

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service



Pastoral Staff

Rev. James Wood - Pastor x111

Rev. Paul Butler - Pastoral Vicar x118

Deacons - Ed Hayes x0

Retired: William Kogler, Biagio Muratore,

Parish Center Office – Receptionist x0

Julie Burtoff, Admin Assistant x133

Faith Formation Office

FF@saintmargaret.com

Jackie Mirenda, Coordinator x131

Business Manager

Lisa Boyd x113

Facilities Manager

Michael Lorio x115

Music Ministry

Dr. Daniel Crews, Director x117

Parish Outreach

Outreach@saintmargaret.com

Julie Burtoff, x119

St. Margaret's Preschool

Jenny Tranfaglia, Coordinator x124

Holy Angels Regional Catholic School

Patchogue, NY 631-475-0422

Michael Connell, Principal

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday: 8:00am, 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am
& 12:00pm (Noon)

Weekdays: Monday to Friday 9:00am

Confessions

Saturdays: 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm (or appointment)

Emergency Parish Blood Drive



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH
3 - 9 PM AUDITORIUM**

February 17, 2019

Phone: (631) 732-3131

Parish Center Office Hours

<i>Open for Walk-In Business</i>	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Mon thru Thurs	9 ^{am} - 1 ^{pm}	2 - 4 ^{pm}	7 - 8 ^{pm}
Friday	9 ^{am} - 1 ^{pm}		
Saturday	9 ^{am} - 12 ^{pm}		
Sunday	Closed		

Fax (631) 732 - 8827

www.saintmargaret.com

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813

[illegible]

We are grateful for Christians who have put their complete trust in God. Many of our priests and religious have become role models for us as they have given their life for His church. We can also look to the many saints who also have given us an example of how to trust in God.

	#	2019	2018	#
Collected at Mass	323	9,474. ⁶⁰	10,284. ²⁴	341
Mailed Envelopes	19	1,082	1,042	23
Electronic Donations	46	4,865	4,588	50
Total Collection	382	\$15,421.⁶⁰	\$15,914.²⁴	414

	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29
30					

HE HEALED
THEM
ALL

Family members, please resubmit names for those who are ill. We will list them for 4 weeks, and then remove them unless told otherwise. Please note—due to privacy issues, we can include names given by the individual or a health care proxy only. Thank you.

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

There are several items in our bulletin that I want to point out to you.

- 1-Most importantly, Bishop Barres has written a letter to all of us concerning the implications of the new Reproductive Health Care Act of New York. Please read it and respond to his call to be involved.
- 2- In contrast to the direction of that new law, I call your attention to the letter and pictures from one of our college students who went on a Mission Trip in January. Many of you helped him with financial assistance and the pictures remind us of the value of human life, even in such difficult situations.
- 3- Life needs to be supported in many ways, so I invite you to strengthen our parish life by joining our Lectors or Extraordinary Ministers that enrich our Masses by signing up for a training session.
- 4- Lent is late this year, but it IS coming! Ash Wednesday is two weeks from this Wednesday. You can bring your old palm to be burned for ashes for Ash Wednesday. A bin is in the lobby.

Lastly, our winter Blood Drive will take place this Tuesday, February 19. I hope that you can assist this important effort.

~ Fr. Jim

PARISH EVENTS This Week

Monday February 18

Office Closed ~ President's Day

Tuesday, February 19

3-9 pm Blood Drive.....Auditorium

Wednesday, February 20

No Activities Scheduled

Thursday, February 21

No Activities Scheduled

Friday, February 22

No Activities Scheduled

Saturday February 23

9-4 CGS II TrainingRm 207

Sunday February 24

10 am Mass Pre Cana Closing

There will be no Faith Formation 2/18 through 2/23

Gathering of the Palm

All families are invited to bring their old palm to the church lobby before Mass next Sunday so we can burn them for ashes to be used on Ash Wednesday, March 6th.



EMERGENCY Parish Blood Drive



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

3 - 9 PM AUDITORIUM

Blood donors must be age 17-75 (16 with parental consent; 76+ with a doctor's note), weight a minimum of 110 lbs. & in generally good health.

Photo ID required

Anyone who would like to donate call
Joe Callari 320-3363

WALK INS WELCOME!

Thank you and God Bless You.

**The Parish Center will be closed on Monday,
Feb. 18th for President's Day.**



Tax Statements

Call the Parish Center if you would like your 2018 tax statement at 732-3131 x133. Please leave a clear message with your name, address and if you know your envelope number which is located under the DATE. Thank you.

All Capital Campaign Contributions over \$250.00 have been mailed automatically. If below this amount, please call and leave a message on x 128 to receive a copy.

Faith Formation

No Faith Formation Classes from 2/18 through 2/23

BECOMING A CATECHIST

OR ASSISTANT



St. Margaret's is in need of catechists & assistants on all levels. **Faith Formation needs parents, grandparents and parishioners to share their faith.** Everyone has a faith story to share and our families want to hear yours.

Please pray over this invitation & call
Jackie Mirenda. 631-732-3131 X 131
JMIRENDA@SAINTMARGARET.COM.

Vacation Bible School

Due to the construction on the parish property, VBS will be cancelled for the summer of 2019.

See you in 2020!



Congratulations Honor Roll Students

St. Margaret's Parish family would like to congratulate the Honor Roll for students from



*St. John the Baptist High School,
West Islip*

Sophia Schmutz, Liana Beausoleil,
Emily Egan, & Daniel Steier

We commend their efforts to excel!

Parish Social Ministry



OUR THRIFT SHOP ~ IS OPEN!

Come visit, shop, and say hello! Our hours are Tuesday & Thursday - 10 - 2 and Saturday 10 - 1. Thank you to all for your patience during this time. Happy New Year!

Please do NOT leave bags for Thrift Shop out in inclement weather or over the weekend. Use bin to the right of the shop. We are unable to accept any furniture. Thank you!

THANK YOU TO ALL OF ST. MARGARET'S

OUR PANTRY SHELVES ARE FILLED UP BECAUSE OF YOUR DONATIONS. *Thank You!*

HAVE YOU TRAVELED LATELY?

Our parish prepares wash-up kits for the homeless and could use donations of **small travel toiletry items ~ shampoo, conditioner, body wash & lotion.** Many Thanks!



MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Cards are available in our *Outreach* office, if you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one. For more info, visit or call the Parish Center at 732-3131 x119.



Helpful Phone Numbers

- Domestic Violence 1-800-799-SAFE & 631-666-8833
- Post Abortion Counseling - days 722-4355
- Project Rachel - evenings 242-0907 or 1800-456-HOPE
- Crisis Pregnancy/Counseling 243-2373
- 24 hr State Child Abuse 1-800-342-3720
- Baby Safe Haven Hot Line 1-877-796-HOPE
- Depression after Delivery 1-800-944-4PPD
- The Life Center 243-2373
- Drug Hotline 1-800-522-5353
- Suicide Prevention 1-800-639-5433

Liturgical Ministry Training

One of the most important fruits of the Vatican Council (1962-1965) was the desire of the Bishops from around the world for more active participation on the part of the congregation at Mass. This began by having the Mass translated into local languages. Building on that, various ministries were revived or created to allow men and women to use their gifts to strengthen the local parish. Readers of the Scriptures (Lectors) and Ministers to assist with Holy Communion have enriched our worship here at St. Margaret over the years.

Longtime or new parishioners are invited to prayerfully consider this opportunity to become part of these wonderful ministries. It would be a wonderful way to thank the Lord for his blessings!



Training sessions will be offered in March, April and May for

**Lectors and
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion**
at Parish Masses

Training for both Ministries:

Saturday 9am – 12:30pm [March 9 in Hampton Bays]

Wednesday 7pm – 10pm [April 3 in Baldwin]

Thursday 7pm – 10pm [May 23 in Melville]

**Additional training for Ministers of Holy Communion
to hospital/homebound only:**

A new program has been established.

Please call Fr. Jim for more information.



**If you are interested, please write to Fr. Jim
at least two weeks before the date of the session
that you are interested in attending**

describing why you feel called to one of these ministries.

Emails to jwood@saintmargaret.com are welcome, too.

If you would like more information, please call Fr. Jim (732-3131 x 111)
or email to the address above.



CATHOLIC FAITH
— NETWORK —



The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) - is at the service of the Word, the Church, the Bishops and the Encounter of Faith and Culture. Our mission is to proclaim the teachings of our Lord to the Catholic Community and beyond using media in all forms. (CFN) is available on Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296, and Charter Spectrum channel 162/471 throughout the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area. The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is also available on selected cable and satellite systems nationwide, along with a vast on-demand library of original programming and a high quality 24/7 live stream



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

February 11, 2019

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you...” (Jeremiah 1:5)

At the very heart of our beliefs about who we are and why we exist, is a message of love. God creates us out of love. Out of love, He redeems us by the sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. He calls us to an eternal destiny with Him because He loves each sacred human life, created in His image.

That we are created in God’s image is reaffirmed in our nation’s Declaration of Independence, reminding us that we “are endowed by [our] Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are **Life**, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” The **right to life** is the foundation and starting point for every other God-given human right. When that right is attacked or denied, all other rights and liberties begin to crumble.

You are probably aware that on January 22, 2019, the 46th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* (the Supreme Court decision that declared an absolute constitutional right to abortion), Governor Andrew Cuomo of New York signed into law the “Reproductive Health Act”, which he himself called “the most aggressive” abortion law in the country. It was then “celebrated” by his lighting up One World Trade Center and the Alfred E. Smith Building in Albany.

It is our obligation as citizens and as Catholics, to be well informed and to make our voices heard in the public square when evil and injustice threaten the sacred gift of life at any stage.

On a human level, this gruesome law should be appalling to people of every faith, or no faith. The Reproductive Health Act allows for abortion on demand with no restrictions throughout all of pregnancy. ***This means that as a choice, an abortion could be performed on a full-term infant as the mother is going into labor.***

This law might also open the door to taking away conscience protections from medical personnel, and could be used to force doctors, nurses and other medical staff to perform or to assist in abortions. Governor Cuomo claims that he is protecting women’s rights, when in fact, this law endangers the lives of women by allowing non-physicians to perform abortions, and it removes any objective standard of care due to the patient.

The Act has also removed criminal penalties when an unborn child is deliberately targeted for death in a crime. Two and a half weeks after the bill became law, the Queens District Attorney said he could not prosecute a man for the stabbing death of his unborn child in the womb of his girlfriend, because of the passage of the Reproductive Health Act.

Unimaginably, the law also repeals protections for infants who are accidentally born alive during the course of a failed abortion. This amounts to infanticide, the killing either by direct means or by neglect of an infant who is alive outside the womb. The law is silent on reducing the pain and suffering of infants, especially those being aborted late term.

-2-

Brothers and sisters, this law is an abomination that cries out to Heaven for justice. We cannot be silent in the face of such a blatant attack on the most vulnerable among us. I invite you to do several things:

1. **Stay informed and educated** regarding these issues and the battles ahead of us, such as assisted suicide and legalized surrogacy. Two outstanding resources available to you are:

The New York State Catholic Conference on the web at <https://www.nyscatholic.org>.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre Respect Life Office and web page: (516) 678-5800 Extension 381 or on the web at <https://respectlife.drvc.org>

2. **Get involved.** Both web pages listed above offer easy links to contacting your elected representatives. Let the Governor and our other elected officials know that this Act violates the dignity of the human person and that you do not support it.

Get involved in the efforts already underway. Our Diocesan Respect Life Office can direct you to ways that you can support and promote the sanctity of life locally, on Long Island.

3. **Pray.** Pray the Holy Rosary. Ask the intercession of Our Blessed Mother Mary, Protector of Mothers, Defender of Life and the Family, to strengthen us so that we may be compassionate, courageous witnesses to the truth. Ask also for the intercession of Saint Thomas More, patron of statesmen, politicians, lawyers and judges, who lost his life for refusing to renounce his conscience and give in to the tides of political power and privilege.

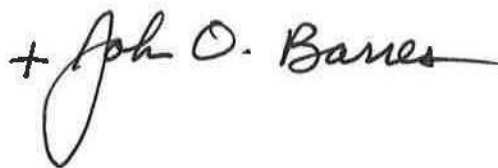
Pray for our elected officials and for all people and pray that our politicians come to understand their profound obligation to defend the most defenseless among us. Any Catholic who actively supports an attack on the sacredness of life, chooses to place him or herself in grave moral danger and outside of the Communion of the Church. We pray for their souls, for a spirit of repentance, for a return to the truth of the love of God. It is God's love that formed each one of us in our Mother's womb.

A civilization that not only will not protect, but actually celebrates an attack on its most vulnerable members is morally bankrupt and stands on the verge of collapse. We pray for the courage of the martyrs, that an awakened spirit of evangelization and voices raised together will move hearts and minds, and call us back to our God-given senses, to the God who made us, who loves us, and who offers us our eternal destiny in love.

I have also recorded a special video on the Reproductive Health Act. Please go to the Diocesan Website at drvc.org or the Diocese of Rockville Centre Facebook or Twitter pages to view the video.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us!

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre



Dear Parish Family,

I want to thank everyone who supported me both financially and with your prayers on January's Mission Trip. Thanks to your help, we were able to work on several projects at *Hogar Immanuel*, an orphanage in Cangrejo, Dominican Republic. For example, they are planning to expand one of their buildings at the orphanage, but the area abuts a hill. So to help prepare for the future construction, we dug out some of the hill and leveled the ground. Other times, we spent working in their gardens that provide most of their fruits and vegetables. We created planting beds for yucca, green beans, and a wide variety of local foods. We also spent time weeding near freshly planted plantain trees to ensure they wouldn't die out.

But, the most important service was to the children themselves. The orphanage is home for 48 children, most of whom have cerebral palsy. Others have disabilities or problems that they cannot diagnose or treat due to lack of resources. (The workers told us that many were abandoned at a young age, often one or two years old, by parents who couldn't raise a child with a disability.) Most of them aren't responsive and cannot talk. Those who can speak do so primarily in shouts, screams or moans. Only 5 children are able to walk!

And so, we helped feed the children their breakfast every day at 7 AM and dinner at 5 PM. In addition, we were able to spend other times during the day with them, playing and offering personal attention. As I said before, most of the children are unresponsive and often sit all day just staring off in the distance. But even the most unresponsive would smile when we played with them. Simply going for a little two minute walk and pushing them in their wheelchairs could bring immense joy to these little ones who have so few people who care for them.

Small moments like these reminded me of Our Lord's words in Matthew 25:40 "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." These children truly were 'the least brothers of mine' as they have been forgotten by nearly everyone. However, thanks to your generous aid and support, we could serve these poor children and bring joy to their lives and help the generous workers of *Hogar Immanuel* in their loving care of the children they care for. Please continue to pray for all of them. Again, thank you for helping me to make a small difference in their lives. ***Sincerely, Harrison Boyd***



Ronkonkoma Cenacle Retreat House – Job Opening

The Cenacle in Ronkonkoma has an opening for a part-time Kitchen Utility Worker (25 hours per week). This is an excellent opportunity for a retired person or a student with a flexible schedule. Please send your resume to jsgambati@cenaclesisters.org or call (631) 588-8366 x139.

Family Center ~ Town of Brookhaven

Family Support free of charge ~ Middle Country Library
Referrals to Community Agencies, Health & Social, Child Care, Immigration & Residency, English Second Language, Food, Clothing & Utility Assistance, programs for Parents & Children & more. To schedule an appointment or *confidential message* ~ 631-585-9393 x290 or email FAMILYCENTER@MCPL.LIB.NY.US.



FREE Benefits & Resources Event for Veterans

Save the date ~ Saturday, April 27 from 9-1.
The LI State Veterans Home is holding a free info and screening event along with answers on numerous topics. Go to www.listateveteranshome.org or call 631-444-8606.



Stony Brook University Grounds
100 Patriots Road, Stony Brook, NY

SCPD Police Exam is scheduled for **June 15th, 2019**. Be sure to note that the registration deadline for this exam is **April 3rd, 2019**. This exam is given only once every **4** years.



English and Spanish recruitment flyers and registration forms for the exam can be found at www.JoinSCPD.com

Minimum Requirements

Age-Minimum age: 19 years on the date of the written exam to be eligible for appointment. • Maximum age: 34 years on the date of the written exam. **Education**-Graduation from a standard senior high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma recognized by the New York State Department of Education, by the date of appointment. **(No college required for appointment)**. **License Requirement** - Possession of a valid New York State operator's or chauffeur's license at the time of appointment. **Written Examination** - Candidates who attain a reachable passing grade will have to pass the following qualifying tests and evaluations: Medical, Personality Assessment (Psychological), Polygraph, Extensive Background Check & Physical Fitness Screening. **Citizenship & Residency**-Candidate must be a NY State resident and a US citizen at time of appointment.



Free Counseling at Hope House

In the age of high cost health insurance, Hope House Ministries in Port Jefferson offers free individual, couple, family and group counseling services by licensed professionals & interns. We also offer psychiatric evaluations for medication. In addition, Sr. Mary Ann Bazata, S.S. N. D. offers free spiritual direction. If interested, please call 928-2377.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

St. Mary's Parish on Main St. in East Islip will offer a 8 week support for adults who are coping with the death of a loved one. Registration required ~ group begins on **Tuesday, March 12th** from 7-9 pm. Refreshments will be served. For info/register, call 631-581-4266 x100. *Please note that in order to participate, the loss must have occurred prior to 12/12/18.*

Diocese Young Adult Ministry

Check out their new website YOUNGADULTMINISTRY@DRVC.ORG for all the current happenings for young adults ages twenties, thirties and forties, single or married on Long Island.

Mid Winter Hooley at the Hall!

The Ancient Order of Hibernians will be holding an Irish Celebration for the whole family to enjoy. Hooley is a fun word for house party. Come on down for a much needed respite from the winter doldrums with food, music and drink. \$20 PP includes soup/crackers, tea/coffee and cake. Enjoy Celtic Tunes and friends. Sunday, Feb. 17th from 2-6 PM ~ 80 Magnolia Dr, Selden. Cash bar-call Rich or Pat at 631-846-3106.



The Gianna Center for Women's Health & Fertility

Dr. Paul Carpenter
Medical Director of Giana Center

St. Frances Cabrini ~ Friday, March 1st @ & 7:30 PM
Middle Country Rd., Coram ~ CAMILLE - 631-275-8016

Dr. Carpenter will present on Restorative Reproduction Medicine, and Jamey Hutchinson, Certified Fertility Care Practitioner will present on the value of the Fertility Care System for woman of all ages.

You are invited to join us for this informative and helpful meeting where questions will be answered and different options will be presented. We look forward to seeing you!

The mission of Gianna Center of LI is to uphold the dignity of every person & provide excellent medical care. During a time that many of us are concerned about abortion expansion being passed in NY, we invite you to come hear about the Center.

FERTILITYCARE SERVICES & NAPROTECHNOLOGY

Sunday, Feb 17, 2019

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Good news in bad times

Forget the headlines for a blessed minute. Stop attending to pop-up dramas of breaking stories, and avert your eyes from news flashes that dazzle with the world's misery and villainy. We know human nature like the back of our hands, because we know the contents of our own hearts: how petty we can be, how self-serving and critical. The difference between the evil geniuses of the globe and us is often a matter of reach and opportunity, or one too many grievances that finally topple our humanity and make the descent to darkness all the more compelling. Resist self-righteousness!

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 17:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26 (78). *"Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh."*

Monday, Feb 18, 2019

Seek signs of mercy

Generations still seek a sign. But sometimes we look for signs in the wrong places. Jesus must still heave a sigh whenever we're blind to the divine inklings all around us. When the brokenhearted take heart and the hard-hearted show some mercy—those are signs that God has gotten through. Let's give God—and each other—the benefit of the doubt.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Mark 8:11-13 (335). *"The Pharisees came and began to argue with Jesus, asking him for sign from heaven, to test him."*

Tuesday, Feb 19, 2019

Looks like rain

Big floods tend to produce stories. Folks can recall much about the "flood of 2008 or 1996 or 1956 . . ." People in biblical times had heard flood stories, too. But the flood Genesis described was the Big One, the flood to end all floods—almost. God was angry and decided all of creation was pretty much corrupt and the only solution was to wipe it all out. But in an almost human way God left the door open a crack. Noah got to be the ark that preserved a righteous few, including handy mating pairs of all creatures in order to repopulate the earth once the waters receded. So God's wrath was not final. There's always the possibility of return to God, constantly offered. When the waters of despair, regret, and cynicism threaten to inundate you, remember there's a dove on the way.

TODAY'S READINGS: Today's readings: Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mark 8:14-21 (336). *"Then the Lord said to Noah, 'Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation.'"*

Wednesday, Feb 20, 2019

It's all part of the process

Our journey toward health, wholeness, and conversion stretches across the span of our lives and, ironically, doesn't prevent our deaths. But the more fully we embrace life and live in God's Spirit, the less significant our deaths become. Dying is just part of the process toward life in Christ. For a time we will see as in a mirror—through a glass darkly. But if we follow Jesus' instruction of forgiveness and love, we will eventually see clearly—even with our eyes closed and even beyond our deaths.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22; Mark 8:22-26 (337). *"The man looked up and said, 'I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.'"*

Thursday, Feb 21, 2019

MEMORIAL OF PETER DAMIAN, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Courage to do what is right

Peter Damian was a Benedictine 11th-century monk who is frequently described as an austere and holy man. He loved the study of scripture and was extremely devoted to his monastic life. But his holiness and moral clarity brought him to the attention of more than one pope and he often was called upon to settle contentious debates within the church. With great courage, Peter called the church to moral reform, confronting issues of simony (buying or selling of church jobs) and clerical abuse of power. Though he was never officially canonized, most people of his time considered him a saint and he was named a doctor of the church in 1828. Let him inspire your study and devotion today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 9:1-13; Mark 8:27-33 (338). *"You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."*

Friday, Feb 22, 2019

FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF PETER THE APOSTLE

The chair has the floor

For a chair to get its own feast day, it's got to be a pretty special chair. Today's is just that, because Saint Peter himself, the very first pope, sat upon it. The relic in St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City is a wooden throne, which Pope Benedict XVI described as a "symbol of the special mission of Peter and his successors to tend Christ's flock, keeping it united in faith and in charity." Ponder that our church's leaders stand in a line going all the way back to the apostles, and pray for each one who holds this esteemed position.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19 (535). *"Upon this rock I will build my church."*

Saturday, Feb 23, 2019

MEMORIAL OF POLYCARP, BISHOP AND MARTYR

Living memory

We can be sure that the practice of venerating the relics of saints began very early in the church. The first evidence for it comes from a letter dated around 150 A.D. concerning the martyrdom of Polycarp. The letter relates that following Polycarp's execution the Romans refused the Christians his body, deciding rather to burn it. The Christians then gathered together his bones, church fathers related, "being more precious than the most exquisite jewels, and more purified than gold." They put these bones in a place of distinction where they would gather together and revere them, especially on the anniversary of Polycarp's martyrdom. Remember the sacrifices of Christian martyrs and give yourself wholeheartedly to a life of faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Hebrews 11:1-7; Mark 9:2-13 (340). *"They kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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Campaign Catch Up



February 17, 2019

Vol II Edition 2

Total Pledged: \$855,908

10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Just Handrails Away from Completion

Last week marked one year since we began to report to you on our Capital Campaign. The program began two years ago with



a review of all the repairs and upgrades recommended by the Diocese in their review. Their estimate for all the work was almost \$3 million. It was very clear this was not possible.

Next, we reduced the initial list and offered all our parishioners a chance to add, delete and prioritize. At the same time, we hired a fund raising company to do a feasibility study of support. They informed us we could raise \$1.3 million. This amount still seemed to us a reach and so, looking at the priorities set by the parishioners, we put together a list of upgrades and repairs totaling \$955,000.

We invited all parishioners to financially support the effort to accomplish these projects.

As of today, we have reached \$855,908 from 408 parishioners that has allowed us to:

- ① Work on the church side entrances, only awaiting the railings to allow us to reopen the side entrances.
- ② Do initial work on the main entrance bridge so that the full job can begin after Communion, Confirmation and weddings this spring (a defrosting system has been built into all three to minimize any icing).
- ③ Engage an architect to update the auditorium restrooms and design an ADA compliant restroom and bring the kitchen up to code. We hope to see this work done this summer.
- ④ Contract for the conversion of the Parish Center heating system to gas. To be done after PSE&G installs a gas line..

Proposed Schedule of Work

PHASE I Fall 2018

Funded Approximate Cost: \$450,000

- Replace the Church Entrance Bridge and Side Stairways
- Mandated Removal of the oil tank in the Parish Center and replace the Boiler
- Update the Kitchen in the Auditorium

PHASE II Fall 2019

Pledged Approximate Cost: \$290,000

- Update Auditorium Bathrooms and Replace Parish Center's Handicapped lift
- Add Handicapped Parking spaces and Re-coat & re-stripe the Parking lot
- Install new padding on the kneelers

PHASE III Fall 2020

Approximate Cost: \$210,000

- Update Fire and Security Alarm systems in the Church and Parish Center
- Replace the Sidewalks
- Replace the Windows in the Parish Center