



# St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, SM5 4NG

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 10.30-11.00am & 5.15 - 5.45pm & at call

*A warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors*



22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 [Cycle A Year 2]

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17 | Psalm 22

1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 | **Matthew 25:31-46**



As royal shepherd, Christ is leading us into the Kingdom of his Father.

Today's solemnity of Christ the King ends the Church's liturgical

year on a high point. Perhaps, after the year we have had, we need, more than ever, its full title: 'Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe'.

So that God 'may be all in all' (Second Reading), Christ is, indeed, king over the whole universe.

Though we may have felt – and perhaps still feel – 'scattered, during the mist and darkness' of 2020, God keeps the flock always in view (First Reading) and will show us where to rest. We are not abandoned.

Rather, the care of the one, true, kingly shepherd means we really shall want for nothing (Psalm).

The call of this Shepherd King is heard in the Gospel, inviting us to a share, both in his service of others, especially to the very least, and in his very life.

This week, let's try to be open to that call and respond with joyful and generous hearts. *St Beuno's Outreach*

## Saint Cecilia – Virgin and Martyr (Feast Day 22<sup>nd</sup> November)

Although very little evidence exists surrounding the life of Saint Cecilia, she was an incredibly popular and famous Saint and one of the most venerated of Roman Martyrs in the early church. Her feast has been celebrated since at least 545 AD.



Her name is among the names of martyrs listed in the Roman Canon, the liturgical document also known as The First Eucharist Prayer. She is one of seven women, in addition to the Blessed Virgin, commemorated by name in the Canon of the Mass.

Legend records that she was a young Christian of high rank who, despite her vow of virginity, was forced into marriage to the Roman nobleman Valerian. Nevertheless, she maintained her virginity and converted her husband Valerian to Christianity. It is said that on the evening of their wedding day she revealed to her husband that an Angel of God watched over her and that his anger would be inflamed if Valerian approached her under the influence of a sensual love. However, if Valerian conserved her virginity, the Angel would lavish his favours on him also. Valerian promised that he would comply with her wishes if he could see the Angel but, since this could only be achieved through a belief in the true God, he

*continued over*

## Mass Intentions and Diary for the Week

Saturday 21	9.30am	Lorna Elias (RIP)
	5pm	Devotion to Our Lady
	6pm	<b>Deceased Relatives of the O'Connor &amp; Riney Families &amp; Intentions of Riney Family</b>
Sunday 22 <i>Christ the King &amp; St Cecilia</i>	8.30am	Alan Davies (RIP)
	10am	Augustus Ezebiuro (RIP)
	11.30am	Dixson Family (Thanksgiving)
Monday 23	9.30am	Angela Odelusi (Wellbeing)
Tuesday 24 <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac</i>	9.30am	Fr Anthony Uche
Wednesday 25	9.30am	<b>Faithful Departed</b>
	11am	<b>Funeral of Mrs Obdulia Emilia D'Souza Bento (RIP)</b>
Thursday 26	8pm	Bible Study via zoom
	9.30am	<b>Faithful Departed</b>
Friday 27	8pm	Intercessory Prayer via zoom
	9.30am	<b>Margaret Snowden (RIP)</b>
Saturday 28	9.30am	<b>Departed Relatives of the Mascarenhas &amp; Gonsalves Families</b>
	5pm	Devotion to Our Lady
Sunday 29 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	6pm	<b>Gonsalves Family (Wellbeing)</b>
	8.30am	Carla Doran (RIP)
	10am	<b>Mascarenhas Family</b>
	11.30am	<b>Annie Musial (100<sup>th</sup> Birthday)</b>

## Temporary Ban on Collective Worship in Churches

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

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

Our Facebook Channel is named:

'St Margaret of ScotlandrcCarshalton Surrey'

In addition, there is the new '**angelcam**' Live Video Service.

You can watch this at: <https://st-margarets.click2stream.com/>

## Well Known Crisis in the Catholic Church

The crisis facing the Church and recognised over many years is the diminishing number of priests in proportion to the surging increase of the laity. According to CARA (Georgetown University) statistics, in 1970 worldwide there was a total of 419, 728 priests and 653.6 million laity. In 2017, there was a total of 414,582 priests worldwide and 1.3 billion of the laity.

Whilst in the UK we may not recognise any great surge in numbers of the laity, the shortage of priests is manifest. Exactly how the Eucharist is to be made available to the whole Church remains a significant challenge.

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agreed to be instructed and be baptised by Pope Urban 1. After his baptism he returned to Cecilia and saw the Angel standing beside her with two crowns of roses and lilies which he placed on their heads. Cecilia believed that the white lilies symbolised her chastity and the red roses their martyrdom. Valerian was told that he could ask any grace of God and he requested that his brother Tiburtius might also receive the grace that he had obtained. Tiburtius converted to Christianity soon afterwards. Both Valerian and his brother were later martyred for refusing to sacrifice to the Roman gods.

Cecilia also met the same fate not long after. Legend surrounding her death states that she continued to live for three days after being struck three times on the neck with a sword (after attempts to suffocate her by steam were unsuccessful). During the three days she gave all she had to the poor, preached the Gospel for the conversion of many and asked the Pope to convert her home into a church. There is some discrepancy about the date of her death. It is reported that her martyrdom and that of St Valerian and St Tiburtius took place in the pontificate of Urban 1 (222-230) and during the reign of Emperor Alexander Severus. Another report states that she died in Sicily under the reign of Marcus Aurelius between 176 and 180.

Pope Urban 1 presided at her funeral. She was placed in the coffin in the position in which she had lain and was buried near the papal crypt in the Catacombs of Saint Callixtus. After being the object of devotion for centuries her remains were transferred by the Pope in the early 800s to her own Basilica in Trastevere in Rome. The Basilica is reputedly built on the site of the house in which she lived. During restoration work on the Basilica in 1599, Cecilia's body was uncovered and found to be incorrupt; her face and hair covered by a sheet and her fingers in the form of a cryptic Christian symbol of the Trinity.

Since the Renaissance, Saint Cecilia has usually been portrayed with a viola or small organ and has become the Patron Saint of musicians. She has come to symbolise the integral role of music in the liturgy and the importance of singing praises to God (both in our hearts and sometimes with our voices) just as King David in the Psalms: My song is of mercy and justice; I sing to you, O Lord (Psalm 100:1). It is written that as the musicians played at her wedding Saint Cecilia "sang in her heart to the Lord".

*Our Parish Evangelical Group*

### **Christian Opposition to Nuclear Weapons**

Anglican bishops have written a public letter urging the UK government to sign the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons which was ratified recently and comes into force in January 2021. Pax Christi's President Archbishop Malcolm McMahon previously stated: "Here is an opportunity for the leaders of nuclear weapons-possessing countries such as the UK to demonstrate creative, moral courage. We call on our government to sign the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and be part of a future built on just international relationships and the common good of all humanity."



**Missio would like the money collected to be banked before Christmas.** Please take the money out of your red box and put it into an envelope with your name and

the word 'MISSIO'. Then post it into the parish house.

*[Thanks, from Richard]*

**The Good Counsel Network** reports that there was a large increase in the number of abortions in the first six months of 2020. You are asked to join in praying and fasting for the end of abortion and euthanasia on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November and also encourage others to join in, via Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1065375010577054/>

**A Prayer from the Right to Life Organisation** In accordance with what our Lord told us, may we take on the responsibility of serving the voiceless in our society - especially those imprisoned, the homeless, the widowed, the sick and the unborn. We pray for the Lord to fill our hearts with a passion for justice. Lord hear us.

**Prayer requests:** Rosie Lopez, Paul Harris, Irma Foster, Fr John Howard, Laura Bannon, Yvonne Wyatt and Margaret Fox.



**Pray for the repose of the souls of:** John Ryan, Obdulia Emilia D'Souza Bento, Nicos Demetriades, Joan Carlton & Patricia Mulholland.

**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)

\* **Purley Food Hub** Food donations and toiletries, etc, can be brought any Wednesday morning or Saturday morning between 10.00am-12.00noon to Purley United Reformed Church next to Purley Hospital. See [www.purleyfoodhub.net](http://www.purleyfoodhub.net)

\* **The John Fisher School Choir** leads Epilogue on the last Thursday of every month. Epilogue is a short, reflective presentation of sacred music, a gospel reading and bidding prayers. You can access the recording at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDR94yS3sMc&feature=youtu.be>

\* **Westminster Cathedral Choir School** is an independent prep school for boys with a world class choir. Tune in to the Choir live on Sundays at 10.30 am (Mass) & 3.30 pm (Vespers) and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5.30 pm (Mass) at:

[www.westminstercathedral.org.uk](http://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk)

[Informal voice trials are easily arranged over Zoom. Simply contact Lucy Auger, Director of Admissions, to arrange one, or with any other queries Tel 020 7798 9081 or email

[lauger@choirschool.com](mailto:lauger@choirschool.com) ]

\* **The Jesuit Refugee Service** would be grateful for Christmas cards to give to their clients. They ask us to:

- Address the card to "Dear Friend"
- Include a message of support suitable for a person of any faith or none
- Don't include your full name or contact details
- Post the card to JRS Christmas Cards 2020, Jesuit Refugee Service, 2 Chandler Street, London ETW 2QT

You can find out more at

<https://www.jrsuk.net/blog/messages-of-hope-and-solidarity/>

\* **No Wintershall Nativity Play** this year, but there will be a Nativity Winter Walk over the beautiful Wintershall Estate from 18-21 December 2020. You'll need to book. Find out more at <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/nativity-winter-walk>