

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

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Focal Leader (St Margaret's)	Rev Sue Walker	07761 565428
Focal Leader (St George's)	Rev Christine Hardy	07557 883501
Curate	Rev Helen Tyler	07899 800649
Churchwardens	Vacant	
Deputy Churchwarden	Vacant	
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Electoral Roll Secretary	Mrs Zandra Lewis	
Child Protection Officer	Mrs JP Jackson	SafeChildren@stmargaretsprestwich.com
Stewardship Secretary	Mrs G McConville	GiftAid@stmargaretsprestwich.com

SERVICES AT ST MARGARET'S

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

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

Enquiries regarding arranging Baptisms, Banns of Marriage, Marriages and Funerals by email please to stmargaretsprestwich@gmail.com

PARISH MAGAZINE

Advertisements (fees & invoicing)	Mrs V Swallow	798 6561
Articles	Dr Carol Porter	Magazine@StMargaretsPrestwich.com

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 6th 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

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS

We commend into God's loving care:

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

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2026

Sunday 4th 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 7th January

10.00 am Holy Communion at St. M followed by coffee
5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers

Sunday 11th 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 13th January

2.00 pm Rhyme Time

Wednesday 14 th January	10.00 am Holy Communion at St. M followed by coffee 5.30 pm Maggie's Music Makers
Sunday 18th 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 th January	2.00 pm Rhyme Time 2.30 Standing Committee
Wednesday 21 st 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 25th 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 th January	2.00 pm Rhyme Time
Wednesday 28 th 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

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.

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.



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.

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 (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>

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=rRRIuMxsAZY>

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!

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.

Silent Prayer:



This is on the 3rd 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)

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

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

Reredos Rota 2026

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

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

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

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

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

3rd: 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 4th: 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

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

6th: "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**

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

8th: 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.

9th: 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**

10th: 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 11th: 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.

12th: 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**

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

14th: 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

15th: 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**

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

17th: "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 18th: 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**

19th: 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

20th: 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.

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

22nd: 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.

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

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

Sunday 25th: 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

26th: 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

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

Matthew 6:9

28th: 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.

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

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

31st: "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 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” 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.

etwatMh

dHear

rast

Bmheethel

oasCpr

lzaaaarhBt

Mohlcrie

dolg

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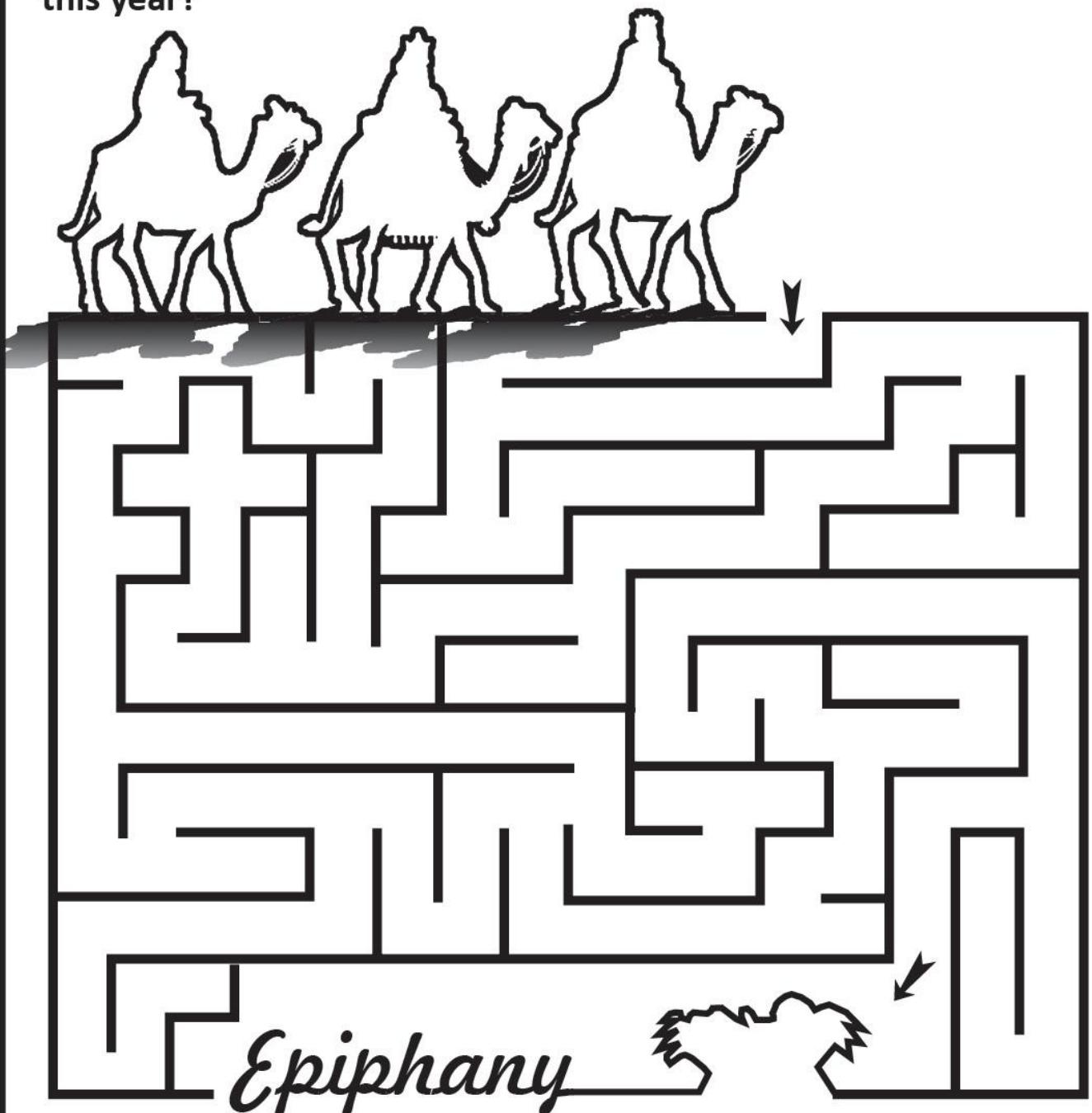
nisme iew



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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
(stay for as much or as little of that time as is appropriate for you and your child)

If interested, please contact Maureen (0161 766 2677)

It's FREE!



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see Church calendar for date



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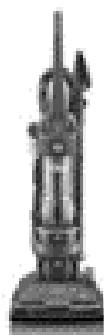


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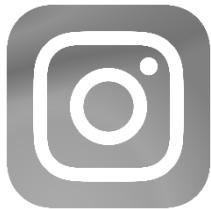


Margaret's Community Group

<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

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		}	gs/8th@praws.gmnscouts.org.uk
Explorers		}	
Rainbows	Tuesday 5.00 to 6.00pm		Mrs. D. Todd (773 0018)
Brownies	Tuesday, 6.00 to 7.30pm		Mrs. G. Storm (07773 026 398)
Guides	Tuesday 7.30 to 9.00pm		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

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

Lady Wilton Hall (Simister Lane) StGeorge@stmargaretsprestwich.com

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Simister

