



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: carshaltonbeechessg3a@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

A warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors



24th March 2024 [Cycle B Year 2]

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-7 | Psalm 22

Philippians 2:6-11 | Mark 14:1-15:47



“Greater love no man has than he who lays down his life for his friends.” (John 15:13) This is the week Christ lived out the truth of these words. Christ took on himself our sins and the sins of all the world.

In his account of the Passion, Mark stresses the crude trial and shocking details of Jesus’ suffering. He has Jesus die in total isolation – abandoned by his disciples, mocked by his enemies, scoffed by one who hung with him.

What was on Jesus’ mind as he travelled to Jerusalem? He knew that many of the people who were waving palms to salute him would shortly turn on him. Yet He also knew that He was doing the Father’s will. So, with courage and confidence in God the Father, He moved forward to Jerusalem.

Jesus did not suffer to wipe out suffering from our lives but to teach us how to suffer, to teach us that suffering will always accompany true love; and therefore, anyone who follows Him must carry his daily cross.

Jesus teaches us about the supremacy of love and of the qualities that exemplify it; namely, that love is stronger than violence, that humility is stronger than pride, that kindness is stronger than anger, that gentleness is stronger than rudeness.

We all have a Jerusalem ahead of us. For us it is not a city, but it might be an illness, a change in our life, a problem, challenge or perhaps uncertainty ahead of us. Jesus shows us how to move toward our Jerusalem.

As we begin this Holy Week, which recalls the great events of our redemption, let us ask the Lord to give us the grace and the strength to face whatever is ahead of us. Jesus shows that the cross, whatever form it takes in our life, can lead to salvation and new life.

Please pray for seafarers today and protect yourselves and protect Christ in your lives.

Taken from Stella Maris Lenten Reflections

Washing of the feet

On Maundy Thursday the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper includes the ceremony of Washing of the Feet, in which the celebrant pours water over the feet of 12 men and women from the congregation. If you would like to be one of the 12 volunteers, please contact Paul Cavadino or the Parish Office. (You can take part even if you are also carrying out another ministry that evening such as Welcomer, Reader, Sacristan or Eucharistic Minister.)

Gift Aid Donors.

The new boxes of weekly envelopes are now available for collection in the meeting area. If you donate by Standing Order there are second collection envelopes for you too! Any queries, please contact Marian Thurley via the Parish Office or at:

carshaltonbeechesgac@rcaos.org.uk

Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

Friday 22	9.30am	Paul Godfrey RIP
Saturday 23	9.30am	Mary Lucy Manuel RIP
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
Sunday 24	6pm	Kathleen & Joseph Family
	9am	The Chanel Family
Palm Sunday (Psalm Week 1)	11am	Hugh Hargreaves RIP [Mass & Procession with Palms] (CC)
	Monday 25	9.30am
Tuesday 26	7.30pm	Reconciliation Service
	9.30am	Marie & Owen Family
Wednesday 27	7pm	Stations of the Cross
	9.30am	Peter & Margaret Family
Thursday 28	6pm	Youth Music Group Practice
	7.30pm	Central Choir Practice
Friday 29	8pm	NO Bible Study by zoom
	9.30am	Mass
Maundy Thursday	6.45pm	Folk Choir practice
	7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper (FC)
Friday 29	10am	Stations of the Cross for children
	Good Friday (No Adoration today)	11.30am
Saturday 30	2.30pm	Start of Divine Mercy Novena
	3pm	Passion of the Lord
Holy Saturday	2pm	Blessing of Polish Easter Baskets
	8pm	Easter Vigil Mass
Sunday 31	9am	Jo Tsai & Family (YMG)
	Easter Sunday	11am

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.

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

Catholic conversions hit record highs around capital

Nearly 850 people are on the cusp of entering the Church in and around London, according to new figures from the dioceses of Westminster and Southwark. The latter has recorded its highest figures in almost a decade, with 450 set to complete the Rite of Christian Instruction for Adults. Figures from Southwark have also revealed a 10 per cent increase in the numbers of Mass-goers over the past year.

Mass for New Catholics in May 2024

This year, the Mass for New Catholics will be offered, to all those who are being received into the Church this Easter, in 3 different locations on 3 different dates. Please invite those who will be new Catholics (neophytes) to attend the Mass of their choice (along with any friends, family or supporters) and ask them to register their intention to do so through the relevant link, below:

- May 5th at St Teresa, 4 Maidstone Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8TX: <https://aecsouthwark.churchsuite.com/events/5h11sguv>
- May 15th at St Peter the Apostle, 103 Woolwich New Road, Woolwich, SE18 6EF: <https://aecsouthwark.churchsuite.com/events/h6iebcge>
- May 25th at The English Martyrs, 2 Mitcham Lane, Streatham, SE16 6NN: <https://aecsouthwark.churchsuite.com/events/nunm4ikx>

Ramadan & Lent

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting (sawm), prayer (salah), reflection, and community. This year it has started during Lent. In fact, the disciplines of Lent and Ramadan are remarkably close. In the Christian tradition, the 40 days in the wilderness with Christ in preparation for Easter are characterised by self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study and almsgiving. Ramadan is characterised by self-discipline, self-restraint, and generosity.

Negotiation is not surrender, but a way to just and lasting peace

After the Pope's recent comments on the war in Ukraine, Cardinal Parolin has clarified the position of the Holy See in that the Pope spoke of negotiation and, in particular, the courage to negotiate, which is never a surrender....and "that we must have greater consideration for human life, for the hundreds of thousands of human lives that have been sacrificed in this war in the heart of Europe. These are words that apply to Ukraine as well as to the Holy Land and to the other conflicts that afflict the world."

The Holy See is concerned about the risk of a widening of the war: the escalation of the conflict, the outbreak of new armed clashes, and the arms race are dramatic and disturbing signs in this regard. You can read the Cardinal's view at:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2024-03/parolin-pope-francis-ukraine-russia-negotiation-surrender.html>

Divine Mercy Retreat at Aylesford Priory on Saturday 6th April

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday Retreat that will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

'easyfundraising' for St Margaret's Our church will receive £7.50 for every new supporter who signs up to 'easyfundraising'. The link is: <https://tinyurl.com/mp6u79ms>

The Vincentian Values of The Passage charity

- We assist homeless people to realise their own potential to transform their lives.
- We act with compassion and kindness.
- We are a voice for change and justice.
- We build relationships based upon trust.
- We respect each other.
- We are straightforward in all our dealings.
- We believe in practical hands-on hard work.
- We collaborate across all sectors of society.

'Kids for Kids' Registered Charity No. 1100045

Kids for Kids is a charity based in Dorking, that lends families in Darfur chickens for nutritious eggs, little goats to give milk and donkeys to carry clean water. Families in Darfur are in desperate need. Fighting is ongoing, food is scarce. Children are starving. Instead of a Chocolate Easter egg, please send a Chicken, Goat or Donkey to Darfur – and we will send an Easter Certificate to a loved one for you! Find out more at:

<https://www.kidsforkids.org.uk/darfur-the-news-no-one-wants-to-hear/>



Mary's Meals feeds more than 2.4 million children in school every day in 18 of the world's poorest countries. In India, more than 70,000 children eat Mary's Meals at school each day. It costs just £19.15 to feed a child with Mary's Meals for a year. Read more about Mary's Meals at: www.marysmeals.org.uk

ShelterBox Charity

ShelterBox provides shelter and essential items to help some of the world's most vulnerable people recover and rebuild their homes after disaster or conflict. They have launched an emergency appeal for Gaza where 80% of homes have been damaged or destroyed. Find out more at: <https://shelterbox.org/>

Syria is the world's worst displacement crisis

CAFOD remind us that on 15th March, Syria's civil war has lasted for 13 years and there is now an entire generation "who have never been able to live in their own country".



Bookings are open for a Catholic People's Weeks residential event this summer. For those who don't know CPW, a big focus of the events is the community that is built up during the time together. Innovative liturgies that seek to include children of all ages play a big part and it's a chance for people to step back from the busyness of their everyday lives and focus on community, friendship and faith - and then to go back to those everyday lives re-energised. Families of all shapes and sizes, couples and single people are welcome. For more information see:

www.catholicpeoplesweeks.org

London Catholic Worker newsletter for Lent-Easter 2024.

You can read it now in digital form by clicking the link below: <https://www.londoncatholicworker.org/Easter2024.pdf>

Take advantage of Free Wills Month

Free Wills Month runs twice a year in March and October and gives those aged over 55 the chance to have a will drawn up or updated by a solicitor for free in exchange for a charitable donation. Find out more at: <https://tinyurl.com/2u5tx3za>

Blessed be the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God Matthew 5:9