



# ST. MARGARET'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

## HOME OF ST. MARGARET'S RELIC 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B



DATE	CHURCH	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday 17th	St. Margaret's	10am 10.30am-Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am – Confession	Cath Antoniewicz 80th Birthday
	St. Margaret's	5.30pm	Peter McGuire
Sunday 18th	St. Margaret's	9.30am	James & Cissie Farrell RIP
	Holy Name	11am	Elizabeth McFarlane
	St. Margaret's	4pm – Stations of the Cross – One World Group	
Monday 19th		NO MASS	
Tuesday 20th	Holy Name	9am 9.30am – Stations of the Cross	Bill Mackie RIP
	St. Margaret's	10am	Daniel Payne RIP
	St. Margaret's	7pm-8pm – Holy Hour	
Wednesday 21st	St. Margaret's	10am	Brian Little
	Holy Name	11.45am – Requiem Mass for Roseanna McGuinness	
Thursday 22nd	St. Margaret's	10am	Rose Macdonald RIP
	St. Margaret's	7pm – Stations with Evening Prayer	
Friday 23rd	St. Margaret's	7am	Daphne Elston RIP
	St. Margaret's	10am	Joseph Kennedy RIP
Saturday 24th	St. Margaret's	10am 10.30am-Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.30am – Confession	Margaret Gilchrist RIP
	St. Margaret's	5.30pm	Graham Robertson

### Mass Intentions

If you would like a mass to be offered for yourself, family or friends, complete the blank Mass Intention envelopes (for SM in the card stand; for HN on the table at the entrance of the church) and hand these to the Priest. These can also be put through the Presbytery door. Please note mass intentions slots can regularly already be filled, up to a month in advance.



## **Sunday Morning Teas & Coffees**

Tea and Toast after Sunday Mass in St Margaret's is starting up the first Sunday in Lent! To ensure it continues we need volunteers who can commit to once a month, hopefully less. Please contact Charlotte Macintosh personally or on [cjm909@btinternet.com](mailto:cjm909@btinternet.com) if you want to help out. You may have done this before – please come back – or want to get involved this time round. The 6 weeks that this will be running is a trial and if not enough people come forward we will be unable to sustain running this after the Easter holidays. Thank you

## **Obituaries**

Please remember in your prayers Roseanna McGuinness who passed away on 26th January. Her funeral will take place on Wednesday 21st February, 11.45am at Holy Name.

Please remember in your prayers Patricia Garner Winship who passed away 8th February. Her funeral will take place on Wednesday 6th March, 10am at St. Margaret's.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the bereaved family & friends. May they rest in peace.

## **Readers**

We are looking for new volunteers readers at weekend masses, especially our Saturday 5.30pm vigil mass. If interested please speak to the priest, our Sacristan Tom, David Hambley or email our parish email address.

## **Congratulations**

Heartfelt congratulations to Moira McCrae & David Hunter on receiving their Archdiocesan Medal from Archbishop Leo Cushley; presented for their outstanding service to SSVP and its Fife Furniture Project.

## **Rite of Election**

Let us pray, especially for those from our parish – Cameron Hogg, Luke Meldrum and Cassey Morrison King – who will be attending the Rite of Election at St. Mary's Cathedral this Sunday, February 18th.

## **Lenten Message of the Holy Father**

Printed copies of the Message of the Holy Father for Lent are available at the back of the church if you would like to take a copy home with you. It can also be viewed online here:

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2024/02/01/240201c.html>

## **Voice of the Laity**

We are having another Voice of the Laity meeting on Sunday 25th February after 11am Mass in Holy Name – teas/coffees and cakes will be available. As you know this is your opportunity to discuss any subject related to our faith/church. Looking forward to seeing you there.

## **World Day of Prayer – Oakley**

Oakley/Carnock Parish Church are hosting this year's World Day of Prayer Service on Friday 1st March at 2pm. The churches of Holy Name, Oakley/Carnock and Saline are involved in the service. We have had good turnouts of Holy Name Parishioners in past years so it would be lovely to see as many parishioners as possible at this service. Parishioners of St Margaret's are also very welcome to attend.

## **World Day of Prayer – Dunfermline**

This years World Day Of Prayer will be held in Dunfermline Abbey on Friday 1st March at 2pm.

Children's Service & Craft will be held on Saturday 2nd March at 2pm-3pm in St. Ninians.

## **Holy Name Teas n Coffees**

The next teas n coffees in Holy Name will be on Sunday 3rd March and thereafter every second week.

Please come and join us for a chat and fabulous baking. Please note the teas n coffees will not be on Easter Sunday.

## **Children's Liturgy**

Sacraments for Children not at Catholic school – Registration is on Monday 4th March 5pm in the Crypt.

## **Holy Name Fun Night**

Holy Name are having another Fun Night to be held in The Greyhound Lounge, Oakley, on Tuesday 12th March from 6.30-10pm. As it is near St Patrick's feast day the night will have an Irish theme with Irish Bingo, live music, dancing and Irish karaoke. Refreshments and sandwiches will be provided and all for £10! Tickets will be on sale from next Sunday from Mike or Pietro.



## LENT & HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL CALENDAR

The dates, times, and locations of liturgical services for Lent and Holy Week for both St Margaret's and Holy Name were finalised recently by the parish Liturgy Group. The issue of having one priest serving two churches within the parish, and ensuring fairness for both congregations, proved difficult in planning the Easter Triduum.

Parishioners should note the following key arrangements:

- Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday will be celebrated in St Margaret's at 7pm.
- The Good Friday Celebration of the Lord's Passion will be at 3pm in Holy Name. There will be a Veneration of the Holy Cross service in St. Margaret's at 7 pm on the same evening.
- The Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday will be celebrated in St Margaret's at 8pm.
- On the Easter Day Holy Mass at St Margaret's at 9.30am and Holy Name at 11am.

The liturgy at each of the Triduum services will be supported by parishioners from both St Margaret's and Holy Name.

The detailed liturgical calendar is printed with the bulletin.

## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### Lent Video Reflections

Join Canon Hugh White each week in Lent as he reflects on the 'Challenge of the Gospel', in weekly videos posted each Monday morning on the Archdiocesan YouTube channel: [bit.ly/ArchYouTube](https://bit.ly/ArchYouTube)

### Stations of the Cross

Join people across the Archdiocese each Monday throughout Lent for our annual Stations of the Cross. It takes place on Zoom at 7:45pm, beginning on 19 February, and lasts around 30 minutes. We will be praying for unborn children, their mothers and all pro-life intentions. Register at [bit.ly/lentstations](https://bit.ly/lentstations)

### Retreat for Young Adults

The ARISE retreat on Saturday 24 February is for 16-35 year-olds across Scotland to gather for a day of faith, fun and friendship at St Albert's Chaplaincy, George Square, Edinburgh. The day includes Mass, Adoration, talks, small group discussion, opportunities for Confession and more. Tickets £15 which includes lunch & dinner. Register at <https://www.youth2000.org/events/Edinburgh>

### Day for Catechists

If you are involved with RCIA, children's liturgy, sacramental preparation or any other catechist role, please register for the Archdiocesan Day for Catechists at The Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, on Saturday 9 March from 10:30am-3:00pm. While the day is aimed at Catechists, all are welcome. Visit <https://bit.ly/dayforcatechists>

### Jubilee 2025

The Holy Father has announced that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee. The theme is Pilgrims of Hope. For more information, visit the official website <https://www.giubileo-2025.it/en>. A Facebook page has been set up that will highlight resources and events in Scotland - search 'Holy Year Scotland 2025'. To help us prepare, the Holy Father has established 2024 as a Year of Prayer dedicated "to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer, prayer in personal life, in the life of the Church, prayer in the world". Resources will be available soon.

### Events in the Archdiocese

For a full list of forthcoming events in the Archdiocese visit:

<https://archedinburgh.org/news-events/>



# PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME	ROLE	CONTACT
Fr. Syriac Palakudiyil	Parish Administrator	<b>Email Address</b> <a href="mailto:frsyriac.palakudiyil@staned.org.uk">frsyriac.palakudiyil@staned.org.uk</a>  <b>Phone Number:</b> 01383 625611  <b>Address</b> St. Margaret's Presbytery, 4 Viewfield Terrace, Dunfermline, KY12 7HZ
Colleen Izatt	Parish Admin Assistant & Crypt Bookings	<b>Email Address</b> <a href="mailto:priest.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk">priest.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk</a>  <b>Phone Number:</b> 07706083493 / 01383 625611
	Parish Newsletter <b>Deadline 10am Fridays</b>	<b>Email Address</b> <a href="mailto:stmargaretsnews@gmail.com">stmargaretsnews@gmail.com</a>
Digital Communications Team	Parish Website and Social Media	<b>Email Address</b> <a href="mailto:stmargaretscomms@gmail.com">stmargaretscomms@gmail.com</a>

## PARISH CHARITIES

Society of St. Vincent de Paul		One World Group
St. Margaret's	Holy Name	
Account Name SSVP AE02044	Account Name SSVP AE02040	Account Name St. Margaret's One World Group
Account No 00768139	Account No 13364166	Account No 10191867
Sort Code 80 – 06 – 55	Sort Code 80 – 22 – 60	Sort Code 83 – 33 – 00

## PARISH OFFERTORIES

St. Margaret's	Holy Name
	

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on request at Holy Name & after 10am Mass on Saturdays in St. Margaret's.

## SACRAMENTS

Please contact the Parish Priest to arrange Baptisms (at your earliest convenience), Marriages (at least six months in advance), Sacrament of the Sick or Funerals: [priest.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk](mailto:priest.stmargaretdunfermline@staned.org.uk)  
 Should you have any questions about the Sacraments, please email: [georgetoal@btinternet.com](mailto:georgetoal@btinternet.com)



ST. MARGARET'S IS A PARISH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. ANDREWS AND EDINBURGH, A CHARITY REGISTERED IN SCOTLAND SC0008540







# READINGS

## 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



### FIRST READING

**Genesis 9:8-15**

*'There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again'*

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

### SECOND READING

**1 Peter 3:18-22**

*The water on which the Ark floated is a type of the baptism which saves you now*

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe.

That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

### THE NICENE

**("Niceno-Constantinopolitan") Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 24 (25):4-6,7b-9**

*Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Mt4:4**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
Man does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

### GOSPEL

**Mark 1:12-15**

*Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him*

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'





# LENT LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Please keep an eye on the weekly newsletter for any changes

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>20th</b> 9am HN 9.30am HN Stations of the Cross 10am SM  7pm-8pm SM Holy Hour	<b>21st</b> 9am HN  10am SM	<b>22nd</b> 10am SM  7pm SM Stations & Evening Prayer	<b>23rd</b> 7am SM  10am SM	<b>24th</b> 10am SM 10.30am Exposition 10.30am Reconciliation  5.30pm SM	<b>25th</b> <b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b> 9.30am SM Family Mass 11am HN  4pm SM Stations Ladies Group
<b>27th</b> 9am HN 9.30am HN Stations of the Cross 10am SM  7pm-8pm SM Holy Hour	<b>28th</b> 9am HN  10am SM	<b>29th</b> 10am SM  7pm SM Stations & Evening Prayer	<b>1st March</b> 7am SM  10am SM	<b>2nd</b> 10am SM 10.30am Exposition 10.30am Reconciliation  5.30pm SM	<b>3rd</b> <b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b> 9.30am SM 11am HN  4pm SM Stations SSVP
<b>5th</b> 9am HN 9.30am HN Stations of the Cross 10am SM  7pm-8pm SM Holy Hour	<b>6th</b> 9am HN 10am SM	<b>7th</b> 10am SM  7pm SM Stations & Evening Prayer	<b>8th</b> 7am SM  10am SM	<b>9th</b> 10am SM Mass for the Sick  5.30pm SM	<b>10th</b> <b>4th Sunday of Lent</b> 9.30am SM 11am HN  4pm SM Stations Men's Group
<b>12th</b> 9am HN 9.30am HN Stations of the Cross 10am SM  7pm-8pm SM Holy Hour	<b>13th</b> 9am HN 10am SM  7pm SM Lenten Talk & Reconciliation Service	<b>14th</b> 10am SM	<b>15th</b> 7am SM  10am SM	<b>16th</b> 10am SM 11am HN Mass for the Sick  5.30pm SM	<b>17th</b> <b>5th Sunday of Lent</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 9.30am SM 11am HN  4pm SM Stations Eucharistic Ministers
<b>19th</b> 9am HN 9.30am HN Stations of the Cross 10am SM  7pm-8pm SM Holy Hour	<b>20th</b> 9am HN 10am SM	<b>21st</b> 10am SM  7pm SM Stations & Evening Prayer	<b>22nd</b> 7am SM  10am SM	<b>23rd</b> 10am SM 10.30am Exposition 10.30am Reconciliation  5.30pm SM	<b>24th</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9.30am SM 11am HN
<b>26th</b> 9am HN 9.30am HN Stations of the Cross 10am SM  7pm-8pm SM Holy Hour	<b>27th</b> 9am HN 10am SM  6.30pm SM SM P.S. Stations of the Cross in Action	<b>28th</b> <b>Holy Thursday</b>  10am SM  7pm SM	<b>29th</b> <b>Good Friday</b>  3pm HN  7pm SM Veneration of the Cross	<b>30th</b> <b>Holy Saturday</b>  8pm SM Easter Vigil	<b>31st</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b>  9.30am SM 11am HN



The following is the text of the Message of the Holy Father Francis for Lent 2024, on the theme: "Through the desert God leads us to freedom":

Message of the Holy Father

## ***Through the Desert God Leads us to Freedom***

Dear brothers and sisters!

When our God reveals himself, his message is always one of freedom: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (Ex 20:2). These are the first words of the Decalogue given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Those who heard them were quite familiar with the exodus of which God spoke: the experience of their bondage still weighed heavily upon them. In the desert, they received the "Ten Words" as a thoroughfare to freedom. We call them "commandments", in order to emphasize the strength of the love by which God shapes his people. The call to freedom is a demanding one. It is not answered straightaway; it has to mature as part of a journey. Just as Israel in the desert still clung to Egypt – often longing for the past and grumbling against the Lord and Moses – today too, God's people can cling to an oppressive bondage that it is called to leave behind. We realize how true this is at those moments when we feel hopeless, wandering through life like a desert and lacking a promised land as our destination. Lent is the season of grace in which the desert can become once more – in the words of the prophet Hosea – the place of our first love (cf. Hos 2:16-17). God shapes his people, he enables us to leave our slavery behind and experience a Passover from death to life. Like a bridegroom, the Lord draws us once more to himself, whispering words of love to our hearts.

The exodus from slavery to freedom is no abstract journey. If our celebration of Lent is to be concrete, the first step is to desire to open our eyes to reality. When the Lord calls out to Moses from the burning bush, he immediately shows that he is a God who sees and, above all, hears: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey" (Ex 3:7-8). Today too, the cry of so many of our oppressed brothers and sisters rises to heaven. Let us ask ourselves: Do we hear that cry? Does it trouble us? Does it move us? All too many things keep us apart from each other, denying the fraternity that, from the beginning, binds us to one another.

During my visit to Lampedusa, as a way of countering the globalization of indifference, I asked two questions, which have become more and more pressing: "Where are you?" (Gen 3:9) and "Where is your brother?" (Gen 4:9). Our Lenten journey will be concrete if, by listening once more to those two questions, we realize that even today we remain under the rule of Pharaoh. A rule that makes us weary and indifferent. A model of growth that divides and robs us of a future. Earth, air and water are polluted, but so are our souls. True, Baptism has begun our process of liberation, yet there remains in us an inexplicable longing for slavery. A kind of attraction to the security of familiar things, to the detriment of our freedom.

In the Exodus account, there is a significant detail: it is God who sees, is moved and brings freedom; Israel does not ask for this. Pharaoh stifles dreams, blocks the view of heaven, makes it appear that this world, in which human dignity is trampled upon and authentic bonds are denied, can never change. He put everything in bondage to himself. Let us ask: Do I want a new world? Am I ready to leave behind my compromises with the old? The witness of many of my brother bishops and a great number of those who work for peace and justice has increasingly convinced me that we need to combat a deficit of hope that stifles dreams and the silent cry that reaches to heaven and moves the heart of God. This "deficit of hope" is not unlike the nostalgia for slavery that paralyzed Israel in the desert and prevented it from moving forward. An exodus can be interrupted: how else can we explain the fact that humanity has arrived at the threshold of universal fraternity and at levels of scientific, technical, cultural, and juridical development capable of guaranteeing dignity to all, yet gropes about in the darkness of inequality and conflict.

God has not grown weary of us. Let us welcome Lent as the great season in which he reminds us: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (Ex 20:2). Lent is a season of conversion, a time of freedom. Jesus himself, as we recall each year on the first Sunday of Lent, was driven into the desert by the Spirit in order to be tempted in freedom. For forty days, he will stand before us and with us: the incarnate Son. Unlike Pharaoh, God does not want subjects, but sons and daughters. The desert is the place where our freedom can mature in a personal decision not to fall back into slavery. In Lent, we find new criteria of justice and a community with which we can press forward on a road not yet taken.



This, however, entails a struggle, as the book of Exodus and the temptations of Jesus in the desert make clear to us. The voice of God, who says, "You are my Son, the Beloved" (Mk 1:11), and "You shall have no other gods before me" (Ex 20:3) is opposed by the enemy and his lies. Even more to be feared than Pharaoh are the idols that we set up for ourselves; we can consider them as his voice speaking within us. To be all-powerful, to be looked up to by all, to domineer over others: every human being is aware of how deeply seductive that lie can be. It is a road well-travelled. We can become attached to money, to certain projects, ideas or goals, to our position, to a tradition, even to certain individuals. Instead of making us move forward, they paralyze us. Instead of encounter, they create conflict. Yet there is also a new humanity, a people of the little ones and of the humble who have not yielded to the allure of the lie. Whereas those who serve idols become like them, mute, blind, deaf and immobile (cf. Ps 114:4), the poor of spirit are open and ready: a silent force of good that heals and sustains the world.

It is time to act, and in Lent, to act also means to pause. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan in the presence of a wounded brother or sister. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbour. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause! The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers. This is God's dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.

The Church's synodal form, which in these years we are rediscovering and cultivating, suggests that Lent is also a time of communitarian decisions, of decisions, small and large, that are countercurrent. Decisions capable of altering the daily lives of individuals and entire neighbourhoods, such as the ways we acquire goods, care for creation, and strive to include those who go unseen or are looked down upon. I invite every Christian community to do just this: to offer its members moments set aside to rethink their lifestyles, times to examine their presence in society and the contribution they make to its betterment. Woe to us if our Christian penance were to resemble the kind of penance that so dismayed Jesus. To us too, he says: "Whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting" (Mt 6:16). Instead, let others see joyful faces, catch the scent of freedom and experience the love that makes all things new, beginning with the smallest and those nearest to us. This can happen in every one of our Christian communities.

To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope. Allow me to repeat what I told the young people whom I met in Lisbon last summer: "Keep seeking and be ready to take risks. At this moment in time, we face enormous risks; we hear the painful plea of so many people. Indeed, we are experiencing a third world war fought piecemeal. Yet let us find the courage to see our world, not as being in its death throes but in a process of giving birth, not at the end but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history. We need courage to think like this" (Address to University Students, 3 August 2023). Such is the courage of conversion, born of coming up from slavery. For faith and charity take hope, this small child, by the hand. They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward.[1]

I bless all of you and your Lenten journey.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 3 December 2023, First Sunday of Advent.

FRANCIS