



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



19th February 2023 [Cycle A Year 1]

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 | Psalm 103

1 Corinthians 3:16-23 | Matthew 5:38-48

We are called to the holiness of God. That is the extraordinary claim made in both the First Reading and the Gospel this Sunday.

Yet how is it possible that we can be perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect?

Jesus explains that we must be imitators of God as His beloved children (Ephesians 5:1-2). As God does, we must love without limit—with a love that does not distinguish between friend and foe, overcoming evil with good (see Romans 12:21).

Jesus Himself, in His Passion and death, gave us the perfect example of the love that we are called to.

He offered no resistance to the evil—even though He could have commanded twelve legions of angels to fight alongside Him. He offered His face to be struck and spat upon. He allowed His garments to be stripped from Him. He marched as His enemies compelled Him to the Place of the Skull. On the Cross, He prayed for those who persecuted Him (see Matthew 26:53-54, 67; 27:28, 32; Luke 23:34).

In all this, He showed Himself to be the perfect Son of God. By His grace, and through our imitation of Him, He promises that we too can become children of our heavenly Father.

God does not deal with us as we deserve, as we sing in this week's Psalm. He loves us with a Father's love. He saves us from ruin. He forgives our transgressions.

He loved us even when we had made ourselves His enemies through our sinfulness. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (see Romans 5:8).

We have been bought with the price of the blood of God's only Son (see 1 Corinthians 6:20). We belong to Christ now, as St. Paul says in this week's Epistle. By our baptism, we have been made temples of His Holy Spirit.

And we have been saved to share in His holiness and perfection. So let us glorify Him by our lives lived in His service, loving as He loves.

Reflection from St Paul Centre for Biblical Theology, Steubenville, Ohio

Lenten Prayer Breakfasts.

Our Renewal Prayer Group will be hosting Prayer Breakfasts in the church. They will be every Saturday in Lent starting on 25th February, finishing on Saturday 1st April. They will start at 8am, finishing by 8.45 am. Breakfast will then be served in the meeting area of Fairtrade Tea/Cafetiere Coffee and Croissants. All are welcome.

It will consist of Praise and Worship followed by silence, shared words, Gospel readings, Praise and Worship, reflections, finishing with Intercessions. What a wonderful way to prepare for the Death and Resurrection of our blessed Lord.

Lynn Pougher



Mass Intentions and Diary for the week

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Friday 17 | 9.30am | Ned Delaney BT |
| Saturday 18 | 9.30am | Mass |
| | 5.15pm | Devotion to Our Lady |
| | [Psalm Wk 3] 6pm | Mass |
| Sunday 19 Seventh Sunday | 9am | People of the Parish (YC) |
| | 11am | Mass (CC) |
| Monday 20 | 9.30am | Mass |
| Tuesday 21 | 9.30am | Mass |
| Wednesday 22 Ash Wednesday | 9.30am | Mass |
| | 6pm | Youth Choir Practice |
| | 7.30pm | Mass |
| | 8pm | Bible Study |
| Thursday 23 | 9.30am | Mass |
| | 7.30pm | Folk Choir Practice |
| Friday 24 | 9.30am | Mass |
| Saturday 25 | 9.30am | Mass |
| | 5.15am | Devotion to Our Lady |
| | 6pm | Mass |
| Sunday 26 | 9am | Tommy Doran RIP (FC) |
| First Sunday of Lent | 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: Paul Ford, Michael Colairo, Richard Neal, Catherine Roberts, Paula Seradi, Maria Luisa Mappley, Sheila Sharp, Michal Pacala, Hilda Gill, Michael Rowback, Max & Isabelle Mifsud, Kristine Harvey, and Margaret Fox.



CTIC sign up for Lent 2023

Churches Together in Carshalton Lenten ecumenical groups, will be starting from the week of 27th February. We will have groups for Tuesday evening (Zoom and in-person options), Wednesday evening (Zoom and in-person options), Thursday morning (in person) and Fri evenings (Zoom). If you want to join this year, please let Adrian Clifton know by 22nd February.

Send an email to adrian.clifton@gmail.com with your: Name and email + Church + Preferred day + Whether you would prefer Zoom or in person. You can find the course material at: <https://ctbi.org.uk/lent-study-2023/>. PS: There will be sign-up lists on the Noticeboard in the Meeting Area.

Adrian Clifton

Lost property

In recent weeks a number of items have been left in the church and not claimed. These include scarves, gloves, woolly hats, spectacles, lip salve and rosaries. If any of these items belong to you, please come to the Sacristy and claim them before or after Mass.

Paul Cavadino

No More Stamps!

For some time we have been sending used postage stamps to The Leprosy Mission to support their fund-raising. Sadly, they find that the value of stamps has greatly reduced and it has become unprofitable to sell them. Please do not bring any more stamps to church for the time being. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed.

Note: If anyone finds an organisation that is still collecting them, please let *Anne Towner* know.

Stations of the Cross

A Stations of the Cross liturgy has been prepared by Pact and includes words from those who have experienced the criminal justice system. It is freely downloadable at:

<https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/stations-of-the-cross>

Earthquake in Syria & Turkey

On 6 February, two earthquakes – registering 7.8 and 7.5 magnitude – hit Syria and Turkey in the space of just 12 hours, killing more than 37,000 people and causing widespread devastation. Mary's Meals have been working in schools in Syria since 2017. Working alongside their partner on the ground, Dorcas, "we now stand ready to provide emergency support to communities affected in Aleppo and the surrounding areas. Our emergency response will provide urgent support to children and families in desperate need." Please donate if you can at:

<https://donate.marysmeals.org/gb>

Alternatively, you can donate to the Disasters Emergency Committee (that includes CAFOD and Christian Aid), at <https://donation.dec.org.uk/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal> The UK Government will match pound-for-pound up to £5 million donated by the public to this appeal.

Join CAFOD on the Lenten Journey 2023

Ash Wednesday is fast approaching and CAFOD would like to invite you to join us as we seek to make space and time to draw closer to God and our global family through reflection and prayer this Lent. Each day in our emails we will share a reflection on one of the readings of the day, stories of our global family, a prayer and a suggested action you might like to take as we prepare for Easter. Join us on this journey by signing up for our daily Lent emails at <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>

CAFOD's Big Lent Walk

This Lent, CAFOD, 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. Go to: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/> that has all the details for sign-up.

Mission Appeal 2023

There will be a mission appeal given by Fr Thaygu, here at St Margaret's, at all Masses on the weekend of March 12th.

Freedom of Religion is a vital human right

Speaking on behalf of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues, has reaffirmed a resolution passed by the Bishops at their November 2022 plenary highlighting concerns with current and proposed legislation on the issue of 'Buffer Zones' around abortion clinics. "On 30 January the Government's Public Order Bill will be entering the report stage in the House of Lords. Clause 9, which was an amendment to the Bill in the House of Commons last autumn, introduces the 'offence of interference with access to or provision of abortion services'.

This clause will criminalise a range of activities within a 150m radius of an abortion service, under the broad premise of 'interference'. Problematic for freedom of religion, expression, and association, are many of the terms. These include: 'seeks to influence', 'persistently, continuously or repeatedly occupies', 'advises or persuades, attempts to advise or persuade, or otherwise expresses opinion'.

All harassment and intimidation of women is to be condemned. The Catholic bishops, and many others, hold religious liberty to be essential for the flourishing and the realisation of the dignity of every human person and recognise it as a foundational freedom of any free and democratic society."

Bishop John Sherrington

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The Southwark Lourdes Pilgrimage will take place between Friday 18 to Friday 25 August 2023. We are delighted to be returning to a fully medically supported pilgrimage, now possible for the first time after the pandemic. Information will be sent out to parishes during the next few weeks, but in the meantime please note the dates. Note that this is different from the Fr Luke's HCPT pilgrimage to Lourdes that is expected to be in October 2023.

Radio Maria England

Tired of listening to The Archers or endless updates on energy prices on your journey home? Bored of having incessantly samey music on in the background whilst you cook? Finding it difficult to pray? What we listen to casually can easily wear us down and depress our spirit. However, it might just be able to uplift us too, thanks to Radio Maria, a Catholic radio station that has recently set up a new studio in London. The 24hr broadcast includes talk shows about life as a Catholic, daily catechesis, live prayer, a truly delightful and eclectic selection of music – and much more! Find out more from: info@radiomariaengland.uk

'When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended Mt Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties.' St Oscar Romero