



# 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 & 4.15 - 4.45pm & at call email: carshaltonbeechesg3a@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

*A warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors*



16<sup>th</sup> February 2025 [Cycle C Year 1]  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 Jeremiah 17: 5-8 | Psalm 1: 1-2. 3. 4, 6  
 1 Corinthians 15: 12, 16-20 | Luke 6: 17, 20-26



The blessings and woes we hear in today's Gospel mark the perfection of all the wisdom of the Old Testament. That wisdom is summed up with marvellous symmetry in today's First Reading and Psalm: Each declares that the righteous—those who hope in the Lord and delight in His Law—will prosper like a tree planted near living waters. The wicked, who put their "trust in human beings," are cursed to wither and die.

Jesus is saying the same thing in the Gospel. The rich and poor are, for Him, more than members of literal economic classes. Their material state symbolizes their spiritual state.

The rich are "the insolent" of today's Psalm, boasting of their self-sufficiency, the strength of their flesh, as Jeremiah says in the First Reading. The poor are the humble, who put all their hope and trust in the Lord.

We've already seen today's dramatic imagery of reversal in Mary's Magnificat. There, too, the rich are cast down while the hungry are filled and the lowly exalted. That's the upside-down world of the Gospel: in poverty, we gain spiritual treasure unimaginable; in suffering and even dying "on account of the Son of Man," we find everlasting life.

The promises of the Old Testament were promises of power and prosperity—in the here and now. The promise of the New Covenant is joy and true freedom even amid the misery and toil of this life. But not only that. As Paul says in today's Epistle, we're to be pitied if our hope is "for this life only."

The blessings of God mean that we'll laugh with the thanksgiving of captives released from exile (see Psalm 126:1-2), feast at the heavenly table of the Lord (see Psalm 107:3-9), "leap for joy" as John the Baptist leapt in his mother's womb, and rise with Christ, "the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep".

*Taken from St Paul Center for Biblical Theolog*

**This Sunday, 16 February, is Racial Justice Sunday.**

Bishop Paul McAleenan, the Lead Bishop for Migrants and Refugees, says: "2025 is the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday - a day to reflect on racial justice, pray for it and consider how we can ensure all God's people are treated equally and with respect."

There will be a second collection on Sunday for the Catholic Association for Racial Justice. You can find information about the Association's work at [www.cari.org.uk](http://www.cari.org.uk)

**St Margaret's Foodbank: This month's priority items:**

Jars of Honey • Jars of Meat and Fish Paste • Boxes/Packets of Tea Bags • Drinking Chocolate requiring only hot water • Cartons of Long-Life Full Fat Milk • Tinned Meat Meals - but not hotdogs thank you! • Tins of Corned Beef • Vegetarian Meals • Tinned Tomatoes • and Shampoo.

We are extremely grateful for everyone's continued support.

## Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

<b>Friday 14</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass, Maria Cavadino PI</b>
<b>Saturday 15</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass, Luis Da Silva RIP</b>
	<b>10.15am</b>	Legion of Mary
	<b>5.15pm</b>	Devotion to Our Lady
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass, Nicos Demetriades RIP</b>
	<b>Sunday 16</b>	<b>9am</b>
<b>Racial Justice Sunday</b>	<b>11am</b>	<b>Mass, People of the Parish (CC)</b>
		<i>Psalm week 2</i>
<b>Monday 17</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass, Louis Stenning RIP</b>
<b>Tuesday 18</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass, Lily Lange WB</b>
<b>Wednesday 19</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>6pm</b>	Youth Music Group Practice
	<b>7.30pm</b>	Central Choir Practice
	<b>8pm</b>	Bible Study via zoom
<b>Thursday 20</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Friday 21</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Saturday 22</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
	<b>10.15am</b>	Legion of Mary: A Day with Mary until 3pm
	<b>5.15pm</b>	Devotion to Our Lady
	<b>6pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday 23</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>Mass, Theresa &amp; Jim Fox WB (FC)</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: Anne Towner, Ted Hewson, Neil Ockenden, Keith Ockenden, Maria Furtado, Tom O'Regan, Elizabeth Cuffy, Annabelle Colairo, Paul Ford, Michael Colairo, Paula Seradi, Maria Mappley, Sheila Sharp, Michael Rowback, Kristine Harvey and Margaret Fox.

### Legion of Mary: 'A Day with Mary' on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb

At St Margaret's, starting with Mass at 9:30am and closing at 3pm. The day will be led by Sister Harriet Thomas. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Sign up at: <https://forms.gle/Newvpik2aD1pwsqb8>

### 'A Day with Mary' on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March

At Westminster Cathedral (9.45am to 5.00pm). Find out more at: <https://www adaywithmary.org/>

### World Day of Prayer on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025,

This year it has been prepared by the women of the Cook Islands. The theme of the services is "I made you wonderful", based on Psalm 139. Ecumenical Services will be held at 1:30pm at Holy Cross Church Carshalton and 7:30pm at St Mary's Church Beddington.

### 2025 CTIC Lenten ecumenical groups are:

- Mon daytime (1.30pm) - (in-person)
- Tue daytime (11am) at Holy Cross Church
- Tuesday eve (Zoom and in-person options)
- Wednesday evening (Zoom and in-person options)
- Fri evenings (Zoom)

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.

### The Romero Rosary by Archbishop John Wilson

Our Archbishop John Wilson has written a new book entitled 'The Romero Rosary'. It contains reflections on the traditional mysteries of the Rosary (*Joy, Light, Sorrow & Glory*) and the New Romero Mysteries (*Charity, Compassion, Mercy, Justice and Peace*) - all illumined for reflection and prayer by the words of St Oscar Romero. The book is available from Pauline Bookshops and online at: [www.paulineuk.org](http://www.paulineuk.org).

### Pope Video: For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

This month, Pope Francis shares his personal story: "When I was 17... I wasn't thinking at all of being a priest. But one day, I went into the church...and God was there, waiting for me!" Pope Francis invites us to trust in young people and the Holy Spirit at work in their lives. Let us create spaces in our communities to support their dreams, doubts, and discernment journeys. Watch the video at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifn1XYDfro](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifn1XYDfro)

### Cardinal Vincent Nichols speaks out on 'assisted dying'

Speaking to a Christian Fellowship group recently, he compared the debate on the assisted dying bill to the "700 hours" of debate on the hunting ban in 2004. He labelled the debate a "shambles" and expressed hopes that the bill may still be defeated. He also said the UK government was "deeply irresponsible" for allowing legislation to allow assisted dying to proceed after a single morning's debate.

### Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF): Bleak UK poverty statistics

JRF's latest report, UK Poverty 2025, identifies 14 million people in the UK, including more than four million children, are living in poverty. It states "There are few things more foundational for national life than economic security: the ability of families to afford the essentials, and of children to go to school from a secure, warm home, properly clothed, with food in their bellies. But for too many families, this is not the reality of their lives." It also concludes that larger families with three or more children have consistently faced a higher rate of poverty.

### Saints of the Month – the Fatima visionaries



In a series of apparitions in 1916 and 1917, Our Lady appeared at Fatima, Portugal to three children – Lucia dos Santos (aged 9) and her cousins Francisco Marto (8) and Jacinta Marto (6). Our Lady revealed three secrets to the visionaries. These included a vision of Hell and predictions

of the end of the Great War and the assassination attempt on Saint John Paul II. She asked for the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our Lady asked the visionaries to pray the Rosary daily for peace and to undertake prayer and sacrifice to save sinners from Hell. During her final apparition the sun appeared as a spinning disc in the sky and careered towards earth before zigzagging back to its normal position. The Miracle of the Sun occurred before a crowd of 30,000 and 100,000 people.

Francisco and Jacinta died in 1919 and 1920. Both their young lives were marked by illness, self-sacrifice and extended periods of prayer. They were canonised by Pope Francis on 13 May 2017. Their feast day is celebrated on 20 February. Lucia entered the religious life, first with the Sisters of Saint Dorothy and subsequently becoming a Discalced Carmelite. She continued to report periodic visions, in one of which Our Lady commended the practice of the First Five Saturdays devotion. Sister Lucia died in 2005. Her cause for sainthood is ongoing and she was declared Venerable by Pope Francis in 2023. Today Fatima is a major pilgrimage site, visited by millions of people every year.



### Catholic People's Weeks (CPW) 2025

Bookings are now live on the CPW website. Information at: <https://catholicpeoplesweeks.org/>

### 'Word on Fire' Evangelisation Culture Conference

This will be at the Excel Centre in London on 21-22 February. The key note session will be by Bishop Robert Barron. Tickets from: <https://tinyurl.com/3nc9n5na>

### Major Marriage Problems?

For confidential information about Retrouvaille or to register for the next online programme running from February 27 – March 2 call 07887 296 983 or email [info@retrouvaille.org.uk](mailto:info@retrouvaille.org.uk)

### For the Bereaved: Grief In Loss & Hope In Christ

This weekend retreat (March 21-23) will be held at Aylesford Priory. Determine if it is right for you, on 01622 717 272 or email [reception@thefriars.org.uk](mailto:reception@thefriars.org.uk)

### For Lent: 'We Dare to Hope'

This is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions on the jubilee theme of Christian Hope. Each session includes scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. Please consider joining with others, this Lent, to exploring the virtue of hope. Copies can be bought from <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/store>

*"In the Gospels, the figure of Mary Magdalene stands out above all others.... Jesus healed her with mercy, and she changed: the mercy brought her into God's dreams and gave new purpose to her journey."*

*Pope Francis speaking about Conversion on Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 2025*