

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service



Pastoral Staff

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Holy Angels Regional Catholic School
Patchogue, NY 631-475-0422
Jeannine Stewart, Principal

Celebration of the Eucharist

Weekday: (Mon, through Fri) 9am

Sunday: Sat - 5pm,

Sun - 8am, 10am & 12 noon

Confessions: Saturday—1-2 PM in the
Parish Center or by appointment.



...how often should
I forgive?
"Not **SEVEN** times,
but, I tell you,
**SEVENTY-
SEVEN**
times."

September 13, 2020

Phone: (631) 732-3131

the Parish Office

will be open limited hours during the week

Mon, Tue & Wed 9am to 1pm

Any meeting will be by appointment Only.

Fax (631) 732 - 8827

www.saintmargaret.com

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

As we continue to face the challenges of our “new normal,” I invite you to strengthen your faith journey with examples of people from the 20th century who faced challenges of their own. Their lives give us a chance to appreciate the different ways that faith can be lived and shared. ~Fr. Jim

Christian de Chergé and Companions

Trappist Martyrs of Algeria (d. 1996)

On May 23, 1996, Islamic fundamentalists in Algeria gleefully announced the murder of seven Trappist monks. In their deaths these monks joined a long procession of past victims – both Christian and Muslim – sacrificed to competing conceptions of the glory of God. Many Christian martyrs of the past had offered their lives for the conversion of their non-Christian neighbors. Not so these Trappists, who sought to bear witness to the One God of all and to the ideal of friendship among all God’s people.

For Fr. de Chergé, prior of the community, this cause was the repayment of an ancient debt. As a young French soldier fighting in Algeria, his life had been saved by a Muslim friend who shielded him during an ambush. This sacrifice prompted his own conversion, and ultimately his decision to become a Trappist monk on the highlands near Algiers.

There the monks lived a traditional life. But they made a point of offering a place where Christians and Muslims could pray together. To many neighbors they were trusted men of God. But to others they were foreign infidels. Despite warnings from the Algerian government and French willingness to bring them home, all the monks chose to remain with their friends. Eventually rebels invaded the monastery and marched them into the mountains. In a letter opened after his death, de Chergé had addressed his future murderer: “You too, my last-minute friend, you who know not what you do....May we be granted to meet each other again, happy thieves, in paradise, should it please God, the Father of both of us.”

“Now all that is left for us is to give our blood to follow Christ to the end.” - Christian de Chergé

[Note: A 2010 French movie, *Of Gods and Men*, with English subtitles, is based on the story of their martyrdom. It is well worth watching, especially if you do not mind subtitles. - Fr. Jim]

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION

Saturday ~ 1:00pm to 2:00pm

Due to the need for privacy without using an enclosed room, parishes have had to be creative in finding a suitable space for hearing confessions. We will be using the Parish Center foyer. The red front door will be propped open and a screen will be inside, between the priest and the penitent. There will be no chair or kneeler since we could not disinfect them. You simply come in, stay standing, confess, receive your penance and depart.



*If you see someone in the foyer, do not come up the walkway!
Remain on the sidewalk (or in your car) to keep a safe distance.*

Thursday Mass Resumes

9AM Mass resumes this Thursday, September 10th. Due to videoing the Sunday Mass, there is no Mass on Saturday mornings at 8AM.

OUR PARISH IS SEEKING TWO POSITIONS

Please spread the word or let anyone you know that may be interested to contact the Parish Center.

Part-time Faith Formation Assistant ~ Hours have some flexibility. Involves office work (including computer tasks) and event support (i.e., parishioner meetings, sacraments) for the Coordinator of Faith Formation. To apply, please contact Jackie Miranda, Coordinator of Faith Formation ~ 631-732-3131 x131 or [jmirenda@saintmargaret.com](mailto:jmiranda@saintmargaret.com).

Part-time Maintenance Worker ~ Hours have some flexibility. Provides setting up spaces for parish activities and maintenance for the parish buildings, including minor repair work. Also, grounds work as needed to supplement the contracted service companies. To apply, please contact Fr. Jim Wood, Pastor ~ 631-732-3131 x111 or jwood@saintmargaret.com



St Margaret’s Sunday mass is available on YouTube as well as our parish website. There is a St Margaret of Scotland channel on YouTube. If you have a “smart” television, and go to the YouTube app, search for St Margaret of Scotland and there under our parish logo, you will find the video for the weekend’s mass.

Sacraments are Celebrations!



Baptisms

Kacey Nicole Butts
Effy Marie Kruger &
Aiden O’Brien

Remembering and Caring for our Senior Priests

Do you ever think about a favorite Pastor or Parish Priest and wonder how they are and where they may be living?

Well, for our Senior Priests who are living at St. Pius X Residence, life is good and sometimes very busy.



“We are very happy that more and more of our Priests are taking advantage of this wonderful facility. We thank you for your support, we depend on it, especially now with the increasing costs we are experiencing. We couldn’t do it without you!”

- Rev. Msgr. Thomas Costa,
Vicar for Senior Priests

“Since I arrived at St. Pius X, I have found living here like being at home. I have found much happiness with my fellow priests and in the entire community, and I especially appreciate the support I receive.

Thank you for helping to make this home possible.”

- Rev. Msgr. T Peter Ryan



Even in retirement our senior priests retain roles as our shepherds, and St. Pius X enables these dedicated men who live there to be fully engaged members of the community. “*Still on duty,*” they serve as our teachers, counselors, and spiritual leaders.

The special collection for retired priests living at St. Pius X Residence will take place next weekend. Please be as generous as possible! Thank You!

www.drvc.org/stpiusx

SUNDAY MASS CONTINUES ON ST MARGARET’S WEBSITE

We resume celebrating weekend masses in St Margaret’s church as was usual, at 5^{pm} Saturday and 8^{am}, 10^{am} and noon each Sunday. As we continue to deal with covid 19, Bishop Barres is continuing his dispensation from the obligation to attend mass on Sunday.

The Sunday Mass from St Margaret of Scotland Church will be streamed on our website each weekend. Click the Announcement and Online Masses section on the opening page. It will take you to a link for the masses celebrated each day from St Agnes Cathedral as well as the Liturgies from St Margaret’s. WWW.SAINTMARGARET.COM

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Faith Formation



Faith Formation

Register today!!

Registration forms have been mailed. Please return forms by ASAP!

Catechist & Volunteers are needed one day a month starting October 5th.

Please contact Jackie Mirenda at
jmirenda@saintmargaret.com or 631-732-3131 x131

Parish Social Ministry

Food Pantry

We will be available to accept donations at the Parish Center Back Door on Thursday from 9am until 11am or during office hours listed on the front cover.

Food Items
Shelf Stable Milk,
Egg Noodles,
Canned Chicken/Tuna

A very special THANK YOU to all!

Thrift Shop Closed during Pandemic

Please DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING

All our Volunteers are at home as directed by Governor.
We are unable to process any donations. ~ Thank you!

Thank You
to all who donated to the
Pantry this past week

Senior Citizen Apartments Available

St. Anne's Gardens, 80100 2nd Avenue, Brentwood NY

Low-income Rental Apartments for seniors,
60 Years of Age or Older

Call Stanan Management at: 516-486-1000

Church Side Steps Renovation Successful !

The side steps were done last Fall. Due to less daylight hours and some construction personnel problems, actions were taken that we were not comfortable with from the beginning. Water pooled on some of the steps and the concrete work was not up to par. The company tried to do some spot repairs, but none of them were able to deal with the most important problems.

Thus, working with the Diocese, we were able to get the company to agree to remove the current landings and steps (not the railings or the heating coils, which are fine) and rebuild them from scratch. The work has been finalized successfully!



St. Vincent de Paul is again Servicing the Clothing Bins

The society is emptying clothing bins next to the ballfield on the north side of our property are open for your donations.
Thank you for your patience and donations.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

- **The Precious Blood will not** be available to the faithful.
- There will be two stations for receiving Communion – at the front of the side aisles. A small table and kneeler will be at each communion station in the front of the church. Priest and EM will sanitize their hands at these tables BEFORE distributing Communion.
- All are asked to remain in their seats until directed by the ushers. The people in the rear pews will go up first. They should not remove their face covering until immediately before approaching the minister to receive Holy Communion, allowing their hands to be free. **Holy Communion may not be distributed with gloves, nor may it be received in the hand if a member of the faithful is wearing gloves.** At the Communion Station, they should extend their hands (non-writing hand on top of dominant hand). The minister will say, “The Body of Christ” and place the host on the extended hand. Use the dominant hand to place the Eucharist in your mouth and immediately replace your mask.
- Anyone requiring reception on the tongue will need to stand behind the kneeler at the station until the minister has completed distributing the Eucharist. Ministers must sanitize their hands after each distribution of the Eucharist on the tongue.

Offertory Support through ONLINE BILL PAY

is the form of Electronic Giving we have been using in the parish. Your bank offers this service, sending money out of your bank account to whomever you wish. ONLINE BILL PAY services will print an *actual check* and mail it to St. Margaret of Scotland. Sending your regular Offertory support electronically will save you time and money.

It is an easy way to continue your support of St Margaret of Scotland Parish during this difficult time. Your Bank **does not charge** a fee for this service. You have complete control of your funds, starting, stopping and changing at your will. We have no access to your accounts, receiving only what you wish. If you pay your bills this way currently, you know how easy it is.

To set up sending your Offertory Support all you need is:

Your St. Margaret Account Number: (**Located on your stewardship envelope directly under the date**)
(or call the Parish Center 631 -732-3131 x0 for your number). Please make sure this number is listed under notations or in address.

St. Margaret's Mailing Address:

St. Margaret of Scotland Church
81 College Road
Selden, NY 11784

1. Visit your bank's website or call your bank for more information.
2. On your bank's website: Click on BILL PAY or Pay Bills: each bank may have a different name for bill pay service.
3. Click on "Set up NEW PAYEE": Complete all required fields.
4. Enter amount you will be remitting. Schedule payments for desired frequency (weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly: 52x, 26x, 12x).

Envelopes Do Help

A special thank you to the parishioners who have been using envelopes. Please remember that the parish is not able to record your donation for tax purposes unless it is in an envelope. Use of envelopes helps us when asked to sign forms attesting to eligibility to serve as a sacramental sponsor, determine Faith Formation parish support, as well as Catholic school subsidy for individual families. **Please do not use staples or scotch tape. Thank you!**

Good Shepherd Hospice - Virtual Bereavement Support Groups

Good Shepherd Hospice Bereavement Services are opened to anyone in the community who has experienced a loss through death at no charge. Upcoming Bereavement Support Groups, led by a Bereavement Specialist, include:

Virtual Spousal/Partner Loss Bereavement Support Group

September 15 thru November 3 / 5:00PM-6:30PM. Registration Required: Roger Sullivan, LCSW @ (631) 465-6332 / roger.sullivan@chsli.org

Virtual Bereavement Support Group for COVID Related Loss

September 15 thru November 3 / 6:45PM-8:00PM. Registration Required: Roger Sullivan, LCSW @ (631) 465-6332 / roger.sullivan@chsli.org



Sunday, Sep 13, 2020

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Share the wealth

Jesus tells the parable of the servant forgiven his large debt who then refuses to forgive a small debt owed him. How could we not forgive others, when God has forgiven us so much? Someone always raises the objection that you can't let someone who kicked you once have another go at it. But that is not what Jesus is asking us to do. He's not asking us to be fools. He's reminding us we're all deep in the red with a debt we can't possibly repay. Be grateful we don't have to.

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 27:30—28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35 (130). "Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?"

Monday, Sep 14, 2020

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Cross purposes

It might seem strange to non-believers that the instrument of our savior's torture and execution is the symbol of our faith. But believers know that the cross represents Christ's defeat of death; the symbol is one of triumph. The entrance antiphon for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is: "We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection: through him we are saved and made free." Reflect on how the crosses you've borne in your own life have also led to freedom.

TODAY'S READINGS: Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17 (638). "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

Tuesday, Sep 15, 2020

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Pray for us, Mother of God

Yesterday was the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Today, in connection, we remember Mary as Our Lady of Sorrows. Many saints and poets have tried to convey the weight of Mary's pain. But it's Romanos the Melodist who, in the 500s, wrote the "Hymn of Mary at the Cross." In it, Jesus reveals to his mother the redemptive power of his suffering—plus, her role as our intercessor. He says: "Run, Mother, announce to all that 'By suffering he strikes the one who hates Adam, and as victor he is coming.'" How can Our Mother pray for you today?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a (444); John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35 (639). "Behold, your mother."

Wednesday, Sep 16, 2020

MEMORIAL OF CORNELIUS, POPE, AND CYPRIAN, BISHOP, MARTYRS

Let compassion prevail

The third century was a terrible time of persecution for Christians, some of whom had either to deny their faith or face death. Some rather understandably denied the faith in order to survive, but when persecutions lifted, asked to return. Their desire for reconciliation caused an uproar. Pope Cornelius faced strong challenges because he believed they should be allowed to return after a period of penance. His friend and brother bishop, the learned Cyprian, sided with him in this decision. Their compassionate response prevailed. Both men ended up giving their lives for the faith as Cornelius died in exile in 253 and

Cyprian was martyred under the Emperor Valerian in 258. Follow the lead of these two early Christians and let compassion have the last word.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13; Luke 7:31-35 (445). "Love does not brood over injury."

Thursday, Sep 17, 2020

MEMORIAL OF ROBERT BELLARMIN, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Live in peace to rest in peace

Today is the Memorial of Saint Robert Bellarmine, a Jesuit theologian and doctor of the church. His scholarly work inserted him into a number of the controversies of his day (late 1500s to early 1600s). One of his many works still in publication is *The Art of Dying Well*, whose advice starts with the concept that dying well (in peace, connected to God) depends on living well. Take a cue from this brilliant saint and contemplate whether you need to make changes to be living well by Christian standards. It's never too late to get right with God.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50 (446). "But he said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'"

Friday, Sep 18, 2020

Holy honey!

We don't often think about snacks in the Bible, but surprisingly they're there! While there were likely no cake pops or ice cream in the kitchens of our matriarchs and patriarchs in faith, they still had a sweet tooth—especially for honey! Do an online search of the Bible and read through more than 60 references to honey. Honey has become a symbol of God who can satisfy us with a most pure, joyful sweetness. The Jewish celebration of Rosh Hashana recalls the significance of honey, especially remembering how God cared for the Israelites in the desert by feeding them manna, which tasted like "wafers made with honey." On this first day of Rosh Hashana, let us, with our Jewish friends, wish one another a good, sweet year ahead, trusting in the providence of God.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 8:1-3 (447).

"Accompanying Jesus were the Twelve and some women . . . and many others who provided for them out of their resources."

Saturday, Sep 19, 2020

MEMORIAL OF JANUARIUS, BISHOP, MARTYR

Relate to the world's suffering

Reading the gruesome details of tortures like that of fourth-century Januarius, martyred by Emperor Diocletian in 305, may make their suffering seem far removed from our daily experience. But it's not a huge leap to consider more ordinary sufferings today: of the unemployed, the victims of racial hatred, trafficking, disease, or addiction. In the doctrine of the Mystical Body, all suffering is given meaning by Christ's. His Passion means that no one agonizes in vain, that all is redeemed. Consider a gift of financial support to an organization like Catholic Charities, which helps alleviate the suffering of the refugee, the hungry, the trafficked person.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49; Luke 8:4-15 (448). "Some fell into good soil and . . . produced a hundredfold."

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



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