



St·Margaret·of·Cortona·&·All·Saints·Catholic·Parish

www.stmargaretsct.com

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Parish·Priest:·Mgr·John·Armitage—Assistant·Priest:·Fr·Jijo·George—Pastoral·Assistant:·Fin·Allen
79·Barking·Rd,·Canning·Town,·E16·4HB

Fourth Sunday of Lent (B) 14th March 2021

Lent is a perfect time of the year to evaluate our own faith life and to consider various ways to improve it. Pope Benedict XVI gave his thoughts on what is the key to a fruitful Lent. “The celebration of Lent ... offers us a valuable opportunity to meditate on the relationship between faith and charity: between believing in God – the God of Jesus Christ – and love, which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit and which guides us on the path of devotion to God and others.” He then explains how faith leads to charity, which is a response to God’s love for us.

The entire Christian life is a response to God’s love. The first response is precisely faith as the acceptance, filled with wonder and gratitude, of the unprecedented divine initiative that precedes us and summons us. And the “yes” of faith marks the beginning of a radiant story of friendship with the Lord, which fills and gives full meaning to our whole life. But it is not enough for God that we simply accept his gratuitous love. Not only does he love us, but he wants to draw us to himself, to transform us in such a profound way as to bring us to say with Saint Paul: “it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me” (cf. Gal 2:20).

In other words, “Faith is knowing the truth and adhering to it (cf. 1 Tim 2:4); charity is ‘walking’ in the truth (cf. Eph 4:15).” Its easy to remain laser-focused during Lent on bolstering up our prayer life, which is a good and praiseworthy goal. However, Pope Benedict XVI asks us to take the next step and to use that renewed faith by being charitable towards others.

As St. Paul famously put it, “If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal” (1 Corinthians 13:1). Charity should always be on our radar, and we cannot trade it in for a better prayer life. We must allow our prayer life to drive our charity, seeking to outdo others in generosity. That is the Christian life and the key to a fruitful Lent.

Lenten Retreat

It consists of a series of Talks, a time for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and some Guided Spiritual reading. The next Lent Retreat will be at 7:00pm this Monday evening on Live Stream.

Financial Good News

I want to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped us bring down our parish deficit from £90,000 to today’s deficit of less than £10,000! This has been a remarkable achievement, which has happened through a joint effort with the weekly collection steadily increasing; some substantial personal donations from a parishioner; supporters outside of the parish recognising the work of the parish especially with the Food Bank; a grant from a Trust Fund that recognised the work of the Parish during the Pandemic. In addition, we also received a grant from Newham, which is being divided between St Helens, the SVP and the Food Bank to assist families in need at this time. This means that in a fairly short period of time we may be back in credit. This will make a real difference to the way the parish can operate and support its work. Thank you to all concerned.

A big thank you for your generous offerings

7th March 2021

Offertory: Envelopes – £492.70; Loose Plate – £580.44

Useful Information

Secretary

Maria Da Silva

General Enquiries

Contact the Parish Office

Parish Office:

Mon., Wed. and Fri.
(10am to 2pm)

Convent Chapel:

Bethell Avenue, E16 4JU

St Helen’s School:

020 7476 1785

Hospitals Co-ordinator:

Rosa During

020 7476 4920

Parish Safeguarding:

Please contact the Parish office

Sister Barbara:

020 8525 4229

FMM Community:

020 7511 3463

SVP: Please contact the Parish Office

Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (CFR):

020 7474 0766

Repository: Mon. to Fri.
(10am to 12pm) and Sun. (10am to 1pm)

Pop in for First Holy Communion and Confirmation gifts, cards and many other Religious items. We accept card payments (including contactless), for payments over £5.



*Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in the main church on Thursdays 7:30 – 8:30pm,
Saturdays 5 – 6pm and by appointment.*

Marriages (6 months’ notice) and baptisms (2 months’ notice) are celebrated by appointment.

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092



Priests' Surgery: Please note the next surgery is on **Monday, 15th March** from **5:30 to 6.00pm**. Please call at the Presbytery.

If you need any help or assistance at this time, please get in touch with the Parish Office or the Presbytery on 0207 476 4129.

Year of St Joseph: The 33 Day Consecration to St Joseph **will end this Friday, 19th March**. There will be a Mass in St Margaret's just after the Stations of the Cross at around 7:30pm.

Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 7pm St Margaret's followed by Confessions. Led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal.

Living Simply Group: If you would like to know more about the group, you can join the Parish WhatsApp Group for more details (please email the Parish with your name and phone number).

The Global Catholic Movement invites you to "Global Healing". Can you please go to the registration page and register to attend Global Healing: <https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?meetingId=9601234567890>

Food Bank: Please note that home deliveries of food is for people who are unable to leave their home and have no one who can collect the food for them. Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday **from 10:30am to 1:00pm**.

Hospital Visits: If you go into hospital or a member of your family, inform the Parish Office so that the priest can visit you in hospital.

Repository: If you require a copy of the MAGNIFICAT March 2021 please let us know and we will order it for you.

Sunday Missal 2021: If you would like to have a copy for only £1.99 please go to www.ctsbooks.org.

Mass intentions: Any Mass intention for **special occasions** should be booked at least **three months in advance**. Please note that **Mass intentions** for the month of **March, April and May are now fully booked**. Thank you for your co-operation.

Baptism Dates: I will be starting with those families who have already filled in the forms and handed them in. The dates for Baptism for the next two months are as follows: **10th | 17th | 24th April | 8th | 15th | 22nd May**. Baptisms will be at **11.30am and 13.30**. Bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis. Each family will be able to bring with them 10 people, not including the baby! As we cannot hold, baptism classes parents are asked to watch this video in preparation: <https://watch.formed.org/reborn>.

First Holy Communion Arrangements for 2021: Because of the present restrictions, it is not possible to organise the classes for those children who will make their First Holy Communion this year. I am delighted to announce that St Helens School will run a class for children who have not yet made their Communion. This will include the children who are in the age group and any children who may have missed last year. Children attending Non-Catholic Schools will be invited to join a group that will meet as soon after Easter as possible in the Parish Centre. All things being equal we should be able to hold our celebrations at the normal time in the early summer. I am very grateful to Clare Doherty our Headteacher and her staff for agreeing to help us out.

Confirmation: I will be inviting the young people who wish to be confirmed to a meeting that will take place in the Autumn. This will be the first part of our preparation for the confirmation that will take place in 2022. I shall be holding a retreat day and all who wish to be confirmed will be invited.

Registration for First Holy Communion, Confirmation Programmes and Baptisms 2021: Forms are available on the Parish Website (<http://www.stmargaretsct.com/services> – scroll down). Please fill in the form, and if you are unable to submit it online, post it through the door of the Presbytery 79 Barking Rd (with a copy of the Baptismal Certificate, where applicable). Forms for Baptism can also be access online.

Gift Aid: The envelopes for the next financial year have been ordered. We are awaiting delivery. Keep an eye on the newsletter for when they will be available for collection. Many thanks for all members of the Gift Aid scheme. If you are a tax payer and not a member, please consider joining as it enables us get 25p back from the taxman for every pound you put in the offertory – please ask for a declaration form after Mass or from the parish office. The recent problem with the DONA online donation system has been resolved and the Diocesan link is still live. Any Gift Aid members paying directly using our bank details should please indicate their envelope number in the reference for ease of input into the Gift Aid system. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Westminster Cathedral Choir School: Each year Westminster Cathedral Choir School, the school for the world's greatest Catholic Choir, offers places to six boys. There are no financial barriers to entry with scholarships up to 100% of fees available on a means tested basis. If you son has a good voice and is in years 2 or 3 then you might consider looking at this further. The website is www.choirschool.com have a look and book an audition.

Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)

Sat. 13	6:30pm	Mass – Jerry Reynolds (F) (Ann), R.I.P. – St Margaret's
Sun. 14	10:00am	Mass – Theresa Zerafa, R.I.P. – Convent Chapel
	10:00am	Mass – Romanian Mass of the Latin Rite – St Margaret's
	12.00pm	Mass – People of the Parish
	12.00pm	Mass – Romanian Mass Greek Catholic Rite – Convent Chapel
	6.00pm	Mass – Latin Mass (Extraordinary Form) – Convent Chapel
Sun. 14	6:00pm	Mass – Shobha Watts, R.I.P.
	6:00pm	
Mon. 15	9.30am	Mass – Nicole Semedo & Family, Thanksgiving – Convent Chapel
Tues. 16	9:30am	Mass – Egidijus Dorkas, R.I.P. – St Margaret's
Wed. 17	9:30am	Mass – Ireland – St Margaret's
Thurs. 18	7:00pm	Mass – Margaret & Dennis Lynch, Angel Gabriel Osedumme, R.I.P.
	7:30-8:30pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession
Fri. 19	9:00am	Mass – Eddie Bedier, R.I.P. – Convent Chapel
	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross – St Margaret's
	7:30pm	Mass – Conversion of Families – St Margaret's
Sat. 20	5-6pm	Confessions
	6:30pm	Mass – Paulo De Jesus, R.I.P. – St Margaret's
Sun. 21	10:00am	Mass – John and Sue Doherty (Ann), R.I.P. – Convent Chapel
	10:00am	Mass – Romanian Mass of the Latin Rite – St Margaret's
	12.00pm	Mass – Pietro Ferrigno, R.I.P.
	12.00pm	Mass – Romanian Mass Greek Catholic Rite – Convent Chapel
	6.00pm	Mass – Latin Mass (Extraordinary Form) – Convent Chapel
	6:00pm	Mass – People of the Parish

Wednesday the 17th is the National Feast of St Patrick, Bishop and Patron of Ireland.

Friday the 19th is the Solemnity of St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Readings	4th Sunday of Lent	Exodus 20:1-17	1 Corinthians 1:22-25	John 2:13-25
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Resp. O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!