



St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Committed to 'Churches Together in England'

www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.co.uk

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

Parochial Administrator: Fr Anthony Uche, JCD

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

Tel: 0208 669 6483

Weekday Masses: 9.30am (& 9.30am Sat)

Mobile: 0737 635 0370

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



22nd January 2023 [Cycle A Year 1]

Third Sunday in Ordinary time

Isaiah 8:23-9:3 | Psalm 27

1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17 | Matthew 4:12-23

Today's Liturgy gives us a lesson in ancient Israelite geography and history.

Isaiah's prophecy in today's First Reading is quoted by Matthew in today's Gospel. Both intend to recall the apparent fall of the everlasting kingdom promised to David (see 2 Samuel 7:12-13; Psalm 89; Psalm 132:11-12).

Eight centuries before Christ, that part of the kingdom where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali lived was attacked by the Assyrians, and the tribes were hauled off into captivity (see 2 Kings 15:29; 1 Chronicles 5:26).

It marked the beginning of the kingdom's end. The Davidic empire finally crumbled in the sixth century BC, when Jerusalem was seized by Babylon and the remaining tribes were driven into exile (see 2 Kings 24:14).

Isaiah prophesied that Zebulun and Naphtali, the lands first to be degraded, would be the first to see the light of God's salvation. Jesus today fulfills that prophecy—announcing the restoration of David's kingdom at precisely the spot where the kingdom began to fall.

His gospel of the Kingdom includes not only the twelve tribes of Israel but all the nations—symbolized by the "Galilee of the Nations." Calling His first disciples, two fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, He appoints them to be "fishers of men," gathering people from the ends of the earth.

They are to preach the gospel, Paul says in today's Epistle, to unite all peoples in the same mind and in the same purpose—in a worldwide kingdom of God.

By their preaching, Isaiah's promise has been delivered. A world in darkness has seen the light. The yoke of slavery and sin, borne by humanity since time began, has been smashed.

And we are able now, as we sing in today's Psalm, to dwell in the house of the Lord, to worship Him in the land of the living.

St Paul Centre for Biblical Theology, Steubenville, Ohio



Our 180 Club Secretary, Charlotte Heard, is to step down shortly. Many thanks to her for the smooth administration of the club. She is now in

the process of handing over her role to Wendy Li. Good luck to club members and best wishes to Charlotte and Wendy.

Racial Equality Group

As a result of Canon Victor Darlington's visit in November, St Margaret's has been selected as one of three parishes in the Archdiocese to be involved in a pilot initiative on racial equality and inclusion. A meeting will be held shortly of parishioners who have expressed an interest in taking this work forward. (These are Andrea Fernandes, Jacqueline Purbin, Lisa Harris, Paul Cavadino and Serena Stenning). Any other parishioner who would like to be involved should contact Paul Cavadino.



Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

Friday 20	9.30am	Mass
Saturday 21	9.30am	Mass
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	Nora Mc'Keown RIP
Sunday 22	9am	Mass (FC)
Sunday of the Word of God	11am	Mass (CC)
		[Psalm Wk 3]
Monday 23	9.30am	Mass
Tuesday 24	9.30am	Maura & Michael Waters RIP
		St Francis de Sales
Wednesday 25	9.30am	Martha Senghore RIP
	6pm	Youth Choir Practice
	7pm	Central Choir Practice
	8pm	Bible Study
Thursday 26	9.30am	People of the Parish
	7.30pm	No Folk Choir Practice
Friday 27	9.30am	Mass
		St Angela Merici
Saturday 28	9.30am	Mass
	5.15am	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	Nelezinha De Lima RIP
Sunday 29	9am	Mass (YC)
Fourth Sunday	11am	Mass (CC)

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

Increasing intolerance towards Christians

In his annual speech to the diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See, the Pope said Christians are increasingly suffering for their faith. The Pope stressed that this also occurs in countries where Christians form the majority and should be safe from intolerance.

Note: Aid to the Church in Need's '15th Religious Freedom in the World' report, published last year, found that in 62 countries out of a total of 196 there were severe violations of religious liberty.

Holocaust Memorial Day 2023

Friday 27 January 2023 is International Holocaust Memorial Day, marking the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Poland on the same day in 1945. On this annual day of commemoration, the United Nations urges every member state to honour the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions of other victims of Nazism, and to develop educational programs to help prevent future genocides.



This Lent, CAFOD, the official aid agency of the Catholic Church, is setting an inspiring challenge to help raise money to fight global poverty. The challenge is simple - walk 200km over 40 days, while raising money for families impacted by the climate crisis. How and when people walk the 5km a day is up to them, but it can be done alone, with friends, family or with a school. For those who want to clock the activity with something other than walking, they can do a 15-minute cycle or 35-minute exercise class. The Big Lent Walk page:

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/> has all the details for sign-up, as well as handy guides on how to track your walks.

The Pope Video - For Educators

In The Pope Video for January 2023, Francis proposes that educators "add new content to their teaching: fraternity." He invites them to "become community builders" and prays that they may be "be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than confrontation." Indeed, the Pope remarks, educators do much more than teach mathematics, geography, or history: "Educators are witnesses who not only impart their mental knowledge, but also their convictions, their commitment to life." Watch this month's Pope Video at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGJIRrThm78

Drug policy and Christian ethics

Bernadette Meaden writing in the Independent Catholic News last week questions our government's approach to drug policy. It is a very thought-provoking article that can and should be read in full at: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/46303>

It starts: "As many countries move towards a more enlightened and evidence-based approach to drug policy, with good results, the UK sadly clings to the harmful and unwinnable 'War On Drugs'." The recent white paper, 'Swift, Certain Tough: New Consequences for Drug Possession' has alarmed many working in public health and criminal justice.

What is the Christian view?



World Day of Prayer 2023

The World Day of Prayer prepared by the women of Taiwan, will be celebrated on Friday 3rd March 2023. St Margaret's will not be joint hosts as originally suggested, but we are encouraged to publicise and encourage parishioners to participate.

A change has been made to the venue of each service. They are now:

- 1:30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Maldon Road, Wallington. SM6 8BL, and
- 7:30pm at Carshalton Methodist Church, Ruskin Road, Carshalton. SM5 3DE.

You can find a number of good free resources, including work books for children, at:

<https://www.wwdp.org.uk/2023-wdp-free-resources-to-download/>

Not Guilty Surprise

Three members of Christian Climate Action were found not guilty of causing a public nuisance by a Crown Court jury in a trial relating to Insulate Britain's campaign of nonviolent civil resistance last year. The campaign was undertaken to demand that the UK government insulate Britain's cold and leaky homes. The jury took around four hours to deliberate before returning a unanimous not guilty verdict. This came in spite of Judge Silas Reid's ruling that the three defendants had no defence in law against the charge of causing a public nuisance by blocking the motorway. They had been barred from referring to the climate crisis, insulation or fuel poverty during their defence. This outcome raises doubts about future Insulate Britain trials.

Taken from ICN

Synod: National Synthesis

A two-year 'synodal' process is taking place in the Catholic Church that culminates in the final Synod Gathering of Bishops in Rome in October 2023. The overall theme is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission".

The National Synthesis reflects on Synod reports received by the national synthesis team, discerning the main themes that have emerged from the listening conversations, collating them together to give a picture of the synodal process that has taken place in England and Wales.

The Catholic Church in England and Wales has been following the Synodal Process called by Pope Francis, reflecting on the theme "For a Synodal Church: communion, participation, mission" and has now reached an important moment. Since October 2021, the dioceses, national organisations and religious communities have been engaged in conversations on the central themes, exploring the way the Church embraces more fully her missionary mandate in the world of today. Find out more at:

<https://www.cbcep.org.uk/synodal-church/>

Wintershall Update

The Passion of Jesus will be performed on Good Friday in Trafalgar Square. The 90-minute production is completely free of charge - a gift to Londoners and visitors. No tickets are required. There is a performance at 12 noon and 3:15 pm. Find out all the details here: <https://wintershall.org.uk/passion-jesus-london>