

## St James the Apostle Sunday, July 25th 2021

This news sheet covers Sunday 25th July and 1st August

### **Letter from Fr Bernard**

"Set me up on the rock that is higher than I." Psalm 61

The Psalms are full of pleas to God about our human condition. "Hear My Cry, O God and listen to my prayer. I call upon you from the evils of the earth with heaviness in my heart." *Psalm 61*. Another psalm asks: "Have you cast us off, O God?"

In these days of a pandemic, we cry out to God. Why is this happening? In spite of all our efforts to stop it, worldwide, we appear to be losing the battle. We continue to suffer. And there seems to be no end to it. "We are going to have to learn to how to live with it." is often said.

Inevitably we feel grateful for what has been achieved, but angry and fearful of what is to come. Anger turns into depression, anxiety, and despair. "Save me O God for the waters have come in, even to my soul." (*psalm 69*) which brings me back to "Set me up on the rock that is higher than I."

When in despair, we flounder about and seem to be drowning or overwhelmed by our loss, concerns and helplessness. We see no way out, no solution to the dire straits we are in. This is why we need that rock but we can't get on it, it is too high for us. We need God's help and grace to lift us up. This comes when we give up struggling alone, and instead ask God for deliverance. When God does lift us out of the mire we see why the rock was high - because from it, the height gives us a better view of where we are so we can see the way ahead.

A rock makes a solid foundation upon which we can build a fortress of defence, a castle on which we can build forces to fight all our negative thoughts and helplessness. By the very grace which lifted us onto that rock on which we stand.

Fr Bernard

### **Let Us Pray**

Hear my cry, O God, and listen to my prayer. I call upon you from the ends of the earth with heaviness in my heart. Set me upon the rock that is higher than I for you to be my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.

**Amen** 



## ST JAMES THE APOSTLE Sunday, July 25th at 10.45am

**First Reading:** Acts 11.27 – 12.3

**Gospel Reading**: Matthew 20. 20-28 The Order of Service is <u>here</u>

### THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sunday, August 1st at 10.45am

First Reading: Eph 4. 1-16

**Gospel Reading**: John 6. 24-35 The Order of Service will be published on St Margaret's <u>website</u> from Friday, July 30th

#### **In our Prayers**

**Departed** Christopher Armstrong, Joyce Crowe, Sheila Gill, Peter Kuchartschuk

#### Years' Mind

### w/c Sunday, July 25th

**Monday** Edith Hewitt, Nellie Kemp, Jean Powell

**Tuesday** Minnie Ashworth, Janet Harrison, Mary Highley, Ena Jobling, Mary Piggot

Wednesday Catherine Crawford, George Howell Thursday Alice Mackinlay, Gerald Twigden

**Saturday** Martin Scott

### w/c Sunday, August 1st

**Sunday** Edith Mary Thorpe

Monday Charles Hoyal (Pr), Mildred Mary Phillips

**Tuesday** Arthur Edgar (Pr), Joseph Tolch

Wednesday Nellie Hartley

Saturday Angus Higgins (Pr), Mary Longman, Archie McLellan

Please pray for the sick: Trevor Allen, Christine Atkinson, Ann Bruun, Joan Gelder, Lauren Green, Ramone (Ray) Guha, Thomas Harrison (baby), May Hughes, Fr Garth Kellett, Charlotte Lockhart, Peter Kuchartschuk, Vivienne Swindells, Tony Warnes

Please contact the churchwardens or Vickie if you would like to add someone to our prayer list.

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### **Easing of Covid Restrictions – Worship at St Margaret's**

Since re-opening for worship last year, we have striven to make St Margaret's a place where as many people as possible feel confident to worship. While the easing of restrictions this week means that some safety measures are no longer a legal requirement, we know many people remain cautious. We are also aware of how eager many are to resume some aspects of services which are integral to St Margaret's Anglo-Catholic tradition and help to make our church such a special place.

Our current practices have been reviewed and the PCC has agreed the following:

- From this Sunday, July 25th, you will no longer have to book for services. You may scan in using the NHS QR code or leave your details with the Stewards if you wish.
- In line with government and Diocesan advice we encourage everyone to continue wearing face masks in church, particularly when moving around, receiving communion and singing. There will still be hand sanitiser available.
- Although there will be no seating plan, please be considerate of others when choosing your seat and in maintaining social distance. Stewards will be available to help seat you, if required.
- Our current practice at communion will remain unchanged for the time-being. The priest will
  continue to be masked and sanitise his hands when preparing and administering communion which
  will be in one kind. We particularly encourage the wearing of masks when going up to receive.
- Sung responses and the offertory and communion hymns will be re-introduced. Hymn books will be available in the backs of seats please select one at the beginning of the service and return it to its place at the end. Like the orders of service, these will not be used again until the following week.

- As a precautionary measure, we encourage you to continue to offer the sign of Peace in a nonphysical manner and there will be no physical offertory. The collection plate will be at the back of church.
- With these changes, it is particularly important that, if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms or feel unwell in any way, you do not attend church that week as a courtesy to other worshippers.

contact one of the Wardens or speak to the Stewards on the day. *The Wardens* 

We will continue to review matters over the coming weeks. If anyone has any particular concerns, please

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## Links to live-streamed worship St Matthews, Northampton

St Matthews is an Anglican Parish Church, in the catholic tradition. You are welcome to join Fr Nicholas Setterfield and the congregation of St Matthews for their live-streamed Parish Mass at 10.15am. Service booklets can also be downloaded. Go to <a href="http://www.stmatthewsnorthampton.org.uk/">http://www.stmatthewsnorthampton.org.uk/</a> and then click on the link to join the live-streamed Sunday service which is posted on the home page. You can also "like" St Matthew's facebook page to receive live notifications of streamed services. The link to the facebook page is <a href="https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchnorthampton/">https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchnorthampton/</a>

### Links to live-streamed services in churches within Leeds Diocese

Click <u>here</u> to reach live worship in churches across the Diocese.

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### **Church Opening Hours**

St Margaret's is open from 9.30am - 4.00pm daily for private prayer and reflection (except Sunday mornings) - you are welcome to visit church at a time that suits you.

We ask you to continue to observe covid safe practices when you enter church. Please use hand sanitizer when you enter and leave church and take responsibility for your own social distancing. Although it is no longer a legal requirement to sign in we encourage you to scan the NHS QR code or sign in on the sheet provided. We have also kept the "Please clean me" notices for you to pick up on entering church. We kindly ask you to leave this notice on your seat when you leave church.

If you would like any prayer resources please bring these with you and take them away when you leave.



### SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

# Sunday 25th July JAMES THE APOSTLE

10.45am High Mass

Celebrant: The Revd Kevin Barnard

6.30pm Choral Evensong

# Sunday 1st August THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.45am High Mass

Celebrant: The Rt Revd David Hope

Booking is no longer required for services at St. Margaret's

We encourage you to wear face masks in church throughout the service, continue to use hand sanitiser and maintain social distancing

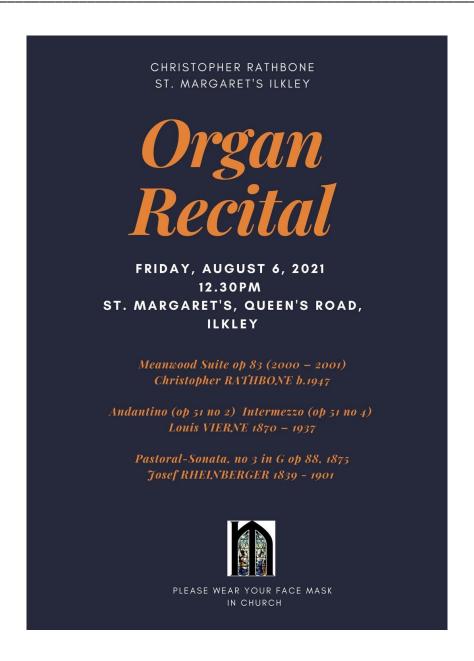
The Family Service and Choral Evensong will resume on Sunday, September 12th

### Choral Evensong Sunday July 25th

Choral evensong will be held at 6.30pm on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. There will then be the usual break over the summer and evensong will resume on Sunday, September 12th. There is no need to book. Please sit in the nave. Please wear a mask, use the hand sanitiser provided and observe social distancing.

### Morning Prayer on Zoom Wednesday, July 28th

The Readers will be holding a service of Morning Prayer on Zoom on Wednesday, July 28th at 10.00am. We will use the words from Common Worship. These will be shown on the screen or can be downloaded <a href="https://hee.click.nih.google.com/heee.click.nih.google.com/heee.click.nih.google.com/heee.click.com/heee.click.nih.google.com/heee.com/heee.click.nih.google.com/heee.click.nih





The Choir of Queens' College will also perform at Bradford Cathedral at 1.00pm on Wednesday, August 11th. They will give a 45 minute concert of church music, followed by an optional 30 minute outreach talk to encourage and inform young people about the benefits of, and routes into, Cambridge and Oxford Universities. This concert is not one to be missed, and is particularly valuable to young and aspiring musicians, though all music lovers are most welcome! For more information and tickets click here

### **Parish Office - Holiday Notice**

The Parish Office will close on Friday, 23rd July at noon and re-open on the morning of Monday, August 2nd. Please email stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com and your email will responded to on return from holiday. If your matter is urgent, please speak to Helen Buswell or Alison Stretton, Churchwardens. Contact details below.

The office will also be closed on Friday, August 6th to celebrate a special 16th birthday!

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Daily Hope, is a 24 hour free phone line for Christian worship and prayer. Call 0800 804 804.