

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service



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Retired: William Kogler, Biagio Muratore

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Outreach@saintmargaret.com
Julie Burtoff, x119

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.



March 14, 2021

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,

A little over a year ago, March 7 & 8, 2020, we had our last “regular” parish weekend with 911 parishioners at our Masses. On March 11, the World Health Organization declared that the coronavirus outbreak was a pandemic. What had been someone else’s problem in China and northern Italy, suddenly became ours! Attendance at our March 14 & 15 Masses dropped to 384. Then, following the recommendations of the CDC, Bishop Barres directed that all Masses and other liturgical gatherings cease. March 18 was our last in-person Mass until June 27. First Communion and Confirmations as well as so many other family milestones and celebrations had to be postponed or cancelled. None of us could imagine that Covid-19 would hijack a whole year (and counting) of our lives and be the cause of over 2.5 million deaths (525,000 here in the US).

The Fourth Sunday of Lent, traditionally called *Laetare Sunday*, is this weekend. “Laetare,” Latin for “Rejoice,” might seem far away from what we are experiencing. But today’s Gospel reminds us of the basic truth of our Faith: “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.” It is that truth that guides us as we deal with the pandemic or anything else that might cause us to give up hope. ~ *Fr. Jim*

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION ~ Saturdays ~ 1:00pm to 2:00pm

Due to the need for privacy without using an enclosed room, we are using the Parish Center foyer. A screen divides the foyer between the priest and the penitent. There is no chair or kneeler since we could not disinfect them. You simply come in, stay standing, confess, receive your penance and depart.



In warm weather, the red front door is propped open.
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.

In cold weather, the door needs to stay closed.
Please knock and wait to be invited in.

Guidelines for Fasting & Abstinence

In keeping with the spirit of penance, Catholics are asked to observe the following practices:

Good Friday is a day of fast* and abstinence**

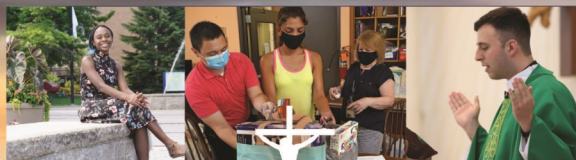
All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence**

***Fasting:** All between the ages of 18 and 59 may eat only one full meal & two small meals on these days (no snacks).

****Abstinence:** All from the age of seven onwards abstain from meat on these days.

Illness always exempts people from these requirements.

**2021
CATHOLIC
MINISTRIES
APPEAL**
DIOCESE OF
ROCKVILLE CENTRE



One Family in Mission
Creating Pathways to Faith

Opening Pathways for Others to Follow their Call to Serve

Dr. Lisa Honkanen, the Director of our Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics has, throughout her entire career, been dedicated to protecting the sanctity of life at all stages. “The Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics is easiest to sum up in the words of John Paul II, ‘we are here to build a civilization of love and life,’ – by that I mean we want to help the people of the Diocese to understand the dignity and inviolability of all human life in all of its stages.” A lifelong Catholic and a physician of Geriatric Medicine, Dr. Honkanen’s deep Catholic faith is unmistakably center and foremost in her work. She has upheld the dignity of all human life throughout her entire career. “Understanding the dignity of every human life and how it has been created by God – giving glory to Him in all our work – sharing that faith in our words and our actions. Giving witness every day – so we can inspire others to do the same.”



100% of every dollar raised is restricted to serve the objectives, programs, and mission supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Faith Formation

LEVEL 6

Your next gathering will be Tues., March 16th ~ 6:30-8 pm

LEVEL 5

Your next gathering will be Weds., March 17th ~ 6:30-8pm

LEVEL 8

Your next gathering will be Thurs., March 18th ~ 6:30-8pm

**Catechists
& Volunteers
are needed one
day a month**

Parish Social Ministry

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.**

Small Mayo, Beef Stew, Applesauce

A very special THANK YOU to all!

St. Vincent de Paul Society has opened the Clothing Bins

**next to the ballfield on the north side of our
property for your donations.**

Thank you for your patience and donations.

Bereavement Group

via Zoom

Lead by Chaplain Gilda Philibert, BCC
Board Certified Catholic Chaplain, and a Certified Bereavement
Facilitator trained by the Diocese of Rockville Centre

Maximum of 10 participants who have had the
loss of a spouse is recommended.

It is highly recommended that joining a
bereavement group should not start for the first
4 months after the loss of a loved one.



**Beginning
Thursday, March 18th
2:30 – 4:00pm
for 6-8 weeks**

To register please email:
Elizabeth.Schwind@chsl.org



SUNDAY MASS ON ST. MARGARET'S WEBSITE

In addition to our weekend Masses, available at 5^{pm} Saturday and 8^{am}, 10^{am} and Noon, the Sunday Mass continues to be streamed each weekend. There are two ways to watch it:

First, on our website WWW.SAINTMARGARET.COM. Click the "Learn More" link on the "Online Masses and Latest Bulletin" page. It will take you to an info page; click link for "Online Mass." All the Masses since March are available. (In addition to our Mass, there is a link for the masses celebrated each day from St Agnes Cathedral.)

Second, there is a St. Margaret of Scotland channel on YouTube. Go to the YouTube app, search for St. Margaret of Scotland and look for our logo. (There are other parishes with the same name.) Only the video for the current weekend is available.



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.

St. Margaret's Website

Keep up to date with all Faith Formation, info & bulletins.
Go check it out & make it a favorite!

SAINTMARGARET.COM

Procedures for Easter Masses during the Pandemic

Due to NYS Covid-19 restrictions that are still in effect for our area, a maximum of 50% capacity of the church is allowed. Therefore, to maximize the seating space allowed and keep everyone at safe distances, we need to use the same procedures that we did for Christmas.

Please remember that the Bishops have suspended the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, which include Easter.

The option of watching Mass online is still permitted.

Sign Up for Easter Masses Saturday Vigil 8pm / Sunday 8am; 10am; 12 Noon

The number of Easter Masses is very limited. Due to lack of entrance and exit space, we cannot have Masses in the Auditorium.

As at Christmas, we will need the following information:

- a) Family Name
- b) Phone number and email address (if you have one)
- c) Number of family/group members attending (with any special considerations needed)
Families/groups **MUST** be seated **at the same time; NO SEAT SAVING**
NOTE: we reserve the right to limit the number of people from each family/group
- d) Submit **two Mass times that we can choose from.** (First preference first.)
- e) **We will also decide where your party will be seated** in the church.
- f) We will confirm your request

To make your request:

email the parish at bgoode@saintmargaret.com

or

call 631-732-3131 x133

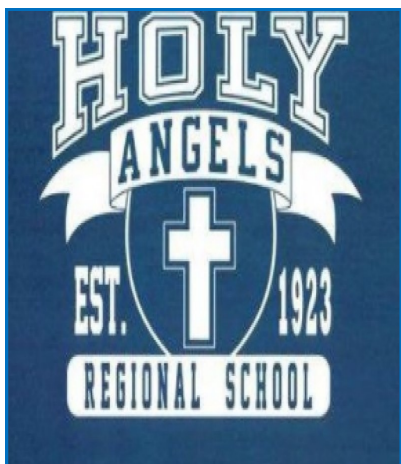
We encourage you to email us. It was our experience at Christmas that with email, we could keep better records and correct problems more easily. Calling the Office for reservations can take longer, given the limited personnel and limited times when the office is open.

Arriving at Church.

The lobby will be opened 30 minutes before the Mass time.

- a) Only one front door will be open.
- b) In the lobby, there will be greeters with a list of all the people who have confirmed seats. You will check in with them. Only those with confirmed seating will be admitted to the church.
- c) As stated above, families/groups need to have all members present to enter.
- d) At the inside glass doors, ushers will be present to escort you to your **assigned seat(s).**

Deadline: no requests can be honored after Friday, March 26th.



Holy Angels Regional School

Open Registration Pre-K to 8th Grade.

1 Division St., Patchogue MICHAEL CONNELL ~
PRINCIPAL JEANNINE STEWART

Virtual Open House & Registration

For more information, please visit
WWW.HOLYANGELSREGIONAL.ORG

or contact the Main Office ~ 631-475-0422.

Through Faith We Grow!

Free Comprehensive Child Care

The Children's Community Head Start Birth to Five Program provides a FREE educational program including developmental activities and meals. Health, Nutrition, Family Services and Parent Involvement are also a part of our program. Children with special needs are welcome. Home based and center based programs available ~ children ages birth to five years in Central Suffolk County. To see if you qualify call 631-585-2020-Ronkonkoma & 631-476-9698-Port Jefferson or visit **WWW.CHILDRENSCOMMUNITYHS.ORG**



Town of Brookhaven Covid Relief Rental / Mortgage Assistance

Brookhaven Town has announced their Relief Program which will be open in March.. The landlord has to have a valid permit for rental and the client must be a US citizen or Qualified Residents Alien. For more information go to **https://www.brookhavenny.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2637.**



A SPECIAL INVITATION

*On Easter, we celebrate the New Life of the Risen Lord. Once again, we want to offer an opportunity for parish members to assist in making our altar and church a sign of New Life this Easter and celebrate the memory of those who made past Easters special. All are invited to make a memorial donation which will be used for our decorations. All the names of those memorialized (both living and deceased) will be printed in our bulletin of **April 3 / 4** (Please note: donations are NOT for any particular or individual plant, but toward the overall expenses of the decorations.) Please fill out the form below and place it and your donation in an envelope marked "**Memorial Donation**." You can put it in the basket with your regular collection, mail it or drop it off at the office. Thank you*



[cut here] -----

Memorial Donation – Easter 2021 (deadline: March 25th) ~ Please Print

Donor(s) _____

Address _____

Name of Person(s) or Couple Memorialized

Living _____ Deceased _____

Sunday, Mar 14, 2021 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Don't look at me

During Lent, it's easy to imagine we're scoring points with heaven by all this fasting, praying, and almsgiving. Giving up binge-watching for a season, spending 15 minutes daily in contemplation, or funding a different cause each Friday are all worthy activities that may deepen our commitment to faithful living. None of these practices will actually buy us a ticket to paradise, however. Grace is free and unearned, so we can't boast about it. Our Lenten practices are simply our way of saying "Thank You" to the Giver of all good gifts. TODAY'S READINGS: *Year B: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21 (32).* "It is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast."

Monday, Mar 15 LENTEN WEEKDAY Engender cooperation

There have been some famous male/female teams in the history of Catholic religious orders. Benedict and Scholastica, Francis and Clare, Teresa of Ávila and John of the Cross. Another team included Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac, whose feast day is today. While Vincent founded the Vincentians, together he and Louise cofounded the Daughters of Charity. Today, there are 14,000 Daughters of Charity serving the poor all over the world. Commit to improving gender relations in your daily interactions. When woman and men feel free to make their unique contributions, great things can happen. TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54 (244).* "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe."

Tuesday, Mar 16 LENTEN WEEKDAY Healing water everywhere

The custom of dipping a finger into holy water and making the sign of the cross upon entering a church serves to remind us of our Baptism, whereby we first entered the Catholic Church. But the waters of Baptism do much more, altering our metaphysical makeup in a profound way. Christians adopted the ritual from John the Baptist, but the practice has even more ancient roots. It's tied to the Jewish use of *mikvahs*, purifying pools—including those mentioned in the Bible, like Bethesda and Siloam—that believers visited to cleanse themselves of sickness and sin. Let your own bathing rituals remind you of your baptismal promises. TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16 (245).* "They shall be watered by the flow from the sanctuary."

Wednesday, Mar 17 OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF PATRICK, BISHOP, MISSIONARY Offer an Irish-inspired blessing

As the church and the Irish, and all who are "Irish for the day," celebrate the feast of Saint Patrick, let's also celebrate what we know of this remarkable fifth-century saint who brought the message of Christ to Ireland. Patrick writes in his *Confession* of his homeland (Roman Britain), his youthful captivity by pirates, his conversion, and his deepening desire to proclaim God's presence. There is no mention of snakes or shamrocks, but there is strong testament to Patrick's missionary zeal: "That is why I cannot be silent . . . about such great blessings and such a gift that the Lord so kindly bestowed in the land of my captivity." Look for God's presence in this day and share your own good news. TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30 (246).* "I cannot do anything on my own; . . . because I do not seek my own will but the will of the one who sent me."

Thurs, Mar 18 MEMORIAL OF CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Explore the roots of your faith

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem was a scholar and catechist at heart, but he spent years embroiled in the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. He spent 16 of his 35 years as Jerusalem's archbishop in exile over Arianism and political wrangling. Although he died in 386, it took until 1882 for him to be declared a doctor of the church for his significant theological contributions, many written for adults joining the church. In keeping with Saint Cyril's dedication to catechesis, devote some time today to learning more about your faith. TODAY'S READINGS: *Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47 (247).* "The works that the Father gave me to accomplish . . . testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me."

Friday, Mar 19 SOLEMNITY OF JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

Try a little tenderness When God's plans collided with his, Joseph attended to a calling beyond the law or custom of his day. He must have felt angry, betrayed, confused. But he also knew something greater was at stake than simply following rigid Mosaic code, which would have demanded stoning a woman found to be "with child" before marriage. Instead, he trusted Mary and trusted the dream that brought him angelic counsel. As Pope Francis said in his homily on this feast day in 2013, "in [Joseph's] heart we see great tenderness, which is not the virtue of the weak but rather a sign of strength." Practice tenderness—the sign of a strong heart! TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Luke 2:41-51a (543).* "He did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."

Saturday, Mar 20 LENTEN WEEKDAY Lie low to be raised high

In 1812, six young women joined to devote their lives to providing care and education for Catholic families living in Kentucky. Nineteen-year-old Catherine Spaulding from Maryland was chosen to lead the group that became the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth (S.C.N.). Mother Catherine guided the congregation for 45 years, until her death on March 20, 1858. Today 550 S.C.N. sisters serve in 20 states and four foreign countries. Find your own quiet path of humility so that you, too, can be exalted. TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53 (249).* "Never before has anyone spoken like this man."



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