



St Margaret's Church

Sunday, 12th February 2023

The Second Sunday Before Lent

Welcome to St Margaret's, especially if you are visiting or worshipping with us for the first time. Please do stay behind after the 10:30 service for refreshments. The church is equipped with a loop system: please switch your hearing aid to "T" position.

Contact Details

Benefice Office (general queries)

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07776 588712

Vicar

Rev'd Daniel Walters

vicar@StGilesStMargarets.org

07821 134317

Daniel's usual day off is Monday.

Associate Priest (stipendiary)

This post is currently vacant.

Associate Priest (self-supporting)

Rev'd Dr Anne Holmes

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Safeguarding Officer

Rebecca Rose

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For more contact details, please visit our website:

www.stmargaretsoxford.org

Today's Services

**10:30 am PARISH EUCHARIST
with Baptism of Alice Fraser**

(Common Worship, sung)

President and preacher

Rev'd Daniel Walters

Opening hymn 397 Let us, with a
gladsome mind

First reading Genesis 1.1-2.3

Psalm 136.1-9, 23-end *(see separate
sheet)*

Second reading Romans 8.18-25

The Gospel Matthew 6.25-end

Offertory hymn 265 Lord of beauty,
thine the splendour

Anthem Cantique de Jean Racine
(Faure)

Final hymn 377 Immortal, invisible

*Please note that this service is
livestreamed on the Internet. Please
speak to our welcome team if you have
any concerns.*

5:30 pm EVENING PRAYER

(BCP, said with hymns)

Officiant Rev'd Daniel Walters

Opening hymn 341 Blest are the pure
in heart

Psalm 148

First reading Proverbs 8.1, 22-31

Second reading Revelation 4

Final hymn 241 - Before the ending of
the day

Parish Eucharist on the 2nd Sunday before Lent

12th February 2023

with the baptism of Alice Fraser

Welcome to this special service, especially to friends and family of Alice, Anna and Graham who are visiting us today.

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives. It is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring the faith. The wider community of the local church, family and friends will welcome Alice, promising support and prayer for the future. Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey.

If you or your child need some time out during the service, the baptistery (room through the doors at the back of church) is open with some quiet toys, but do still join us again when you are able. To anyone with young children, make sure you get a good seat where they can see what is going on.

If this is your first time here, we will try to make you feel as welcomed as we can, and please ask a friendly face near to you if you need any help. Welcome!

¶ Preparation

Please stand for a Hymn

397 - *Let us, with a gladsome mind*

The Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all
and also with you.

Introduction

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit, and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth. Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin that we may live his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity and God calls us to fullness of life.

The Collect

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and
the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all
your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit
reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.
Amen.

¶ Liturgy of the Word

Please sit for the **First reading**

Genesis 1.1–2.3

¹ In the beginning when God created* the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God* swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.'

⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there

was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.'

²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, 'Let us make

humankind* in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth,* and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

²⁷ So God created humankind* in his image,
in the image of God he created them;* male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' ²⁹ God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ² And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 136.1-9, 23-end (please see separate sheet).

Second reading

Romans 8.18-25

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in* hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes* for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

At the end

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 6.25–end

²⁵ ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink,’ or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?’ ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God* and his* righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ ‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit for the **Sermon**

† Liturgy of Baptism

Presentation of Candidate(s)

Alice is presented to the congregation by her parents and godparents.

The president addresses the whole congregation

Jesus said, ‘Let the children come to me. Do not stop them’.

We thank God for Alice who has come to be baptized today. Christ loves her and welcomes her into his Church.

So I ask you all:

Will you support Alice as she begins her journey of faith?

We will.

Will you help her to live and grow within God’s family?

We will.

The president then addresses Kate and Alice’s godparents.

God knows each of us by name and we are his. Parents and godparents, you speak for Alice today. Will you pray for her, and help her to follow Christ?

We will.

The Decision

The president addresses Alice through her parents and godparents.

We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home. In baptism we respond to his call.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?

I do.

Do you reject evil?

I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?

I do.

Signing with the Cross

The president makes the sign of the cross on Alice's forehead, saying

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

The president invite Alice's parents and godparents to sign her with the cross.

Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his for ever.

**Stand bravely with him
against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the
end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness, and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
Amen.

Prayer over the Water

We process to the baptismal font.

The president stands before the water of baptism and says

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our

God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus. He was baptized in the River Jordan, where your Spirit came upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptize all who turn to him. Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water, that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit, may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together with *these candidates* the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Baptism

The president baptises Alice, saying

Alice Charlotte, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The president says

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

Amen.

Please stand for the **Commission**

The president introduces the commission, then invites the congregation to pray.

Faithful and loving God,
bless those who care for these children
and grant them your gifts of love,
wisdom and faith.
Pour upon them your healing and
reconciling love,
and protect their homes from all evil.
Fill them with the light of your

presence
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The president addresses all those who are baptized.

Those who are baptized are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin,
repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, I will.

Water from the font is sprinkled over the people.

May Christ dwell in your hearts
through faith,
that you may be rooted and
grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.
Amen.

All return from the font.

Please sit for the
Prayers of Intercession

Please stand for
The Welcome and Peace

There is one Lord, one faith, one
baptism:
Alice, by one Spirit we are all
baptized into one body.
**We welcome you into the fellowship
of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly
Father;
we welcome you.**

*We greet Alice with a warm round of
applause.*

The president introduces the Peace:

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of
peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with
you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of
peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

† Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory hymn

265 - *Lord of beauty, thine the
splendour*

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Blessed are you, Lord God of all
creation:
through your goodness we have this
bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human
hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all
creation:
through your goodness we have this
wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human
hands.
It will become for us the cup of
salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our
God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus
Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all
things;

who was sent by you in your great
goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he
took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed
Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about
among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on
the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for
us;
and revealed the resurrection by
rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for
you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and
archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious
name,
for ever praising you and saying:

Sung

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your
glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source
of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy
Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of
our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was
betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to his
disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is
given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his
death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for
the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our
redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of
praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and
this cup
and we thank you for counting us
worthy
to stand in your presence and serve
you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one
cup,
so that we, in the company of all the
saints,

may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in
whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our
Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated
bread.*

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one
body,
because we all share in one bread.

*The Agnus Dei is used as the bread is
broken.*

Sung

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

*The president says this or another
invitation to communion*

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

*If you normally receive Holy
Communion here or in another
Christian church, you are most
welcome to receive here. If you prefer
to receive a blessing, please come
forward holding your service booklet.*

*Please note that we offer consecrated
wine from the common cup. There is no
expectation that you should receive in
this way; if you prefer to receive in one
kind (bread only), please do so.*

*Out of consideration to others, please
do not intinct (dip) your bread in the
chalice.*

Communion anthems

The choir sing anthems as communion is distributed.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of
the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of
your Church:
may we who have been nourished at
your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the
Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls
and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.

¶ The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand for the **The Blessing**

The God of all grace,
who called you to his eternal glory in
Christ Jesus,
establish, strengthen and settle you
in the faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit,
be among you and remain with you
always. **Amen.**

Offertory hymn

377 - *Immortal, invisible*

*During the hymn, Alice and her family
return to the dais to receive a candle.*

Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the
dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the
saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your
life.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer Requests

Sick: Margaret Holmes, Julia Aston Smith, Colin Cooke, Caroline Cooke.

RIP:

Year's Mind:

Francis Woolley (12/2/2013),
John Chatwin (12/2/2018),
John Chatwin (12/2/2018),
Anne Badenoch (13/2/2017),
Ellen Tuffrey (15/2/2002),
Harry Johnson (16/2/2009)

Services & Events This Week

Morning Prayer

Friday–Saturday, 9:00am

Online Compline (via Zoom)

Monday 13th February, 8.00pm

Next Sunday (19th February)

The Sunday Next Before Lent

Parish Eucharist (CW), 10:30am

Evening Prayer (BCP), 5:30pm

Notices

Little Fishes will be taking a break for half-term next week and will return on Friday 24th February at 9am.

There is no Morning Prayer this week from Tuesday to Thursday. It resumes on Friday (17th February).

Ash Wednesday is on 22nd February. Holy Communion with imposition of ashes at 12:30pm at St Giles' (said) and 8pm at St Margaret's (sung).

The latest issue of **Pathways**, the Diocese of Oxford's magazine, features an article by our very own Revd Dr Anne Holmes on how to be resilient in an ever-changing world.

You can pick up a physical copy from church, or download an electronic version from the Diocese of Oxford's website: bit.ly/3RdGMpM

Please send notices to smnotices@gmail.com by Thursday, 12 noon.

You can also find updates on our social media accounts:

Facebook: [@StMargaretsChurchOxford](https://www.facebook.com/StMargaretsChurchOxford)

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