



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



19th November 2023 [Cycle A Year 1]

Thirty Third Sunday

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | Psalm 127
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6 | Matthew 25:14-30

'Well done, good and faithful servant!'

The readings in this final week of Ordinary Time, Year A, remind us again of the need to be always prepared for the coming of Christ by the way we live our lives.

In the First Reading, the writer extols the virtues of the perfect wife. Although using language which reflects the practice and culture of biblical times, the passage speaks powerfully of the value and dignity of manual work, the importance of charity, and respect for all, whatever their role in life.

The Psalm speaks again of the dignity of work, of being self-sufficient, providing for one's family, and living in awe of the Lord.

St Paul reminds us in the Second Reading that if we live our lives in the light of Christ, we have no need to fear the coming of the reign of God.

In the Gospel, Jesus uses the parable of the talents to show the importance of making best use of what we have been given for the benefit of others.

This week, we might pray for those who struggle to realise where their own talents lie, and those who lack the opportunity to be recognised, valued and celebrated. We also continue to pray for peace across the world.

Taken from St Beuno's Outreach

Legion of Mary at St Margaret's

The Legion of Mary is an association of Catholics who work and pray together under the powerful leadership of our Mother Mary. The first meeting here will be on Saturday, 18th November at 4:30pm in the Church meeting area. If you would like to know more, please come along.



Beeches Yule Fest on Friday 1st December.

If you enjoy carol singing come and join us to spread some Christmas cheer. There will be a rehearsal on Thursday 23rd November at 7.30pm in our church.

God of all humanity

In a world full of fear, open our hearts to your love.
Though we in desolate valleys, open our minds to Your hope.
We turn from hatred to love.
We turn from intolerance towards understanding.
We commit ourselves to compassion.
Together, not alone, we pray for peace.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

Friday 17	9.30am	Richard & Ngozi SI
Saturday 18	9.30am	Stanley Blackmore RIP
	12pm	Wedding
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
Sunday 19 Thirty Third Sunday (Psalm Week 1)	6pm	Mass
	9am	Eileen Balls RIP (YC)
Monday 20	11am	James Mulholland RIP (CC)
Tuesday 21	9.30am	John Studznsky BT
The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.30am	Stanley Blackmore RIP
	7.45pm	The Sacraments in Scripture
Wednesday 22 St Cecilia	9.30am	Stanley Blackmore RIP
	6pm	Youth Choir Practice
	7.30pm	Central Choir Practice
	8pm	Bible Study
Thursday 23	9.30am	Stanley Blackmore RIP
	7.30pm	Yule Fest Carol singing practice
Friday 24	9.30am	Stanley Blackmore RIP
Saturday 25	9.30am	Stanley Blackmore RIP
	5.15pm	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	Mass
Sunday 26 Christ The King Sunday	9am	Carla Doran RIP
	11am	Kitty & Frank Mulholland RIP (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.

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

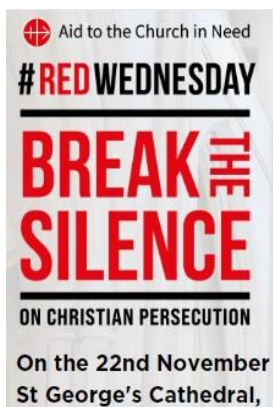
Some Reflections on the Synod on Synodality

On his return from Rome, Archbishop John Wilson issued a summary that includes these paragraphs:

'Sincere sharing of human experiences, sometimes charged with emotion, highlighted a perceived tension between truth and love for those who may struggle to accept or live to the Church's teaching. How can we better include people who feel unwelcome? We need a patient openness to receiving people's experience. There is a caution, however, in setting human experience against divine revelation, received through Scripture and Tradition, as if it were somehow corrective of a now outdated deposit of faith. As Pope Francis reminded us, the Synod is not a parliament. Discernment is not a referendum on Church teaching, or a ballot where individuals vote according to what they believe the Holy Spirit is saying personally to them. Our faith is given to us through the Church in the Apostolic Tradition.

In his earthly ministry, the Lord Jesus was open to everyone. Through acts of healing and forgiveness, He never remained passive. He always offered a way forward. Not everyone could accept this – the rich young man (cf. Mk 10:17-22) left sorrowful. Others, like Zacchaeus (cf. Lk 19:1-10), transformed their lives. Christ never rejects us. He leaves us free to follow him or not.'

You can read the document at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/11/reflections-synod-on-synodality-archbishop-john-wilson.pdf>



Red Wednesday 22nd November

Please join us for a special evening with an African theme at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. The Cathedral will be lit red inside and outside. At 6pm there will be sung Holy Mass for persecuted and suffering Christians, celebrated by His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain. Concelebrating Mass will be Archbishop John Wilson. This will be followed by

presentation of awards, then refreshments and conversation to follow. (Close 9pm). Register at www.acnuk.org/events

Plan to criminalise street homelessness

Ex-Home Secretary Suella Braverman was planning new laws to limit the use of tents by homeless people, saying many of them see it as "a lifestyle choice."

Fr Dominic Robinson SJ of Westminster's Peace and Justice responded with: "On behalf of those homeless we serve and for whom it is our duty to advocate, it is deeply disturbing to hear reports of further moves which will criminalise and punish the homeless simply for being homeless. We know from our work on the ground in central London and further afield that there is a tragic lack of fit for purpose accommodation for those who, through no fault of their own, find themselves without the basic human right to shelter. The guests we see at our services are not making a 'lifestyle choice' - rather they have no options left. Banning tents from public places and criminalising agencies that provide them is cruel beyond belief and unacceptable in civilised society."

Our Lady Who Brings Down Walls

In the midst of the terror and violence that has engulfed Gaza and Israel, there is an icon painted on the Israeli separation wall between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. This has become a place of pilgrimage over the past decade for people who seek to pray for a true and enduring peace for all the peoples who live there. Watch this film that is an introduction to the story of the icon at:

https://youtu.be/KnP_kwRdkd0

Interfaith prayers for Middle East peace

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community based at the Baitul Futuh Mosque in Morden, recently hosted an interfaith ceremony of prayers for peace in the Middle East. It was attended by politicians and faith leaders. The main slogan of the Ahmadiyya Muslims is 'Love for all. Hatred for none'.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

What is a *refugee*? According to the 1951 Refugee Convention, a refugee is someone who, 'owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of their nationality and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country'.

What is an *asylum seeker*? An asylum seeker is someone who has arrived in a country and asked for asylum. In the UK, they do not have the same rights as a refugee or a British citizen. eg they aren't allowed to work. The right to seek asylum is a legal right we all share, seeking asylum is a legal process. The 1951 Refugee Convention does not require a person to claim asylum in the first safe country they reach. People trying to cross the Channel can legitimately claim asylum in the UK if they reach it.

According to UNHCR statistics, as of November 2022 in the UK there were 231,597 refugees, (of which 174,000 were Ukrainian), 127,421 pending asylum cases and 5,483 stateless persons.



Prayer Vigil for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Join us to pray for those who have died trying to reach the UK, the many victims of current wars, those who are in detention centres or homeless and for those who struggle to inject welcome and humanity into our legislation. We meet outside the Home Office in Marsham Street, SW1P 4DF, between 1230-1.30pm every third Monday of the month

King's Speech includes Media Bill

The proposed Media Bill will remove the quota system protecting the inclusion of news, entertainment, drama, science and *religion* in free to air broadcasting.

Wanted: 2-bedroom house or flat

One of our parishioners is looking to rent a 2-bedroom house or flat in the Carshalton or Wallington area. If you own such a property or know of such a property that is available, please inform the parish office. Thank you.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CARSHALTON

invites you to a

Coffee Morning
with Paul Williams from A Rocha UK
who will speak about
Caring for God's Earth

Saturday 25 November 10am Carshalton Methodist Church

