



# St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

[www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.uk](http://www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.uk)

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Sat), 8.30am, 10am & 11.30am

Parochial Administrator: Fr Anthony Uche, OP

Weekday Masses: 9.30am (& 9.30am Sat)

Tel: 020 8669 6483

Holy Days of Obligation: 9.30am & 7.30pm

Email: [carshaltonbeeches@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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*



10<sup>th</sup> January 2021 [Cycle B Year 1]

**Baptism of the Lord**

Isaiah 55:1-11 | Isaiah 12:2-6

1 John 5: 1-9 | Mark 1: 7-11



## I have baptised you with water, but He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit

Today's feast of the Baptism of Our Lord brings to an end the season of Christmas. Coming after the Epiphany of the Lord, it can be seen as a second manifestation of Christ, as the heavens are opened before the whole world. Through Christ's baptism, in which the entire Trinity is present (Gospel), the world is made into a second creation.

In the First Reading, from Isaiah, we hear how God's word will bear fruit in us. The one we see being baptised in the Gospel is the Word and, by carrying out the Father's will perfectly, all creation is restored.

This is why we can join with the Psalmist: 'With joy we shall draw water from the wells of salvation'!

St John develops this theme (Second Reading) when he says that because Jesus overcame the world by water and blood, so we, with the Spirit living in us, can be saved.

This coming week, let's strive to deepen our trust in the Father, who is our salvation; to nurture our faith in the Spirit, who works in us to ensure we do not return empty-handed; and to strengthen our joy in the Son, through whose incarnation and baptism we are made into God's children.

*St Beuno's Outreach*

**After the Angelus last Sunday**, Pope Francis renewed his good wishes for the year ahead to all. He said that as Christians, we know that things will only improve, with God's help, if we work together for the common good, "putting the weakest and most disadvantaged at the centre. We do not know what 2021 will bring, but what each of us and all of us together can do, is to commit to taking care of each other and of creation".

**Fake News!** There's a message circulating around the Internet from Pope Francis, a recounting of his 2018 New Year's message to the world. It's compelling, inspirational and also fake news! It is in fact an almost-word-for-word translation of a Portuguese text titled "Palco de vida" (Stages of life), attributed to the renowned poet Fernando Pessoa (1888-1935). It begins:-

"You can have flaws, be anxious, and even be angry, but do not forget that your life is the greatest enterprise in the world. Only you can stop it from going bust ....."



**Our new website is coming soon**  
Thanks to Lisa Nwankwo's hard work.

## Mass Intentions and Diary for the Week

Saturday 9 <i>St Basil &amp; St Gregory</i>	9.30am 6pm	<b>Nuala Doherty (RIP)</b> <b>Margaret Morahan</b>
Sunday 10 <i>Baptism of the Lord</i> Psalm Wk 1	8.30am 10am 11.30am	<b>Nelezinha De Lima (RIP)</b> <b>Ivo Padovan Snr (RIP)</b> <b>Augustus Ezebuio (RIP)</b>
Monday 11	9.30am	<b>Francis &amp; Jesintha</b> (Thanksgiving)
Tuesday 12	9.30am	<b>Gailor Kessi</b>
Wednesday 13	9.30am 8pm	<b>Doreen Toliva</b> Bible Study by zoom
Thursday 14	9.30am 8pm	<b>Doreen Toliva &amp; Family</b> Intercessory Prayer by zoom
Friday 15	9.30am	<b>Doreen Toliva</b>
Saturday 16	9.30am 6pm	<b>Doreen Toliva</b> <b>Xavier Leela Louisa (RIP)</b>
Sunday 17 <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	8.30am 10am 11.30am	<b>Cormac Gollogly</b> <b>TBD</b> <b>Augustus Ezebuio (RIP)</b>

**Our Church is open to You for Mass.** Of course, social distancing must be observed, masks must be worn, attendance forms completed and you should sanitize your hands before and after Mass. Also please leave the car park area immediately after Mass and avoid all social interaction, even if outdoors.

You can also participate in Masses via one of the internet viewing methods listed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI2KUNCgNkREz3TWGBY2qzw>

On Facebook at 'St Margaret of Scotlandrcarshalton Surrey' 'angelcam' Live Video at <https://st-margarets.click2stream.com/>

**And thank you once again** to all who continue to provide the help we need to ensure that we can open the church safely; without you we could not have Mass. Could you offer to help?



**If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, send an email request to:** [carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk)

**Your contributions to this newsletter are very welcome.**

**New Covid-19 Restrictions from the Bishops' Conference:**  
**Communal worship**, including prayers, Mass and other acts of worship can continue as normal following this covid-security guidance.

**Marriage ceremonies** As national lockdown is essentially Tier 5, only 6 people can attend a marriage (apart from anyone working as part of the ceremony) and these should only occur in exceptional circumstances. Weddings planned for the next 6 weeks should be deferred.

**Funerals** There must be no more than 30 people attending. Anyone working is not included as part of the 30 person limit. As national lockdown is essentially Tier 5, only 6 people can attend a commemorative event which would include the interment of ashes after a cremation. The immediate burial of a coffin after a church or crematorium-based service would be subject to 30 people or the restrictions imposed locally by the graveyard or crematorium authorities.

**Life cycle events**, such as baptisms, confirmations and other significant sacramental celebrations are subject to the covid-security determined limits of the church.

#### **Small prayer and study groups**

As national lockdown is essentially Tier 5, in person prayer or study groups (which would include catechesis for the celebration of the sacraments) should **not** take place physically, but only using online means.

**Face Coverings** must be worn in places of worship, unless you are exempt. This is now law.

**Cleansing** It is important that during this time all places of worship continue to provide hand sanitiser at points of access and egress, there should be stewarding and managed social distancing within the church space and that full cleaning of the space should be done immediately after the church has been in use.

**The time that people are in the church should be minimised** (so the use of liturgical choices should reflect this, including a short homily, the omission of the prayers of the faithful and any other permitted mitigations) and the church must be well ventilated even during the liturgical celebrations. There should be no congregational singing as part of the liturgical celebrations and if a choir or cantors sing, the choices of music should be such that the exposure time is not excessively prolonged.

**It is very important** to encourage all who attend our church to abide by these covid security restrictions and to protect themselves and those around them.

#### **A Note from the (Emergency) Finance Committee**

What has been achieved by the parish this last year is astounding. When Fr Anthony arrived in January, we had never heard of Covid-19, yet by 23rd March we were in Lockdown, barred from attending Mass or even private worship. Almost immediately he set up video cameras to one side of the sanctuary, based on his own equipment, to broadcast live on both You Tube and Facebook, and he had BT enhance the parish Wi-Fi. He had already commissioned LPFS to install security cameras around the site but now ensured that one overlooking the Sanctuary should be used for live streaming via Angelcam.

Meanwhile Fr Anthony personally checked out the church sound system, which had broken down comprehensively; we had had estimates in excess of £11,000 for replacing it. Remarkably, he found that it was mis-wired and had it restored to full working order for £158.40 (If you want a guy to sort out your electronics, get a Nigerian Canon Lawyer!)

To enhance the audio-visual capability of the parish, a remote-controlled projector and screen were installed, integrated into the existing sound system, with connectors and slide controls in the choir area and a speaker by the live streaming camera; the latter sound volume is poor at present but for a further £1,000 that can be sorted.

For a parish, almost half of whose income came from the collection plate, the lockdowns etc. were a very serious threat to its solvency and a reason why Fr Anthony set up the Emergency Finance Committee (EFC).

Wherever possible, savings were made on expenditure, e.g. on office costs and gardening, but the parish promoted various initiatives: encouraging weekly donors to switch to standing orders; installing contactless card readers and promoting Gift Aid and schemes such as JustGiving. Our parishioners are very generous and these have been very successful.

The cost for the Security and Live-Streaming systems all derived from specific donations by individuals, including some who are not in our parish or even in the UK.

The new audio-visual system was paid for by Lynne Pougher in memory of her late husband John, plus a grant from the 180 Club. Other personal donations included the beautiful icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour; the new Votive candle stands and the new Monstrance.

So far, the Parish income seems to have held up very well. We will be able to give the Parish full accounts as soon as they have been completed. We do have one concern, however, which is that charities such as Stella Maris, which depend on annual collections in parishes, have lost out in 2020.

*Gerald Soane, chair of the EFC*

**Prayer requests:** Ben & Sophie Thomson, Rosie Lopez, Paul Harris, Irma Foster, Laura Bannon, Yvonne Wyatt and Margaret Fox.



**Pray for the repose of the souls of:** Ivo Padovan Snr, Augustus Ezebuio, Nan Waldron, John Ryan & Beryl Palmier,

**Anniversaries:** Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur this month. The Anniversaries are now listed on the front page of the website and on a poster in the meeting area.

*Editor's note: Please email me with the name of any additional person to be prayed for, at: [carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk)*

Please share the information in this newsletter with other members of the parish with whom you have contact. With prayerful best wishes. Keep safe. *Fr Anthony*

Send your advert by email to: [carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk)

\* **Arundel Cathedral** Christmas video: 'Unto Us A Child Is Born. Handel's 'For Unto Us A Child Is Born' is the soundtrack of Arundel Cathedral's stunning Christmas video this year. For the soundtrack they liaised with the acclaimed Ansan City Choir of South Korea. Watch the film at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNtyX3csK6A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNtyX3csK6A)