



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



30th August 2020 [Cycle A Year 2]

Twenty Second Sunday

Jeremiah 20:7-9 | Psalm 62

Romans 12:1-2 | Matthew 16:21-27



The Beheading of St John the Baptist painted by Caravaggio

St. John is the Patron saint of the Knights Hospitaller and is believed to protect pilgrims to and from the Holy Land.

This month, we as a church come together to commemorate the Passion/Death of St John the Baptist, often called the 'Forerunner'. The Feast Day of his death is 29th August. His other Feast Day on 24th June celebrates his birth.

St. John was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth a childless, elderly and devout couple from priestly families. In the Gospel of Luke, we are told that an angel announced the impending birth to Zechariah and said that the child was to be named John (Luke 1: 11-16). The name John means "God is Gracious." St. John, a prophet from before his birth, whilst still within his mother's womb, instantly recognised the presence of Our Lord Jesus in His mother Mary's womb and leapt for joy at Mary's greeting, when Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth (Luke 1:41). This is when John was cleansed of original sin. This came to pass just as the Angel Gabriel had previously promised Zechariah in Luke 1:15.

St. John followed in the footsteps of the great prophets of the Old Testament, calling upon the people to repent and be ready for the coming Messiah. He went to live his life in the desert and preached there. He wore a garment of camel hair and ate only locusts and wild honey (Matthew 3:1-4; Mark 1:6). He proclaimed about the Kingdom of God and of a time of upcoming judgement. He invited those who wanted to repent, to allow him to baptise them as a sign of repentance. He baptised with water but spoke of the one, the Messiah, who would baptise with the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11). John, just like the prophets, disturbed the comfortable and gave much comfort to the disturbed.

The message of John soon spread far and wide. He had a great following among the people but, in his humility, he always directed away from himself and towards Jesus, and lived an ascetic lifestyle. His life was centred on God and on his calling, though some wondered if he was the Messiah. He reiterated

Continued over

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, send an email request to: carshaltonbeechesppc@rcaos.org.uk
Your contributions to this newsletter are also very welcome.

Mass Intentions and Diary for the Week

Saturday 29 <i>Passion of St John Baptist</i>	9.30am*	Theresa Osibamowo (RIP) Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour 6pm Leonor de L'Orgia, Rosario de Rios, Alberto Rios, Gilma Rios, Guillermo Rios & Jairo Sosa (All of whom RIP)
	5.15pm	
Sunday 30 <i>Twenty-Second Sun.</i>	8.30am	TBD Rosaleen O'Farrel (RIP) Theresa Osibamowo (RIP) Rosario de Rios (RIP)
	10am*	
Monday 31 <i>St Aidan & Lindisfarne Saints</i>	11.30am	
Tuesday 1 st Wed. 2	9.30am*	Patrick Roberts (RIP) Gilma Rios (RIP) Bible Study via zoom Guillermo Rios (RIP)
	9.30am*	
Thursday 3 <i>St Gregory the Great</i>	8pm	Jairo Sosa (RIP) A Mass for the Sick (First Friday of the Month) Alberto Rios (RIP) Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
	9.30am*	
Friday 4 <i>St Cuthbert</i>	9.30am*	TBD TBD TBD TBD
	12.30pm	
Saturday 5	9.30am*	TBD TBD TBD TBD
	5.15pm	
Sunday 6 <i>Twenty-Third Sunday</i>	6pm	
	8.30am	
	10am*	
	11.30am	

Note: The 9.30am Masses include Morning Prayers (Lauds) and in the week ahead these will be taken from Psalm Week 2.



St Aidan of Lindisfarne (died 651) was an Irish monk and missionary credited with converting the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity in Northumbria. He founded a monastic cathedral on the island of Lindisfarne. He travelled ceaselessly throughout the countryside, spreading the gospel to both the Anglo-Saxon nobility and the socially disenfranchised (including children and slaves).

Pope Gregory I (540 –604), commonly known as Saint Gregory the Great, is known for instigating the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome, the Gregorian Mission, to convert the then pagan Anglo-Saxons in England to Christianity.

St John the Baptist continued:

that he was not but that he was sent ahead of Him (John 3:28-29). With unequalled courage he spread the news and emphasised that he, described by Jesus as the greatest of the sons of men, was the least in the kingdom of Heaven. The Gospel of Mark tells us that all the peoples of Jerusalem and Judaea went to him to be baptised in the river Jordan and confessed their sins (MK 1:5).

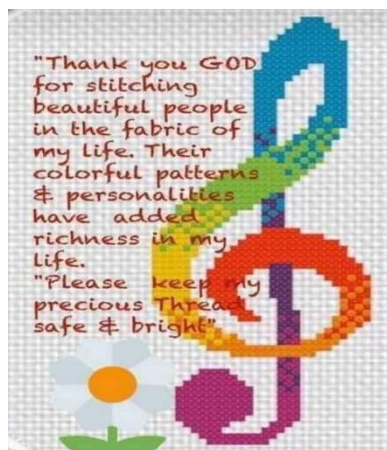
Then Jesus himself came to John to be baptised and John immediately recognised Jesus as the Messiah. He pointed Jesus out as the promised Lamb of God (John 1:29-34) declaring, "This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" and baptised Him (Matthew 3:13-17). This statement is still used in the Mass prayer today, when the Priest holds up the sacred Host as we prepare to receive the Holy Eucharist. It was after being baptised by John, that our Lord Jesus began His Earthly ministry.

Herod, despite being fearful of John's popularity among the people, who considered John to be a prophet, and knowing him to be a good and holy man, had John beheaded after an oath he made to his wife Herodias's daughter at his birthday party (Matthew 14:1-12).

St John's cult is exceedingly ancient in both the East and the West and he was particularly popular during the middle ages. He is believed to be buried in Samaria.

St John the Baptist is an excellent example that we as Christians should take much notice of within our lives of faith. Just as St. John always showed his humility by turning his attention away from himself and towards our Lord Jesus, we too, also need to show this same humility if we are truly to serve and follow the Lord. We also, must turn attention away from ourselves and towards Jesus. Just as John himself declared, "He must increase, I must decrease" (John 3:30).

Evangelisation sub-group



Becoming a Catholic?

Would you like to learn about becoming a Catholic?

Are you an adult who wants to make their First Holy Communion or Confirmation?

Are you an adult who wants to join the Catholic Church?

Get in touch: Tel. 020 8669 6483.



St Margaret's Bible Study Group

meets every week during term time from 8pm to 9.30pm currently via Zoom. However, we

are hoping to meet on the first Wednesday of the month in church. Its members seek to learn more about the Scriptures through reading and discussing a variety of guided studies, ending in prayer. Current studies include The Wednesday Word and St Beuno's Outreach: Prego and Prego Plus. We would love to welcome new members to our friendly and informal group, and if you are interested in previewing the study material, you can find it on:

<http://www.wednesdayword.org/> (click Parish version) and <https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/> (click on Recent Posts then the current Sunday).

Contact Paula Scatchard for more information, via the Parish Office.



Podcasts from St Margaret's. A variety of podcasts, such as prayers and reflections, are now available at: <https://stmargarets101.podbean.com/>.

If you would like to get involved in making podcasts or writing reflections for this newsletter or the website, please contact Fr Anthony.

Michael Edward Gibbons, one of our parishioners, died on July 28th. Fr Anthony conducted his funeral service on Tuesday 25th August at the North East Surrey Crematorium in Morden. His widow, Cathy will organise a memorial when possible in the future.



Prayer requests: Irma Foster (Charlotte's mother), Fr John Howard, John Ryan (Richard Thomson's brother-in-law), Laura Bannon (Mia's Mother), Yvonne Wyatt and Margaret Fox.

Pray for the repose of the souls of: Michael Gibbons, Patrick Roberts, Sonia Burrows, Mary Finnerty & Rosaleen O'Farrell.

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

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

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

***Cycle Skills Training** As part of Sutton Council's plans to make walking and cycling easier and safer in Sutton, the Council now has funding to provide free adult and family cycle training sessions. This includes evenings and weekends. The instructors can even provide a bike for the session if you are a beginner or don't have one yet. To book go to: sutton.gov.uk/info/200583/travel_and_transport/1583/cycle_skills_sessions/4

***St George's Cathedral Vacancies** – there are currently 2 part-time admin vacancies at the Cathedral. For more information please contact triciagilbride@stgeorges.org.uk. More information can also be found on the front page of our website.

***Boom!** is a credit union for people who live or work in West Sussex, Surrey, Sutton or Kingston. We give local people access to fair and affordable loans, savings accounts and prepaid cards. To find out more, visit www.boomcu.com/About-Us.