

# St Margaret's Church

Holyrood: Prestwich



## PARISH MAGAZINE

Magazine No. 777: January 2026

60p

# THE PARISH OF ST MARGARET, HOLYROOD, PRESTWICH

## CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICERS

<b>Incumbent</b>	Rev Canon Steve Williams	<a href="mailto:RevSteve@stmargaretsprestwich.com">RevSteve@stmargaretsprestwich.com</a>
<b>Focal Leader (St Margaret's)</b>	Rev Sue Walker	07761 565428
<b>Focal Leader (St George's)</b>	Rev Christine Hardy	07557 883501
<b>Curate</b>	Rev Helen Tyler	07899 800649
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Vacant	
<b>Deputy Churchwarden</b>	Vacant	
<b>Authorised Lay Ministers</b>	Mrs Carol Olive (Prayer and Spirituality)	798 9635
	Mr Andrew Ginn (Pastoral Care)	<a href="mailto:SafeAdults@stmargaretsprestwich.com">SafeAdults@stmargaretsprestwich.com</a>
	Dr Carol Porter (Digital Church)	<a href="mailto:Technology@stmargaretsprestwich.com">Technology@stmargaretsprestwich.com</a>
<b>P.C.C. Secretary</b>	Mrs Joan Evans	<a href="mailto:Secretary@stmargaretsprestwich.com">Secretary@stmargaretsprestwich.com</a>
<b>P.C.C. Treasurer</b>	Mrs Janet Dalton	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@stmargaretsprestwich.com">Treasurer@stmargaretsprestwich.com</a>
<b>Electoral Roll Secretary</b>	Mrs Zandra Lewis	
<b>Child Protection Officer</b>	Mrs JP Jackson	<a href="mailto:SafeChildren@stmargaretsprestwich.com">SafeChildren@stmargaretsprestwich.com</a>
<b>Stewardship Secretary</b>	Mrs G McConville	<a href="mailto:GiftAid@stmargaretsprestwich.com">GiftAid@stmargaretsprestwich.com</a>

## SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

<b>SUNDAY</b>	8.00am Holy Communion 9.45am Sung Eucharist followed by refreshments Evening Service - As announced
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	10.00am Holy Communion followed by refreshments
<b>HOLY DAYS</b>	Holy Communion - As Announced

See the magazine calendar for the full list of services for the month  
(Home communions by arrangement with clergy)

## SUNDAY CLUB

Our children's Sunday Club meets in term-time in church for a service of all-age worship at 9:45am on the first Sunday of the month, and in the church house from 9:45am to 11.00am on the third Sunday of the month. All children aged 3 and over are welcome. Co-ordinator Mrs. G.M. McConville <https://stmargaretsprestwich.com/sunday-school/> or [SundayClub@stmargaretsprestwich.com](mailto:SundayClub@stmargaretsprestwich.com)

## BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

Enquiries regarding arranging Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Marriages and Funerals by email please to [stmargaretsprestwich@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretsprestwich@gmail.com)

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## PARISH MAGAZINE

<b>Advertisements (fees &amp; invoicing)</b>	Mrs V Swallow	798 6561
<b>Articles</b>	Dr Carol Porter	<a href="mailto:Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com">Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com</a>

Dear friends,

I pray that each of you has experienced a joyful Christmas, surrounded by family and friends. I also trust you have enjoyed all the traditional trimmings, taken time to celebrate the Christmas story, and had the chance to reconnect with those you may not see often.

As we step into this New Year, may I wish each one of you a very Happy New Year, as the days grow longer and we begin to look forward to the promise of brighter days to come. However, let's not be too hasty to put away those Christmassy decorations as the celebrations are not yet over. January apparently is also "Dog Walking Month" for those of us with dogs to keep exercising! However, more importantly for us as a church, on 6<sup>th</sup> January we welcome the coming of the Magi, Wisemen or Kings, whichever is your favourite way of remembering them.

When you read about the Magi, there are many interesting details surrounding them. As well as the names given to them, there are questions about their origins, and even speculation about their occupations. It would take some time for me to share all the information that there is here, but it is also interesting to note the account of the Wisemen only appears in Matthew's Gospel. In fact, no-one knows exactly how many men there were. That's just another mystery. What matters most is that Matthew tells us they visited Jesus and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh in Bethlehem. It is also understood they travelled a great distance from somewhere in the East. This reminds me of those who, over Christmas, have travelled far to be with loved ones. The Christmas season is a time for remembering, sharing food, presents and most of all sharing love, because love came down at Christmas. Reminding me of a poem by Christina Rossetti (1885), but must this spirit of love be reserved only for Christmas?



Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, Love Divine,  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and Angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
Love Incarnate, Love Divine,  
Worship we our Jesus,  
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,

Love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and all men,  
Love for plea and gift and sign.

Wouldn't it be a wonderful if we carried that spirit of love throughout the year everywhere we go, keeping Christmas in our hearts every day? Remembering the joy brought by the Christ child who gave his life for us all. We may not "wish it could be Christmas every day," as in the song by Wizzard, but for a New Year's resolution why not, as the song says, put a smile on someone's face and shine with the light of Jesus, serving as a beacon of hope, love and peace in a troubled world to those around us?

God's love and blessings to you all this New Year.  
Rev Christine

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### **FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS**

#### **FUNERALS**

We commend into God's loving care:

Elizabeth Peckitt whose burial took place on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025 in St Margaret's churchyard.

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### **CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2026**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 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

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

10.00 am Holy Communion at St. M followed by coffee

5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

**Baptism of Christ**

8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's

9.45 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's with Laying on of Hands in the Baptistry area during Communion

11.15 am Holy Communion at St. George's

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

2.00 pm Rhyme Time

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January      10.00 am Holy Communion at St. M followed by coffee  
5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January      Second Sunday of Epiphany**

8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's  
9.15 am Silent prayer at St Margaret's  
9.45 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's with Sunday Club  
11.15 am Holy Communion at St. George's  
7.00 pm Magazine deadline

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January      2.00 pm Rhyme Time  
2.30 Standing Committee

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January      10.00 am Holy Communion at St. M followed by coffee  
4.00 pm Messy Church  
5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January      Conversion of St Paul**

8.00 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's  
9.45 am Holy Communion at St. Margaret's  
11.15 am Holy Communion at St. George's

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January      2.00 pm Rhyme Time

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January      10.00 am Holy Communion at St. M followed by coffee  
7.30 pm PCC

*Livestreamed services (9.45am Sundays and 10.00am Wednesdays) are only available via our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StMaggieP>*

Please do check our Facebook page, Instagram, Bluesky feed and website for up-to-date information.

**NB GOODS FOR PORCH BOXES CAN BE DROPPED OFF ON THURSDAY MORNINGS, 9.30-11.00AM**

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**St George's Church, Simister**

This month, as well as sending our prayers to Joan Knott, we pray for a volunteer to provide a short report from St George's Church and the Lady Wilton Hall each month.



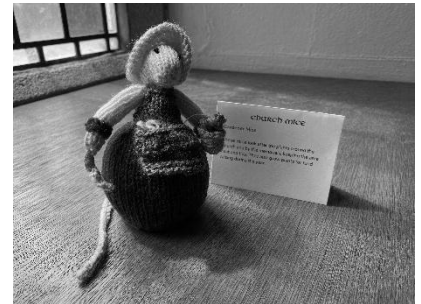
Since Carol and Joan have retired, volunteers are also needed for flower arranging, cleaning, and sides persons to help with the services. *There is now no lay infrastructure at St George's.* All offers of help will be gratefully received, and training will be provided. Please speak to a member of the clergy.

**If you wish to help with any aspect of ensuring worship at St George's continues, put flowers in church, or have any problems, do not hesitate, please contact any member of the clergy.**

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## Gardener Mice

This month we meet the **Gardener Mice**. These mice look after the plants around the Church and by the memorials, keeping the area neat and tidy. They also grow plants for fund raising during the year.



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## Update from the PCC

We are still without any Church Wardens and David and Laurel have been very kind in helping out most Sunday mornings. We still pray for someone to come forward to fill these vacancies.

Safeguarding procedures are still being updated by the diocese, and more information should be forthcoming in the new year.

We have contacted 2 tree surgeons regarding the trees near the church house and asked for advice. It was found that 2 trees have Ash Dieback and these will be dealt with early 2026.

St George's Church is still without heating as we still await the diocese approval for the new heating system for the Church. Help is urgently required for the opening and setting up at the church.

Gillian Mc Conville has agreed to be a governor at St Margaret's CE Primary School for at least a term of 12 months.

At the Deanery Synod meeting it was proposed that it is everyone's responsibility to look after one another and to have a covenant promise to look after the clergy.

The next PCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th January 2026 in Church.



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## **BBC Daily Service Carol Concert 2025**

By now all readers of this publication will be aware that our parish choir took part in the BBC's recording of the Radio 4 Daily Service Carol Concert at Manchester Cathedral early in December 2025. It was a truly amazing event to be part of! This is what some of our singers said:



Christmas started yesterday for Maggie's Music Makers when we took part in a carol service at Manchester Cathedral along with other choirs and music groups from across Greater Manchester, which was being recorded by the BBC as part of their Christmas schedule for radio. It was an honour and a privilege. The cathedral was packed to capacity so there was a really festive atmosphere. There were carols old and well known and others new and not familiar. It also included festive readings, reflections and congregational carols. The man from the BBC was obviously impressed, as he said we must do this again. I wanted to shout yes please I would love to

(I'm sure others must have felt the same.) Many thanks to Carol for getting us involved with this project! – *June*

The BBC Daily Service Carol Concert, which was held in Manchester Cathedral for the first time, was a wonderful, shared experience. I really enjoyed performing with all the church choirs, young choristers, singers and musicians and was amazed at how well we all synchronised with just a few rehearsals.

Thank you to Carol, Harry Mobbs, Andrew Earis and Maggie's Music Makers. – *Natalie*



If you missed the live broadcasts on Radio 4 Extra (5 x 15 minute instalments 22-26 December), BBC Radio Manchester (Christmas Day) and BBC Breakfast (Christmas Day), you can listen again on BBC Sounds

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/live/bbc\\_radio\\_four\\_extra](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/live/bbc_radio_four_extra) (just search for Daily Service) and watch "Joy to the World" on the BBC iPlayer

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b006v5tb/breakfast> (just search for Breakfast)

Carol P



### **Give a Little**

QR codes, like the one you see here, are clever bits of technology – a bit like bar codes – that link the real world with the online world. Those of us comfortable with using smartphones can simply point the camera at the QR code, and it will open a website (which is specific to a particular QR code). In this case, the QR code opens the parish “Give a Little”

page, in which we can donate £10, £20, £30, £50, or an amount of your own choosing, to help with the running of our parish.

For those of you reading this issue of our magazine online (and therefore for free!) here’s the link – please help us to help you, by contributing to our running costs:

<https://givealittle.co/c/7BenBwKBCZ82XbR8wJRir8>

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### **Mid-Winter Bob Chilcott (1955-present)**

I don’t remember who first suggested this song to me, but Tom and I have been singing it at Christmas services in our parish since December 2021. It has also made regular appearances in the parish Digital Advent Calendar since December 2022. Indeed, this year it went out on 19 December along with our parish choir singing “One Winter’s Night” and St Margaret’s CE Primary School KS2 Choir singing “Christmas Bells”.

I was happy to order and pay for the sheet music as I was already familiar with Chilcott’s work from my time singing in the Manchester Chorale, so knew it would be appropriate. I also claim a personal connection with him, through my daughter Jennifer from her time at the University of Birmingham. Bob Chilcott conducts the Birmingham University Singers, and the Birmingham University Women’s Chorus, both of which Jennifer sang in. Eventually, she plucked up the courage to introduce herself to Bob and told him of her aspirations to be a choral conductor. From then on, he gave his support with her conducting studies and gave her conducting opportunities with the BUWC at their regular concerts.

In this piece, Chilcott takes the words of Cristina Rosetti and sets them to a gentle, contemporary, and ever so slightly jazzy melody. There are five verses to this carol in “100 Carols for Choirs”, but in this arrangement Chilcott uses only four:

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan  
Earth stood hard as iron water like a stone  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter long ago.



Our God, heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.  
In the bleak mid-winter, a stable-place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Angels and Archangels may have gathered there  
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air  
But only His Mother in her maiden bliss  
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.  
Give my heart. My heart.

You can listen to Tom and I singing this song here  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRRluMxsAZY>

Carol P



#### **MESSY CHURCH**

**Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 21 January 2026 in the Lady Wilton Hall, 4:00-5:30pm. Please come and join us then for lots of messy fun!**

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Our next meeting will be on Monday 2 February 2026, 2:00pm at Zandra's house. Please let her know if you plan to attend. We will be discussing:



- The Bee Keeper of Aleppo (Christy Lefteri)
- Call the Midwife – a true story of the east end in the 1950s (Jennifer Worth)
- The Trial (Rob Rinder)\*
- Sensible Shoes (Sharon Garlough Brown)\*

\*These books are circulating the Club in hard copy. If you wish to borrow either of them to read, please let any member of the Book Club know.

Please tell Zandra if you plan to attend the November meeting.

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## Silent Prayer:



This is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in each month at 9.15am. in St. Margaret's Church.

If you require further information on either of these please see Carol Olive – ALM (Prayer and Spirituality)

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## From the flower arrangers:

Payments for Columbarium and Reredos arrangements are now due. Please speak to your allocated flower arranger for details of fees and payment methods.

**For enquires relating to columbarium and reredos flowers please call Vicky Crookes on 07936548439**

## Columbarium Rota 2026

DATE:	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE	ARRANGER
Jan 5th  Jan 19th	Sandra Lewis Vera Swallow Joan Evans Direct to church Anne Orrell Direct to church	Gwyn Lewis 7th Jan John Swallow 16th Jan Harry Evans 22nd Jan Betty Smethurst 25th Jan Michael Orrell 27th Jan Irene Smethurst 28th Jan	Vera Swallow 0161 798 6561
Feb 2nd  Feb 16th	Barbara Dutton The McConvilles Vera Swallow Rimmer family Mrs Brundrit	Ernest Francis 2nd Shirley Wellavize 6th Neil Swallow 19th Geoffrey & Shiela Rimmer 21st Leslie Brundrit 23rd	Christine Taylor 0161 773 1272
March 2  March 16  March 30	The McConvilles <b>VACANT</b> June Thompson The Bland Family Carol Porter	Alan Collison 7th March <b>VACANT</b> Norman Wright 19th March Jean Bland 24th March Gladys Moffatt 30th March	Vicky Crookes 07936 548439
April 13th  April 27th	Irene Eggerton <b>CHURCH FUNDS</b> June Thompson ?	Barbara Shaw 6th April <b>EASTER FLOWERS</b> Muriel Wright 30th April Jeremy Plummer 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Vera Swallow 0161 798 6561

DATE:	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE	ARRANGER
May 11th May 25th	Joan Evans Joan Evans Sheila & Jack Gale Yvonne Naylor	Don Young 3rd May Maud Riley 10th May Clara Gale (2nd) Yvonne & John Keenan	Sheila Johnson 0161 773 1406
June 8th June 22nd	<b>VACANT</b> Hedley Cox Carol Porter Rimmer family	<b>VACANT</b> Angela Cox 20th June Barbara Porter 21st June Sheila & Geoffrey Rimmer	Vicky Crookes 07936 548439
July 6th July 20th	The McConvilles Anne Orrell The McConvilles Christine Taylor	Irene McConville 5th July Michael Orrell 17th July John Wellavize Lilian Dean	Christine Taylor 0161 773 1272
Aug 3rd Aug 17th Aug 31st	Joan Evans The McConvilles Mrs Brundret Jean Johnson <b>VACANT</b>	John Riley 2nd Aug Ted McConville 14th Aug Florence Brundrett 15th Aug Arthur Johnson & Mandy Bourne <b>VACANT</b>	Vicky Crookes 07936 548439
Sept 14th Sept 28th	Barbara Sheppard Dutton Family Sue Hunsley Thelma Kenevin	Herbert Bland 4th Sept Ellen Francis 4th Sept Ian Hunsley 29th Sept Alex Kenevin 15th Sept	Vera Swallow 0161 798 6561
Oct 12th Oct 26th	<b>VACANT</b> Margaret Nolan <b>VACANT</b> <b>VACANT</b>	<b>VACANT</b> Raymond Grayshon 20th Oct <b>VACANT</b> <b>VACANT</b>	Sheila Johnson 0161 773 1406
Nov 9th Nov 23rd	<b>VACANT</b> Carol Porter Sheila & Jack Gale Sylvia Hickson	<b>VACANT</b> Maureen Jones 18th Nov Wilfred Gale 23rd Nov Brian Hickson 30th Nov	Vicky Crookes 07936 548439
Dec 7th Dec 21st	Direct to Church Vera Swallow Church Donations Church Donations	George Smethurst 16th Dec Gina Swallow 22nd Dec Christmas Church Flowers Christmas Church Flowers	Sheila Johnson 0161 773 1406

## Reredos Rota 2026

DATE	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE:	ARRANGER
Jan 5th Jan 12th Jan 19th Jan 26th	Gillian McConville <b>Vacant</b> Joan Evans Zandra Lewis	Collison family <b>Vacant</b> Millie Meeley 29th Gwyn Lewis 31st	Sheila Johnson 0161 773 1406
Feb 2nd Feb 9th Feb 16th Feb 23rd	Anita Rowe Direct to church Vera Swallow Sheila & Jack Gale	Kenneth & Rosemary Whitely George Smethurst Neil Swallow 19th Wilfred Gale 20th	Vicky Crookes 07936548439
March 2nd	Pat Waghorn <b>Lent</b>	Elizabeth & John White 23/4 <b>No flowers</b>	
April 6th April 13th April 20th April 27th	<b>Lent</b> <b>Lent</b> Church donations Church donations	<b>No flowers</b> <b>No flowers</b> Easter church flowers Easter church flowers	
May 4th May 11th May 18th May 25th	Jean Johnson Irene Kellett Joan Knight Vicky Crookes	Mandy Francis Bourne Ada & Jim Owens 19th Alan Knight 18th Kane Crookes 25th	Christine Taylor 0161 773 1272
June 1st June 8th June 15th June 22nd June 29th	<b>Vacant</b> Zandra Lewis Ron Mitchell <b>Vacant</b> Pat Waghorn	<b>Vacant</b> Irene Macrae 7th June Doreen Mitchell <b>Vacant</b> Shaun Waghorn 1st July	Vera Swallow 0161 798 6561
July 6th July 13th July 20th July 27th	Ann Orrell Martin Harper Joan Evans Sheila Johnson	Michael Orrell 17th Brain Harper 19th Harry Evans 21st Norman Johnson 31st	Vicky Crookes 07936548439
Aug 3rd Aug 10th Aug 17th Aug 24th Aug 31st	Yvonne Naylor Yvonne Naylor Sheila Johnson Sue Hunsley Barbara Shepperd	Joan & Brian Lane David Naylor John Gamble 21st Ian Hunsley The Bland family 31st	Sheila Johnson 0161 773 1406

DATE	PAID FOR BY:	IN MEMORY OF & DATE:	ARRANGER
Sept 7th Sept 14th Sept 21st Sept 28th	Viv Jones <b>Vacant</b> Watson family Gillian McConville	Edna & Eric Case 8th & 10th <b>Vacant</b> Betty Watson 21st McConville family	Vicky Crookes 07936548439
Oct 5th Oct 12th Oct 19th Oct 26th	Vicky Crookes Hedley Cox Ann Booth Martin Harper	Kane Crookes 7th oct Gilford & Eveline Preston Jean & Jack Mundy 19th Phyllis Harper 12th	Vicky Crookes 07936548439
Nov 2nd Nov 9th Nov 16th Nov 23rd Nov 30th	Irene Kellett church flowers Judith Hall <b>Vacant</b> <b>Vacant</b>	Richard Kellett 1st Remembrance Sunday Roger Hall 8th Nov <b>Vacant</b> <b>Vacant</b>	Christine Taylor 0161 773 1272
December	<b>Advent - no flowers</b>		

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## OUR DAILY BREAD JANUARY 2026



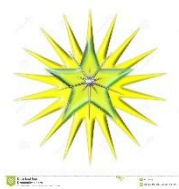
### A Prayer for January

*God of yesterday, today and forever, we thank you for your loving care, protection and strength. As Joseph, once abandoned into slavery, was able with confidence to state that every part of his life was lived according to your will, so we ask that the whole of our lives might be testament to your eternal love, mercy and grace. Amen*

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Through Christ, all the kindness of God has been poured out upon us. **Romans 1:5**

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Our prayer and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well; while one ascends the other descends. – **Arthur Hopkins**

**3<sup>rd</sup>:** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.  
**John 1:1-5**



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>: The Epiphany** O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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

**5<sup>th</sup>:** Dear Lord and Father of mankind forgive our foolish ways. **Amen**

**6<sup>th</sup>:** "There are two seasonal diversions that can ease the bite of any winter. One is the January thaw. The other is the seed catalogues."- **Hal Borland**

**7<sup>th</sup>:** The Wise men followed Jesus. People who are wise still do. Let us praise Him. Amen

**8<sup>th</sup>:** Inspire me to live in your presence every day so that I may share your outlook and do the ordinary things of life in an extraordinary way. May this, Lord, my prayer today, rise before you like the burning of incense. Amen.

**9<sup>th</sup>:** Trust in the Lord with all your heart....in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. **Proverbs 3:5,6**

**10<sup>th</sup>:** The North wind doth blow and we shall have snow, And what robin do then, poor thing?  
He'll sit in a barn and keep himself warm and hide his head under his poor thing. '



will poor  
wing,

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>: Baptism of Our Lord**

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

**12<sup>th</sup>:** When God asks you to step out of your comfort zone – DO IT- and wear a glorious pair of shoes. "When I am afraid I will put my confidence in You -**Psalm 56:3**

**13<sup>th</sup>:** Seek the Lord while you can find him. Call on Him now while He is near – **Isaiah 55: 6**

**14<sup>th</sup>:** Jesus Christ carries on intercession for us in heaven; the Holy Ghost carries on intercession in us on earth; and we the saints have to carry on intercession for all men.  
**Oswald Chambers**

**15<sup>th</sup>:** God of grace and glory give us the mind, the heart, and the strength to live for you. Walk with us and work through us that we may be faithful in prayer, grow in holiness and

draw many to you. As we walk in the power of the Spirit transform us into the likeness of Christ, to the glory of your name. Amen – **Peregrini**

**16<sup>th</sup>:** "January brings the snow,  
Makes our feet and fingers glow." - **Sara Coleridge, Pretty Lessons in Verse**

**17<sup>th</sup>:** "Anyone who thinks gardening begins in the spring and ends in the fall is missing the best part of the whole year; for gardening begins in January with the dream." -**Josephine Nuese**

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>:** I waited patiently upon the Lord; he stooped to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay; he set my feet upon a high cliff and made my footing sure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord. **Psalm 40:1-3**

**19<sup>th</sup>:** Lord, help us not to seek the applause of our friends and colleagues, but rather to look to You for approval. Teach us to put into practice the principles of the Sermon on the Mount. Amen

**20<sup>th</sup>:** Let us give thanks for all the gifts we have received from God, our Father; also for His continued love. We have many things to thank God for – family, friends and all our spiritual needs. We see that the goodness and love of God follows us all the days of our lives.

**21<sup>st</sup>:** Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles – **Isaiah 40:31**

**22<sup>nd</sup>:** What can I give him, poor as I am, if I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb, if I were a wise man I would play my part, what can I give Him give my heart.

**23<sup>rd</sup>:** Satisfy us each morning with your unfailing love, so we may sing for joy to the end of our lives. **Psalm 90:14**

**24<sup>th</sup>:** Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. **1 John 4:11**

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>: The Conversion of St. Paul**

O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the Gospel to shine throughout the world: Grant, we pray, that we, having his wonderful conversion in remembrance, may show ourselves thankful to you by following his holy teaching; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



## 26<sup>th</sup>: Timothy & Titus – Companions of Paul

Heavenly Father, who sent your apostle Paul to preach the gospel, and gave him Timothy and Titus to be his companions in faith: grant that our fellowship in the Holy Spirit may bear witness to the name of Jesus. Amen

27<sup>th</sup>: "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven hallowed be Your name."

**Matthew 6:9**

## 28<sup>th</sup>: Thomas Aquinas

God of truth, whose Wisdom set her table and invited us to eat the bread and drink the wine of the kingdom: help us to lay aside all foolishness and to live and walk in the way of insight, that we may come with your servant Thomas Aquinas to the eternal feast of heaven.

29<sup>th</sup>: Because you are with me, Lord, I can wait in patience and in hope for the new life you bring. Amen

30<sup>th</sup>: "Winter, a lingering season, is a time to gather golden moments, embark upon a sentimental journey, and enjoy every idle hour." - **John Boswell**

31<sup>st</sup>: "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant." - **Anne Bradstreet**



*Good morning little snowdrop, so full of hope and grace.*

*How wonderful to welcome your gentle smiling face.*

*Good afternoon young snowdrop, so full of peace and love*

*How wonderful to welcome you to the world above.*

*Good day my little snowdrop, so delicate and fine*

*How wonderful to welcome you into this heart of mine.*

*Good evening humble snowdrop; I'm so pleased that you're here.*

*You bring a breath of life to the beginning of the year.*

---

## The Future of the Magazine

After November's appeal, thank you to all who submitted articles, poems, prayers, recipes and 'fillers' for the December magazine. Please keep them coming, otherwise we're back to very thin editions!

Whatever you submit need not be Pulitzer Prize-worthy journalism! A paragraph or two about something that interests you (written by you, or someone else – but in that case please include the name of the original author) will do nicely.

Is there something you've thought ought to be included in our magazine? Are you the person to provide that? Do you know of someone unable to continue with their contributions? (*HINT – we all do!*) Could you do that for them?

Articles for future editions of our parish magazine should be emailed as an attachment (Word doc, A4, portrait, no columns, preferably Calibri body 14) to [Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com](mailto:Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com) no later than 7:00pm on:

February 2026 Magazine  
March 2026

Sunday 18 January 2026  
Sunday 15 February 2026

Please note that "[Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com](mailto:Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com)" is the **only** address that will be checked for magazine articles.

---

If you prefer to read this text size, please let whoever brings your magazine know.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Visit of the Kings Scramble

Unscramble letters to make words having to do with Epiphany.

etwatMin

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## Mohlcree

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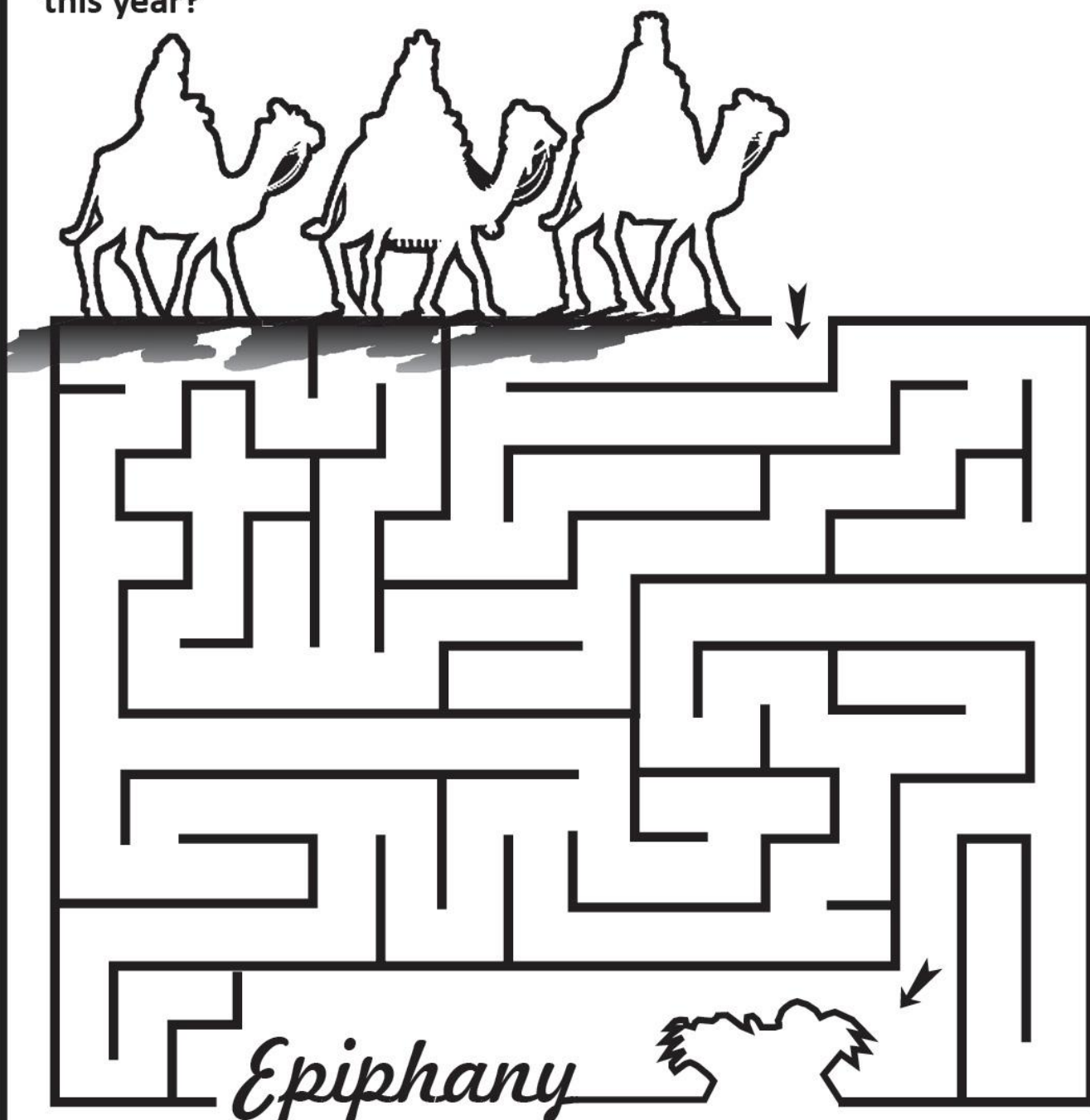
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### Epiphany, Mt 2:1-12

Three wise men were searching for Jesus. They traveled from very far away to meet him. They followed a star and finally found him in Bethlehem. They adored him and gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **What gift would you like to give to Jesus this year?**



# Rhyme Time

**The joy of music for babies, toddlers  
and pre-schoolers**

Tuesdays in term time in St Margaret's Community Centre, St Margaret's Road, Prestwich from 2pm for about an hour  
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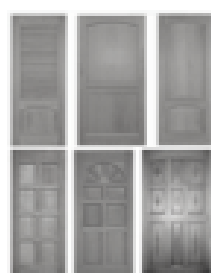
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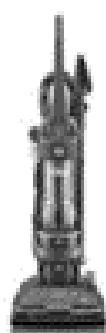
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- **Like us on Facebook**



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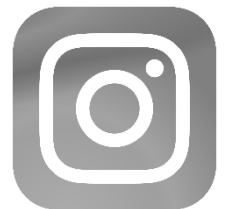
(<https://www.facebook.com/StMaggieP>) and click to join St

Margaret's Community Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/600247334220158>

- **Follow us on Instagram**

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- **You can catch up with sermons and Wise Words from the Ministry Team as podcasts via Spotify**



<https://anchor.fm/st-margarets-prestwich>

**For full information about our parish visit our website:**

<https://stmargaretsprestwich.com/>

## PAROCHIAL ORGANISATIONS

**MAGGIE'S MUSIC MAKERS (Parish Choir) – St Margaret's Church** Dr Carol Porter  
– [music@stmargaretsprestwich.com](mailto:music@stmargaretsprestwich.com)

Rehearses in church Wednesdays 5.30-6.30pm during term time and welcomes new members

**MESSY CHURCH** Lady Wilton Hall, Simister

Third Wednesday of the Month, 4.00pm to 5:30pm during term time

**RHYME TIME** Community Centre Mrs M North (766 2677)

Tuesdays at 2pm during term time, a music group for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers, accompanied by a carer

**UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS** All in the Youth & Community Centre

**Beavers** Thursday, 5.30 to 6.30pm }

**Cubs** Thursday 7.00 to 8.30pm }

**Scouts** }

**Explorers** }

**Rainbows** Tuesday 5.00 to 6.00pm

**Brownies** Tuesday, 6.00 to 7.30pm

**Guides** Tuesday 7.30 to 9.00pm

[gs/8<sup>th</sup>@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk](mailto:gs/8th@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk)

Mrs. D. Todd (773 0018)

Mrs. G. Storm (07773 026 398)

Mrs. G. Storm (07773 026 398)

## St. GEORGES CHURCH, SIMISTER

**Deputy Churchwardens** Vacant

## SERVICES AT ST GEORGE'S, SIMISTER

**Sunday** 11.15am Holy Communion

See the magazine calendar for the full list of services for the month

## ALL THE CHURCH HALLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

**Church House** (St. Margaret's Road) [Bookings@stmargaretsprestwich.com](mailto:Bookings@stmargaretsprestwich.com)

**Youth & Community Centre** (St. Margaret's Road) **Not currently taking bookings**

**Lady Wilton Hall** (Simister Lane) [StGeorge@stmargaretsprestwich.com](mailto:StGeorge@stmargaretsprestwich.com)

# St George's Church

## Simister

