



St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

www.stmargaretcarshaltonb.uk

Sunday Masses: 6.00pm (Sat), 9.30am & 11.00am

Priest: Fr Anthony Uche, OP

Weekday Masses: 9.30am (& 10.00am Sat)

Tel: 020 8647 7748

Holy Days of Obligation: 10.00am & 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 July 2020 [Cycle A Year 2]

Sixteenth Sunday

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 | Psalm 85

Romans 8: 26-27 | Matthew 13:24-43

The Parables of the Wheat and Darnel, Mustard Seed, and the woman baking bread

Parable (παραβολή) literally means “to throw next to”; thus, parables are stories or illustrations thrown next to concepts or things that are unknown to us. Within today’s parables the unknown concept is the Kingdom of God. So, the parable helps us to understand the unknown using the concepts that are known to us. Thus, the Parables of the Wheat and Darnel, Mustard Seed, and the Woman Baking Bread are descriptions or illustrations about the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Kingdom of Heaven (or the Kingdom of God as used by the gospels of Luke and Mark) is wherever the Will of God has been manifested and reigns. The three parables affirm God’s patience and tolerance in his Kingdom. Although we have all fallen short of God’s glory, He is patient with us, and does not judge us based on hearsays, gossips, or rumours. He knows and sees all things. He waits for us to come clean.

Secondly, we know that the world and all in it belongs to God, hence the Will of God reigns in our homes, Church, and parish. But based on the second message of the parables, one could ask, if God is in our midst, why do we have to contend with evil or agents of negativity? The parable of the Wheat and Darnel concurs that evil (Darnel) and good (Wheat) exist side-by-side within a place, church, parish, or family where the Will of God reigns. But we are cautioned never to judge others, especially based on half-truths and biased comments or opinions. Matthew 7:1-2 says, “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” As Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn once said “The line between good and evil cuts into the heart of every human being.” So brothers and sisters, before you send that email, address your employer/employees, or discuss with members of your family, re-examine yourself and ask, how do I say it, is it worth the stress, or ask the Lord, ‘should I say it or not’?

Fr Geoffrey Plant says, “Let us remember that wherever we encounter humanity – in our neighbourhood, the workplace, the parish, the family, and in ourselves – we discover a mixture of good and bad, truth and falsehood, humility and pride, saintliness and sinfulness, graciousness and crudity, purity and lasciviousness, honesty and hypocrisy, justice and fraud, and faith and doubt.” There will surely be judgement but that belongs to God, and the wheat will be separated out by God at the harvest, ‘the end of age’.

Continued over

The Parable of the Mustard Seed reminds us that the beginnings of the work of God is sometimes unnoticeable and unclear, hence we must be patient; but we must support it now because it will grow and become a yardstick.

The Parable of the Yeast mixed in with flour also acknowledges that God is at work in our midst, and it will become a determinant factor. But such actions of God can only be witnessed by bearers of God’s Kingdom, that is, those willing to uphold justice, tolerance, and mercy of God. They are ready to bear the cost of discipleship.

Thus, the Kingdom of God is at work in our midst, though sometimes unseen like the mustard seed. That work is changing things and making a difference like the yeast in bread. Thus, let us leave God to be our final judge.

[Contributed by Fr Anthony & Fr G. Plant]

Mass Intentions and Diary for the Week

Saturday 18 <i>Our Lady</i>	9.30am* 5pm 6.15pm	Calista Ukaegbu (Thanks) John Howard (Ordination) The Howard Family
Sunday 19 <i>Sixteenth</i>	8.30am 10am* 11.30am 9.30am*	Carla Doran Shane Lapping (RIP) Sean Cullreavey (RIP) Ambrose Ikwueke (RIP)
Monday 20 <i>St Apollinaris</i>	9.30am*	Patrick Garvey (Success)
Tuesday 21 <i>St Lawrence of Brindisi</i>	9.30am*	Ambrose Ikwueke (RIP) Bible Study (via zoom)
Wednesday 22 <i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	9.30am* 8pm	Ambrose Ikwueke (RIP)
Thursday 23 <i>St Bridget</i>	9.30am*	Ambrose Ikwueke (RIP)
Friday 24 <i>St Sharbel Makhaluf</i>	9.30am*	Ambrose Ikwueke (RIP)
Saturday 25 <i>St James Apostle</i>	9.30am* 5pm 6.15pm	Ambrose Ikwueke (RIP) TBD TBD
Sunday 26 <i>Seventeenth</i>	8.30am 10am* 11.30am	Andy Doran (RIP) TBD TBD

Masses are streamed at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI2KUNCgNkREz3TWGBy2qzw>

Our Facebook Channel is named

‘St Margaret of ScotlandrcCarshalton Surrey’

Remember to wear a mask at Mass AND remember to bring your completed attendance card to Mass

You can print attendance forms from the website. ‘Templates for Attendance’ can be found in the Documents (> Welcome) section.

St. Mary Magdalene's feast day is July 22nd

She is the patroness of converts, repentant sinners, pharmacists, perfumers, tanners, women, and many other causes. For the Order of Preachers, today is a special feast because St. Mary Magdalene along with St. Catherine of Alexandria is patroness of the Order.

Magdalene is a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her



birth and death are unknown, but we do know that she was present with Christ during his public ministry, death and resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels. Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in Christianity, but this is not supported in the scriptures.

It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did. The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when he met her. After this, she told several women she associated with and these women also became followers.

There is also debate over whether Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed woman, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in Chapter 7 of Luke's Gospel. Scholars are sceptical this is the same person.

Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God. During Jesus' ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semi-permanent entourage who served Jesus and his Disciples. Mary had stood by the cross of Jesus with his mother and was a first witness to His resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-18).

After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years, she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude, in a cave.

Mary Magdalene shows us that we can all be saved by the grace of God.

[Contributed by the PPC Evangelisation Group]

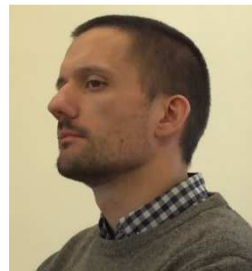
Our PPC met on Tuesday evening 14/7/2020

After a break of several weeks, the Parish Pastoral Council met to discuss a very full agenda. Early on, Fr Anthony explained that a new Finance Committee had been created with Gerald Soane as the chair. The full minutes of this meeting will be posted in the meeting area shortly.

Sea Sunday update

Due to the uncertainties around Covid-19, Stella Maris in the UK will celebrate Sea Sunday in December instead of last weekend. The date has not yet been finalised, but it is likely to be either Sunday 13 or Sunday 20 December. Nevertheless, we would urge you to continue to pray for seafarers and fishers and their families, many of whom are facing financial and personal difficulties during these challenging times.

Every month, around 100,000 seafarers who finish their contracts and look forward to flying home are prevented from doing so due to the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 and the subsequent closure of borders and flights. Many have had their employment extended as a result of the pandemic, resulting in fatigue, prolonged absence from their families and poor mental health.



Our 'local boy', the Rev John Howard, is to be ordained on Saturday 18th July 2020.

Please remember John in your prayers.

Please also pray for: Rosaleen O'Farrell (whose funeral will be on Thursday July 23rd), John Ryan

(Richard Thomson's brother-in-law), Dennis Seradi, Laura Bannon (Mia's Mother), Yvonne Wyatt and Margaret Fox.

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

Anniversaries in July: Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur in this month of July.

Interested in 'The God who Speaks'? Then listen to this:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bbc-radio-4-to-broadcast-a-word-for-all-seasons-from-yorkshire/>

Please share the information in this newsletter with other members of the parish with whom you have contact. Thank you for all you do, and please help the parish to continue to be a caring, loving and prayerful community during these difficult times. With prayerful best wishes. Keep safe.

Fr. Anthony

Send your advert by email to: carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk

* A lady who is one of our parishioners, **urgently needs a room to rent locally. Contact Fr Anthony for details.**

* Marriage problems? Professional and confidential counselling available to couples and individuals at www.marriagecare.org.uk or phone 0800 389 3801 to make an online appointment with a counsellor.

* Youth 2000 are recruiting the following positions:

Office and Communications Coordinator (Full-time)

Worship School Coordinator (Part-time contract)

Rebrand Coordinator (Contract). More information at:

https://www.youth2000.org/jobs?mc_cid=39d7064808&mc_eid=67374617ee

* Sutton Council announced a new 'Neighbourhood Fund' focused on enhancing community spaces and investing in infrastructure in the borough. "We are encouraging all community groups, voluntary sector, charities, and other organisations across the borough to submit their ideas". More information at:

<https://sutton.citizenspace.com/environment/neighbourhoodfund/>