

# Saint Margaret Clitherow

Room for One More

**Ages about 7-11** | Video 7:33 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

**Central truth** Margaret uses her busy home to shelter priests and make the Mass possible. The repeated doorway image joins her costly hospitality to a child's ordinary invitation at the end.

**Learning goals** Children will explain whom Margaret helped and why, distinguish courage from feeling no fear, and practice a safe, specific invitation.

**Gather** Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

**Watch online** [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

## Before watching | 2 minutes

Imagine arriving at a church class where you know no one. What might help? Watch whom Margaret welcomes and what her guests need.

## Watch and notice

Notice the door opening, the quiet Mass, Margaret's honest fear, and the modern child at the doorway. Pause after the hidden Mass if needed.

## Talk together | 6-8 minutes

### 1. Why did Margaret make room for traveling priests?

They needed shelter, and Catholic families needed the Mass and sacraments. Her ordinary home became a place of care.

### 2. Why was the quiet Mass so precious to her?

Even without public bells or a great choir, she could worship Jesus and receive the sacraments with other Catholics.

### 3. Does Margaret's fear cancel her courage?

No. She brings her fear to God and remains faithful. Courage can include feeling afraid and receiving support.

### 4. How does the last classroom scene echo her story?

A child notices someone alone and offers company. The circumstances are different, but both acts make room for another person.

**Then respond and pray** Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

# Lead the response

Saint Margaret Clitherow

**Short family lesson** Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

## Choose a handout

**Draw & Tell** Children draw Margaret's welcome and a safe modern welcome. Invite them to explain the connection rather than reproduce the prison scene.

**Read & Write** Children connect need and hospitality, explain courage using Margaret's fear, and write an invitation that gives a newcomer a real next step.

## Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: emphasize the home, Mass, and final invitation. Give a simple definition of martyr if asked.

Ages 9-11: discuss why Margaret wanted to protect her household from being forced to testify. Keep legal details brief and non-graphic.

## A welcome with a next step | Optional 4 minutes

In pairs, practice welcoming a new child at a supervised class: say hello, offer a seat or explain the activity, and allow a choice. Switch roles. Discuss why a specific invitation is more helpful than merely noticing someone alone.

**Look for understanding** Look for a real need, a fitting welcome, and courage that can coexist with fear. Children should apply hospitality within safe adult guidance.

**Closing prayer** Jesus, help us notice those who need welcome. Give us courage to love, and help us bring you our fears. Saint Margaret Clitherow, pray for us. Amen.

**At home** Plan one family act of welcome with a caregiver. It might be greeting a new parish family or including someone in an activity.

**Handout answer notes** Priests needed shelter; families needed Mass and sacraments. Courage does not require the absence of fear. Accept a kind invitation with a seat, introduction, or explanation and freedom to respond.

## Teach with care

Explain that the story includes arrest and death without graphic details. Children may pause or respond through the welcoming scene. Introduce York and Margaret's family home. Brief conversations and private prayers are dramatized. Do not reenact arrest, punishment, or secrecy. Margaret's adult response to persecution is not a rule for children to hide visitors or keep unsafe secrets. Describe historical injustice without blaming today's Christian neighbors.

**Words to explain** Hospitality: making room for someone with welcome and care. Sacrament: an effective sign of God's grace, instituted by Christ. Martyr: a person who dies as a witness to faith in Christ.

## Sources for the leader

Her home, teaching, and witness: [The York Oratory: St Margaret Clitherow Shrine](#)

Welcoming others: [Romans 15:7](#)

# Two doors, one kind of love

Saint Margaret Clitherow

Margaret made room for people who needed her help.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Adult helper** Read aloud. Invite drawing, pointing, or spoken answers. Writing is optional.

## 1 Draw Margaret welcoming the tired priest into her home.



## 2 Draw a child welcoming someone at a supervised class.



**Tell** What does each person need? How does the welcome help?

**Pray** Jesus, help me make room for others with courage and kindness. Amen.

**At home** Share your picture and one thing you learned about God or following Jesus.

# Make room for one more

Saint Margaret Clitherow

Connect Margaret's home with the classroom at the end.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 Notice the need

Who needed Margaret's help, and what did her home make possible?

*Her home ...*

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## 2 Understand courage

How could Margaret be afraid and still be brave?

*Courage can ...*

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## 3 Offer a real welcome

Write what you could say to a new child and one helpful next step.

*You can ...*

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**Pray** Jesus, help me make room for others with courage and kindness. Amen.

**Go deeper** Why might a small invitation matter even when it does not make anyone famous?