



Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace and Blessed Margaret Pole

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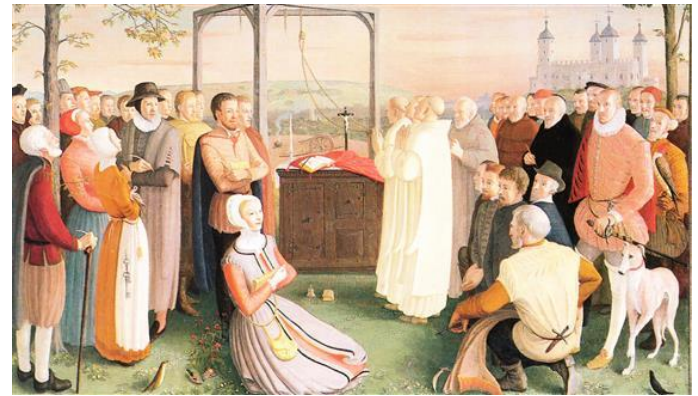
Fifth Sunday of Easter

3rd May 2026

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life

Mass Times

Sat 2nd	St Athanasius	
	12.00	People of the Parish
Sun 3rd	Fifth Sunday of Easter	
	9.30	Stella & Lance Kerr+
	11.00	Mary Smallman+
Mon 4th	The English Martyrs	
	10.00	Vivian Lydia Bell+
Tue 5th	Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter	
	10.00	For All Those Taking Exams
Wed 6th	Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Easter	
	10.00	Christopher Hartley+
Thu 7th	Thursday of the Fifth Week of Easter	
	No Mass	
Fri 8th	Friday of the Fifth Week of Easter	
	10.00	'Roz' Rogers+
Sat 9th	Saturday of the Fifth Week of Easter	
	12.00	Vivian Lydia Bell+
Sun 10th	Sixth Sunday of Easter	
	9.30	Andy Gorman+
	11.00	People of the Parish



The Forty Martyrs of England and Wales

On 4th May, the Catholic Church in England honours all those men and women, canonised and beatified, who gave their lives for the faith during the upheaval of the English Reformation. The feast falls on the anniversary of the day in 1535 when the first martyrs were dragged on hurdles to the gallows at Tyburn: three Carthusian priors and a Bridgettine monk, the first to die rather than acknowledge Henry VIII as Supreme Head of the Church on earth.

In the century and a half that followed, hundreds more followed them to the scaffold, the block, and the prison cell: priests and laypeople, young and old, men and women, rich and poor. Among them stands one figure of singular nobility: Blessed Margaret Pole, Countess of Salisbury, our own patron.

The forty who were canonised by Pope Paul VI in 1970 are representative of the whole vast company. They include SS John Fisher and Thomas More priests such as SS Edmund Campion SS Robert Southwell; laypeople such as St Margaret Clitherow, the 'Pearl of York', who was pressed to death beneath a weighted door; and the Carthusian monks whose deaths in 1535 began this feast. Alongside the canonised stand over two hundred Blessed, among them Margaret Pole, each one a witness to the same truth.

They came from every walk of life, from every corner of England. What united them was not politics but faith: a refusal to place the power of the State above the authority of Christ and his Church. As the Liturgy Office of England and Wales writes of them: they are remembered 'for the example they gave of constancy in their faith, and courage in the face of persecution.'

Tea & Coffee in the Parish Hallafter Sunday masses
 Children's Liturgy (Sign in required)..... Sunday 9.30
 Holy Hourafter Wednesday morning mass
 Confessions.....during Holy Hour Wednesday & at call
 Choir Practice..... 18.00 Monday in Church
 Sunday Readings:..... Year A
 Weekday Readings:..... Year 2
 Baptisms.....Contact the Deacon
 Marriages:.....Contact the Parish Priest
 Mother's Prayer Group..... 2nd & 4th Fridays 10.30
 Rosary Group....Fridays 10.30 when no Mother's Prayers
 Friendship Club..... 14.00 Fridays
 Safeguarding & Data Protection Officer
 Mary Basing 07969 120264

Cycle of Prayer: Easter

New Members of the Church, Vocations, Human Work, The Right Use of the Media, The Church



First Communion

First Confessions will be next Saturday 9th May after 12.00 mass. The First Communion mass itself will be on Saturday 6th June at 12.00. For information contact Angie on fhcteam.olqp@gmail.com.

**Nothing would be done at all
if one waited until one could do it so well
that no one could find fault with it**

Cardinal Newman

Marriage Anniversary Mass

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on Saturday 20th June at 11am. It will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please contact the parish secretary if you would like to attend.

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

Next Sunday we celebrate the International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians, uniting Eastern and Western Christians to pray for peace, particularly in the Ukraine and the Middle East. It focuses on supporting Christians in their homelands through prayer and solidarity, often featuring special liturgies and fundraising for communities facing, persecution, or instability. Please remember the members of these Churches many of whom have suffered deep persecution during the Twentieth Century and include them in your prayers.

**If you have a garden and a library,
you have everything you need**

Cicero

Safeguarding in Our Parish Community

Our parish is a community of welcome, and we are committed to ensuring that it is a safe place for everyone: children, young people, and adults of every age and circumstance. Safeguarding is not simply a legal requirement. It is an expression of our faith. To protect the vulnerable is to live the Gospel.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative Mary Basing (07969 120264) is your first point of contact if you have a concern, a question, or simply want to know more about how safeguarding works in our parish. Another contact is the Diocesan Head of Safeguarding, Ruth Atfield 02394 216486.

If you are ever worried about the welfare of a child or vulnerable adult, please do not stay silent. You do not need to be certain; if something does not feel right, it is always right to raise it. Thank you.



Thank you for your donations towards our current project 'Hands on Madhupur' in Bangladesh. Your generosity will help CAFOD's experts on the ground work alongside families as they fight for their land. Your support has made and will continue to make a lasting difference. Thanks to the weekly envelope collection, donations from refreshments and the Taizé service we were able to send £328.60 recently, bringing the total raised since January 2024 to £4166.86. Thank you.

Ascension Day

Thursday 14th May is Ascension Day and it is a Holyday of Obligation. Masses at 10.00 and 19.00.

Extract from May Magnificat

by Gerard Manley Hopkins

May is Mary's month, and I
Muse at that and wonder why:
Her feasts follow reason,
Dated due to season—

Candlemas, Lady Day;
But the Lady Month, May,
Why fasten that upon her,
With a feasting in her honour?

Is it only its being brighter
Than the most are must delight her?
Is it opportunist
And flowers finds soonest?

Ask of her, the mighty mother:
Her reply puts this other Question:
What is Spring?—
Growth in every thing—

*We suggest you read the whole of this wonderful poem
by looking it up on Google.*

**Sometimes the poorest man
leaves his children
the richest inheritance**

Recent Collections

Standing Orders £410, Sunday £224, Contactless £*, with thanks. (*service provider delay with figures)

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Readers: 9.30 E Taylor & S Crump 11.00 T Hook & H Gardiner **Ministers:** 9.30 M Smith 11.00 L Hanson
n/w Readers: 9.30 J Carr-Jones & R Hernandez 11.00 A Alagbaoso & M-A Jean-Francoise **n/w Ministers:** 9.30 S Smith 11.00 N Jean-Francoise

Forthcoming Dates

Feast of Blessed Margaret Pole 29th May
First Communion 6th June
Parish Fete 28th June

St Peter's School - 'Holding Our Young People In Prayer' – the two bowls are in the porch as usual.