrose</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Folk Choir Practice</b>
<b>Friday 8</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Immaculate</b>	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>		
<b>Saturday 9</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>5.15pm</b>	<b>Devotion to Our Lady</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 10</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Charlotte Heard SI (FC)</b>
<b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Francis Ikphoh-Akah RIP (CC)</b>

As we begin the season of Advent, the readings continue to focus (as in recent weeks) not just on the coming of Christ at the end of time, but also on his coming in our own lives.

The people of Israel, newly returned from exile, find the task of rebuilding their land difficult, and ask God their Father to come and help them. They have done penance, and now trust that he will return (First Reading).

The Psalm continues this theme, appealing to God 'the shepherd of Israel' to come to the help of his people.

In the Second Reading, Paul writes to the Corinthians of his gratitude for the graces they have received. Their strong Christian witness and the gifts of the Spirit they have been given will stand them in good stead when the Lord returns on the last day.

In the Gospel Jesus uses images familiar to his audience to warn them to remain alert and awake, as a doorkeeper would. In this way they will not be caught unaware when the Lord comes again.

So we, too, pray to enter this season of Advent trusting that the Lord will come: as he came in history at Christmas; as he comes in our hearts if we keep our door open; and as he will come at the end of time.

We pray for all those in the world who are waiting with longing and hope for freedom from oppression and peace.

*Taken from St Beuno's Outreach*

## Christmas at St Margaret's

*Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus with us*

Monday 11 December - Reconciliation Service after 7.30pm Mass

Sunday 17 December - Carol Service at 4pm

Sunday 24 December **Christmas Eve** - Sunday Masses at 9am and 11am  
 Christmas Eve Children's Mass at 6pm  
 Midnight Mass at 11.30pm preceded by carols from 11pm

Monday 25 December **Christmas Day** - Masses at 9am and 10.30am

Tuesday 26 December **Feast of St Stephen** - Altar Servers' Mass at 10am

Sunday 31 December **New Year's Eve** - Masses at 9am, 11am and 11.30pm

Monday 1 January 2024 **New Year's Day** - Mass at 9.30am




www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.co.uk

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.

**Prayer requests:** Peter Thompson, Michael Begley, Elizabeth Margaret Cuffy, Michelle Caley, Paul Ford, Michael Colairo, Richard Neal, Catherine Roberts, Paula Seradi, Maria Luisa Mappleby, Sheila Sharp, Michal Pacala, Michael Rowback, Kristine Harvey, and Margaret Fox.

### Saint of the Month – Saint Juan Diego

Saint Juan Diego was born in 1474 in Cuauhtitlan, Mexico. He was one of the first to be baptised after the arrival of the first Franciscan missionaries in Mexico in 1524. In 1531 Our Lady appeared to St Juan Diego on three occasions at Tepeyac Hill. On Our Lady's instructions, Juan Diego found and gathered roses from the summit of the hill, which was normally barren. Our Lady arranged the flowers in Juan Diego's tilma (cloak). When he later opened the cloak in front of the initially sceptical local Bishop, the flowers fell to the floor revealing a miraculous image of Our Lady. The image depicts Our Lady with Mexican mestizo features. The tilma is now displayed in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in a suburb of Mexico City. It is the most visited Catholic shrine in the world. Juan Diego was beatified in 1990 and canonised in 2002 by Pope John Paul II, who travelled on both occasions to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He was the first indigenous saint of the Americas. Saint Juan Diego's feast day is celebrated on 9 December.



### CAFOD's online Advent calendar 2023

As we prepare for the Advent season, CAFOD would like to invite you to join us as we seek to draw closer to God and our global family, during this meaningful but often busy time. Each day, in our Advent calendar, we will be sharing scripture reflections, stories of our global family, prayers and practical ideas for action with you, as we take time to prepare for the coming of Christ. Here <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar> you can get your online Advent calendar of daily prayer and reflection which will offer an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Christmas.

### Share the World's Resources

This is to inform you about an upcoming online talk by Share the World's Resources, highlighting their campaign work. The outreach targets communities, organizations, and faith groups dedicated to global fairness and equality. All interested individuals are warmly invited.

The presentation centres on implementing Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, advocating for adequate food, housing, and healthcare as fundamental international law. The objective is to address systemic injustices and prevent unnecessary human suffering.

It is believed that the massed goodwill of ordinary people calling for Article 25 can bring an end to poverty in a world of plenty, with transformative consequences for our divided world—socially, politically, and environmentally. The talk will take place on Wednesday 6th December at 7pm GMT. It will last for about an hour. Please reply to [victoria@sharing.org](mailto:victoria@sharing.org) in order to register and receive the zoom link if you would like to attend. The event is free.

### Pope Francis: We are called to show compassion and mercy

Recovering from flu-like symptoms, Pope Francis led the Angelus from Casa Santa Marta instead of the Apostolic Palace due to illness. Pilgrims watched via screens. The Pope recalled the Gospel's message on the final judgement, emphasizing caring for others through charity and mercy. He contrasted the world's criteria with Jesus', highlighting service to the needy. The Pope urged reflection on recognizing mercy's centrality, the power of love, and being personally involved in helping those in need. He concluded with a prayer to Mary for assistance in loving Jesus through service to the least of His brethren.



### Pope Francis: Pray for immense suffering of people in Holy Land

Pope Francis, during his Wednesday General Audience, described the Israel-Hamas conflict as terrorism, emphasizing it goes beyond a conventional war. He recounted his recent meetings with delegations, including Israelis with relatives held in Gaza and Palestinians suffering in Gaza, urging prayers for peace and dialogue to solve the problems rather than succumbing to destructive passions. The meetings were highlighted as exclusively humanitarian in nature, demonstrating the Pope's spiritual closeness to the suffering in the region.

### Mother Teresa's nuns hang on in small convent near wrecked Gaza hospital

Three nuns from Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity near Gaza's Al-Shifa hospital are supporting around 60 people, including the elderly and disabled. The area faced intense fighting, with Israel accusing Hamas of using the hospital's tunnels and occupants as shields. The nuns and residents lack food, water, medicine, electricity, and gas. Communication is sporadic, and food supplies are dwindling, with instances of only one meal a day. The nearby Holy Family Catholic Church and Missionaries of Charity convent are also affected. About 700 people have sought refuge in the parish from shelling.

**Friends of the Holy Land** are hosting a Christmas concert at Our Lady of Victories Church, Kensington on Thursday 14th December to raise funds for Christians in the Holy Land.

Featuring the London Welsh Male Voice Choir with renowned soloists Margaret Keys and Anthony Stuart Lloyd and compere Mal Pope.

Join us for a Holy Land-themed buffet from 6pm (£50) or concert-only ticket to start at 7:30pm (£30).

Buy tickets through [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) or for more details: [friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/christmas-concert-2023](https://friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/christmas-concert-2023).

Show your support for those caught in the horror of hostilities this Christmas.