

Birthdays this month

4th May – Robin Parkes

20th May – Rachel Hall

30th May – Angela Woodhall

This fortnight's ECO tip!

Did you know you can recycle your soft plastics at larger supermarkets? This includes chocolate bar wrappers, crisp packets, many films and wrappings. Have a look on the packaging of anything soft and you will see the information there about recycling – often it will say “DO NOT RECYCLE – recycle with bags at larger supermarkets!” – so don't be taken in by the start and throw it in the bin!

29th August - Cardiff! 8.30am – 9pm

Cost would be around £20 per person, to cover the cost of the coach. **There is a sign up sheet at the back with more details, Please could you now make a firm commitment to this trip.**

Book Swap

The Book Swap is here for a week or so! Take whatever you would like! Donations to the eco group, but no charge for books.

9th May: Free Concert at Cradley:

2.30pm – 3.30pm followed by refreshments.

Welcoming the *Midlands Fretted Orchestra*. are a group of 35 musicians playing a wide range of music on guitars, ukuleles, banjos etc. All are welcome! Just come along (and bring a friend!)

Thank you for supporting the talk

Thank you for coming to support Georgina's talk. We made £160.20 with 45 people in church. If anyone would like to buy Georgina's books she shared an exclusive discount of 50% off her books if you purchase directly from the publisher on www.vervebooks.co.uk and quote Margaret at the checkout

THE PSALM RESPONSE

Lord, you are my rock and refuge

Contact?

Vicar: Mthr. Victoria Barlow

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or text/ whatsapp 07585264050

Parish Office parishoffice@halasteam.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer Sarah Seddon

sarahwhiley82@hotmail.com

Follow us on Facebook: S. Margaret of Antioch, Hasbury
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088868160324>

on the web: Please take a look at our *A Church Near You Page* which holds up to date information about all services, events and notices [St Margaret - A Church Near You](http://StMargaret-AChurchNearYou)



S. Margaret, Hasbury

3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter



In This Week's Scripture...

*“... I see the heavens opened ...”
“I am the Way, the Truth and the Life”*

Acts 7: 56, John 14: 6

Today in the midst of a story of bloodshed and violence we have a Message of Hope.

Stephen's conviction, even at his martyrdom, that a door stands open into heaven (the book of Revelation tells us), through which the Grace of God will transform and bless the world.

The great Fifty Days of Easter give us a long time – time we need – to bathe in, stand in, and breathe in the Light. To let the Light of Easter bless and form us in confidence, courage and hope. To allow ourselves to learn again to stand firm in the conviction that Jesus gives us – that all can be healed, all transformed and all made new.

As those who stone Stephen to death lay their cloaks at the feet of Saul, we remember the cloaks we laid at the feet of Jesus on Palm Sunday, and it may seem that all hope, all dreams, fall to dust in the reality of the world. But we know that Saul will meet this transforming light himself – will transform from Persecutor to Apostle. That grace cannot and will not be stopped. When Stephen prays forgiveness and Grace it is perhaps part of this transformation.

On this we place our own trust. That as we pray, as we stand in the light of the Door Open into Heaven, so we can trust that our ordinary choices, prayers and actions – our insistence on hope, love and forgiveness, are in the Lord's Grace enough to transform the world.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Welcome! Is there anything you need?

gluten free? If you need a gluten free wafer at communion, please let the welcomers know

T loop: available at all worship

Toilet: right at the back of the church to your left

Children: are most welcome! There is a play area to the front right of the church, where children can play, supervised by their accompanying adult. Do keep them with you in the main seating area if you prefer. Please do not worry if they want to wander round the church, or if they cry!

Dyslexia friendly and Large Print : orders of service are available at most services at the welcome table.



Worship for the Coming Week

This Sunday 11.15am Holy Mass with hymns, followed by ADCM

5.15pm evening prayer on zoom (click link)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5589842329>

Tuesday 7.30am half hour said Mass at S. Margaret's followed by optional tea and toast

Wednesday 7pm half hour said Mass

9pm Online livestream Compline – click link below

Mthr. Victoria Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/victoria.barlow.750>

Thursday Evening Prayer 3pm – speak to Susan Cresswell for more details and location!

Next Sunday

11.15am Holy Mass with Hymns

5.15pm evening prayer on zoom (same link)

Gentle Glitzing– date for everyone

Thank you to everyone who came this week – the church looks lovely. We shall do this every month! Come along, have a cuppa, and wave a duster or dustpan and brush at a small part of the church to help 'top up' Lucy's monthly cleaning. **May's 'gentle glitzing' will be Thursday June 18th 10 – 11am**

ADCM Sunday 3rd May

Don't forget this Sunday is our ADCM – which is a very short meeting (20 minutes) immediately following the worship – which will in turn be followed by a bring and share lunch. *Do bring your own cutlery and crockery (we have cups and glasses).* Please do come and support this meeting, and give thanks, and support those who are standing for roles in the running of the church. I am so sorry, but I shall not be able to stay for the lunch as I have a baptism at S. Peter's Cradley which has clashed with this. Please do pray for Henry and Mya as they come to baptism.

Empty Toilet rolls!

Huge Thank you – We don't need any more toilet rolls, people have been so generous.

The Ascension of our Lord: 14th May

40 days after Easter we celebrate Jesus' Ascension into heaven, and his promise that we too will one day be lifted into heaven. We will keep the tradition and celebrate at dawn! Mass at 5.15am at S. Peter's Cradley. Followed by breakfast. All are welcome. This act of worship will also be livestreamed on my Facebook page, as last year, for those who might find it more blessing to join us from home.

PCC Rep: Could this be you?

Thank you to everyone who has so far 'volunteered' to stand for church office roles. We are still short of a PCC rep. This is a person who would be willing to come along to the four DCC meetings, and four PCC meetings of the year (or most of them), and to represent S. Margaret's interests on the PCC, and bring back the news of the wider parish from PCC to DCC. It is *really important* that we do have this representation, not least because otherwise S. Margaret's will not be represented or informed properly in parish-wide decisions.

Safer Recruitment Forms

In our parish we have a very good process with safeguarding, and hold it as a priority – to keep everyone safe, and make sure everyone is able to flourish. We have got slightly behind on safer recruitment with a wonderful growth in people volunteering for things. If you volunteer for anything that is outward facing, you will find me bringing you a Safer Recruitment Form. This is a simple one page form that asks name, address, and two references (one can be from within the church family, but one should be from outside the church family) – please do ask your references permissions before giving their names. We don't take up all references, but we shall take up some. This is something we have to do for volunteers who are new to the parish, but we have decided as a parish it is more fair if it is done for everyone. If you have any concerns or questions about this, please do speak to Mthr Victoria or to Sarah Seddon, our safeguarding officer.

Bored on a Bank holiday?

Come along to church this Monday and help drink tea and have a chatter – and join in with a bit of tidying outside, clearing weeds and trimming back where needed. 10 – 12 noon

Other Dates for the diary in May/June

8th May – StoryTime 2pm – 2.45pm

16th May SPC, 30th May SMH – Messy Church

6th June 2.30pm – Talk on Birmingham Back to Backs

12th June 10am – Scripture Share – Luke Chapter 8

20th June 10.30 - 12pm Bee Friendly Coffee Morning