

ST MARGARET CLITHEROW

Solidarity



Word of the Week

John 15: 12-13

[Jesus said] My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

This week's Word of the Week highlights the deep love and solidarity that Christ calls His followers to embody. St Margaret Clitherow exemplifies this kind of sacrificial love and solidarity through her courageous actions in support of her fellow Catholics during a time of persecution. Her willingness to risk and ultimately give her life for the safety and spiritual well-being of others reflects the heart of our Gospel reading this week.

**"I die for the love of
my Lord Jesus."**

St Margaret Clitherow



Prayer for the Week

**Dear St Margaret Clitherow, You were brave and faithful in your love for God. Help me to be brave and strong like you, and to always trust in God's love for me. Thank you for showing us how to stand up for what is right.
Amen.**

St Margaret Clitherow...Pray for us.





ST MARGARET CLITHEROW

St Margaret Clitherow, born in England in 1556, lived during a time of religious persecution. Despite the risks, she secretly practised her Catholic faith and harboured priests during the English Reformation. Margaret's courage and devotion to her beliefs led to her arrest and eventual martyrdom. Refusing to renounce her faith, she chose to face a brutal execution rather than compromise her convictions. Margaret's unwavering faith and strength in the face of adversity inspire many today to stand up for what they believe in, even when it's difficult, and to value religious freedom and tolerance in society.

SOLIDARITY

The CST principle of solidarity emphasises the responsibility to stand with others, particularly those who are vulnerable or oppressed. St Margaret's life reminds us that true solidarity often requires personal sacrifice and profound commitment to the well-being of others, rooted in love and compassion.



Forty Days (From Ashes We Came)

[LISTEN HERE](#)

I Set my Hope

[LISTEN HERE](#)

SACRIFICIAL LOVE

As we journey through this season of Lent, it's a great time to think about what it really means to follow Jesus. It's not just about giving up things like chocolate or social media (though those can be helpful!). Lent is about diving deeper into who we are as followers of Christ and what He's calling us to. In this week's Word of the Week, Jesus gives us a pretty big challenge: "Love one another as I have loved you." Think about that for a moment. The way Jesus loves us isn't just about saying "I love you" or doing kind things when it's easy. His love is sacrificial—it's a love that gives, even when it costs something. He laid down His life for us, showing the greatest act of love imaginable.

Your Challenge

Think about one person in your life you can show sacrificial love to this week. It could be a friend, a family member, or someone you don't usually connect with. What's one thing you can do to show them the love that Jesus shows you? Whether it's a small act of kindness or a deeper conversation, let this be your way of living out John 15:12-13.

Find out more about St Margaret Clitherow here.
[CLICK HERE](#)



Take a moment...

What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "There is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friends" (John 15:13)?

How do you think St. Margaret Clitherow showed this kind of love in her life? How can you show this love to your friends or others around you?

St. Margaret Clitherow stood up for her faith even when it was dangerous. How can we show solidarity with people who are struggling or being treated unfairly?

St. Margaret Clitherow faced a lot of danger because she chose to stand up for what she believed in. Have you ever had to stand up for something you believe in, even if it was tough? How did that experience change or strengthen you? How can we be brave like her when standing up for what's right?

Lord Jesus,

You showed us the greatest love by laying down Your life for us. Help us to love others the same way – with courage, compassion, and selflessness.

Like St. Margaret Clitherow, give us the strength to stand up for what is right, even when it's hard. Teach us to stand in solidarity with those who are suffering, and to be brave in the face of injustice. Help us to put others first, to act with kindness, and to make sacrifices when needed, no matter how small. May our actions reflect Your love, and may we always be ready to love.

Amen.