



# 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

Priest: 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*

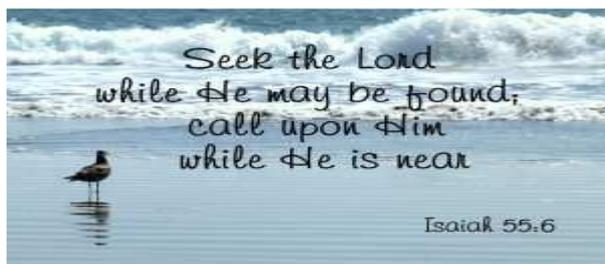


20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 [Cycle A Year 2]

Twenty Fifth Sunday

Isaiah 55: 6-9 | Psalm 144

Philippians 1:20-24, 27 | Matthew 20:1-16



This Sunday's Gospel is the parable of the hired workers. The owner of the vineyard went out of his way (five times) to hire workers for his vineyard. The lesson in this parable is not about justice, but is about the owner's generosity and kindness towards those hired last. This parable shows God's boundless love, mercy and forgiveness for those considered by society as unworthy and undeserving.

The eleventh-hour people were not layabouts who were trying to avoid work but genuinely wanted to work. In those days the marketplace was where the men went early in the morning and waited for an employer to come along. If a man was a tradesman, he brought his box of tools along with him. But it was mostly casual labourers, those without any particular skill, who congregated there. In the parable then, we are dealing with what was considered the lowest class of worker.

If an employer needed some workers, he would go to the marketplace, look at what was on offer, and cream off the most promising. Therefore, by the eleventh hour, what was left?

Now here is the point of the parable, the landowner's willingness to hire the lowest class of worker, and his desire to pay them a full day's wage.

So, who is Jesus talking about in the parable? The eleventh-hour people were the Gentiles; those who had been working all day long were the Jews, the vineyard was the Kingdom of God. So what Jesus was saying was this: God was offering the Kingdom to Gentiles on equal terms with the Jews. God is a loving and merciful God for all peoples, for all ages, his love is for everybody. Jesus is telling us that God does not work on a merit system. He is our heavenly Father, we are his children, surely a father is allowed to be generous, it goes with the name?

It is not the length of the service we have given that matters but the amount of love we show. Let us pray that we may learn the lesson of this parable, that God is generous and that it is a privilege to work for him.

*Continued over.....*

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Bishop Fulton Sheen said, "How God will judge my life I know not, but I trust he will see me with mercy and compassion. I am only certain there will be three surprises in Heaven. First of all, I will see some people whom I never expected to see. Second, there will be a number whom I expect who will not be there. And – even relying on God's mercy – the biggest surprise of all may be that I will be there."

Please remember in your prayers Rosie Lopez and Paul Harris who will be received into the Catholic Church at the 10.00am Mass, Sunday 20th September, where they will be confirmed and receive their first Holy Communion. May God bless them and walk with them now and forever. *Richard Thomson*

## Mass Intentions and Diary for the Week

Saturday 19	9.30am*	TBD
<i>St Theodore of Canterbury</i>	5pm	Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
	6pm	<b>Charles Augur (RIP)</b>
Sunday 20	8.30am	TBD
<i>Twenty-Fifth Sunday</i>	10am*	TBD
	11.30am	TBD
Monday 21	9.30am*	TBD
<i>St Matthew</i>		
Tuesday 22	9.30am*	TBD
Wednesday 23	9.30am*	TBD
<i>St Pius of Pietrelcina</i>	8pm	Bible Study via zoom
Thursday 24	9.30am*	TBD
<i>Our Lady of Walsingham</i>		
Friday 25	9.30am*	TBD
Saturday 26	9.30am*	TBD
<i>St Cosmas &amp; St Damian</i>	5pm	Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
	6pm	TBD
Sunday 27	8.30am	TBD
<i>Twenty-Sixth Sunday</i>	10am*	TBD
	11.30am	TBD

\* Masses are streamed at

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

Our Facebook Channel is named 'St Margaret of Scotlandrcarshalton Surrey'

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

*The 9.30am Masses include Morning Prayers (Lauds) and in the week ahead these will be taken from Psalm Week 1.*

*Our phone number 0208647 7748 is temporarily out of service. For now, the number to call is 020 8669 6483.*

### Update on Covid-19 Restrictions

As reported in the last newsletter, the new 'Rule of Six' introduced this week does not affect 'places of worship'. Thus, as currently, we are able to host numbers larger than six for 'communal worship'.

Celebrations such as weddings, (including their receptions), funerals and other sacramental celebrations will continue to be allowed but are subject to a limit of 30 persons.

Catechetical activities such as sacramental preparation sessions are not affected by the 'Rule of Six' as these are formal Religious Education and Formation sessions.

Choirs and music groups are also not restricted by the 'Rule of Six' as they come under realms of Performing Arts Guidance. This recognises choirs and music groups during liturgies and their rehearsal periods as a performing art.

### New Website for St Margaret's Unveiled

Lisa Nwankwo has been working on a brand-new website for the parish. Last week she made it available to members of the PPC for review. Everyone was delighted by the look, feel and professionalism of the new website.

There is still more development required before the old website can be 'pensioned off'. We can look forward to the launch of the new website in a few weeks' time.

### Sound and Vision in our Church

Having recently improved the sound quality of our church, Fr Anthony has just announced a further project to invest in vision equipment. This will be based on a new permanently mounted projector and automated screen that will be used for Folk Masses and much more.

This new vision equipment is to be a fine memorial to John Pougher (RIP), who was an excellent guitarist and dedicated member of our Folk Group.



### Don't Forget the Repository

As it is now becoming possible for Baptisms and First Holy Communions to take place, the Repository has a fine selection of good value religious items for sale.

**The Repository will be open for business after every Mass this Sunday, (20<sup>th</sup> September).**



### Nuclear Disarmament

During his historic visit to Japan last year, Pope Francis declared that "the use of atomic energy for purposes of war is immoral, just as the

possession of atomic weapons is immoral". Seventy-five years on from the unprecedented and horrific destruction of life at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we are called to reflect prayerfully upon the UK's own possession of nuclear weapons.

Pope Francis reiterated that the threat of mutual destruction, the massive loss of innocent lives and the annihilation of any future for our common home, is completely incompatible with our efforts to build peace. "If we really want to build a more just and secure society, we must let the weapons fall from our hands", said the Pope.

*"If you judge people, you have no time to love them."*

*St Teresa of Kolkata*

### Columban Missionaries Launch Children's Competition

In October, the Columban Missionaries launch their 2020 School Media Competition. This invites young people to submit an original piece of writing or an original image on the theme: 'Let's Create a World without Racism'. You can find out more on their website: [www.columbancompetition.com](http://www.columbancompetition.com).

### Highest Number of Abortions Ever in 2019

On Monday 28th September, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. For details of our live saving work see [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)

### A Prayer Against Indifference and Hostility towards Migrants

Give us a spirit of compassion so that we may understand the suffering of these people who have to leave behind their homelands and families in search of a better future. Amen

### Shirley Orbell Leaves the Parish

On September 18<sup>th</sup> Shirley leaves Carshalton and moves to Cheam where she will join St Christopher's parish. Amongst Shirley's many good works, she will be remembered for compiling the quarterly rota of parish duties over many years. As you can imagine this was a really challenging task!

We wish Shirley every happiness in her new home and parish.

**Joan Carlton (RIP).** Theresa Fox has been told that Joan Carlton died last week. She will be remembered by many in the parish. She was a long-standing parishioner with her husband Byron (RIP) and family, until they retired to live in Sussex. She was the lead in the group making the banners of the 'Holy Spirit' and the 'Our Father' for the Millennium, in 2000. These are displayed on the wall of the sanctuary.

**Prayer requests:** Rosie Lopez & Paul Harris (who are preparing for Reception, Holy Communion, & Confirmation on Sept 20<sup>th</sup>), Irma Foster, Fr John Howard, John Ryan (Richard Thomson's brother-in-law), Laura Bannon, Yvonne Wyatt and Margaret Fox.



**Pray for the repose of the souls of:** Joan Carlton, Sonia Burrows, Mary Finnerty & Rosaleen O'Farrell.

**Anniversaries:** Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur this month, (now shown on our website).

*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)*

**We now have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament everyday Monday to Thursday 10.15 am – 12.30pm; on Friday 10.15am – 8.00pm; and on Saturday 5pm – 6.45pm (during the Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour).**

**Please share the information in this newsletter with other members of the parish with whom you have contact. Thank you all, for all that that 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*

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