



The parish of St Margaret, Holyrood, Prestwich

St. Margaret's, Prestwich & St. George's, Simister

Sunday 28th December – Holy Innocents



Collect

Heavenly Father, whose children suffered at the hands of Herod, though they had done no wrong: by the suffering of your Son and by the innocence of our lives frustrate all evil designs and establish your reign of justice and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah

Gillian McConville

Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more. Thus says the Lord: Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears; for there is a reward for your work, says the Lord: they shall come back from the land of the enemy; there is hope for your future, says the Lord: your children shall come back to their own country. **31.15-17**

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

Norman Erskine

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. **1.26-29**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.' When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.' **2.13-end**

Welcome to St Margaret's & St George's. Postcards with service times and clergy contact details are available at the back of the church. Take one for yourself or for a friend.

HYMNS

Introit	BCS 1	Unto us a Son in born
Gradual	BCS 24	Good Christians all rejoice
Offertory	BCS 8	See amid the winter's snow – omit verses 3, 4, 6
Communion	729	What child is this
Recessional	BCS 17	Of the Father's love begotten

Events Happening This Week

Wednesday 31st December Service for the New Year

10.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's followed by coffee

Sunday 5th January Epiphany

8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's

9.45 am All Age Holy Communion at St. Margaret's

11.15 am Holy Communion at St. George's

Please pray for: -

The Sick: Jill Dodge, Brian and Barbara Faulder, Sue Goergen, Ruby Hewitt, Alan and Michaela Jones, Joan Knott, Iain Marshall, Andrew Olive, David Porter, Gail Tyldesley, Florence Webb.

Ongoing Prayers for Healing & Wholeness: Celia Barnett, Becky, Mike Chadwick, Ros Cope, Audrey Dalton, Philip Dawson, Rev Christine, Charlie Heywood, Hilda Hyde, Brian Jones, Robert Lyne, Ella McConville, Peter North, Carol Olive, Peter Owen, Rev Pauline, Mike Richards, Pierce Smeaton, Barbara Southworth, Rev Keith Trivasse, Brian Wareham, Alice White.

Recently Departed:

Anniversaries of Death: Annie Cage, Helen Hoolihan, Cyril Priest, Doreen Sands.

Columbarium Flowers: Gina Swallow 22nd December.

NOTICES:

Christingle. We have raised £138.08 for The Children's Society. Thank you to everyone, especially the Beavers and Cubs of the 8th Scout Group - they made 40 Christingles for our Service.

The teachers at **St Margaret's School** would like to thank all the people who knitted the angels and bells for the children. They were highly delighted with the gifts. So, a big thank you to all the knitters.

The full version of the **BBC Carol Service** including contributions from our choir is now available at <https://bbc.in/4978cag>

Next **Wednesday morning** (New Year's Eve) we will be renewing our baptismal vows and affirming our commitment to Christ. I always find this a very moving service and a good way to start the New Year.

Porch Boxes: St Margaret's Church will be open between **9.30 am and 11 am** on **Thursdays** for donations. Many thanks.

All notices for next week's **Service Sheet** to be sent to David McConville no later than Tuesday. please send to: wardendm@stmargaretsprestwich.com