

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service



Celebration of the Eucharist

Weekday: (Mon through Fri) 9:00am

Saturday: 5:00pm,

Sunday - 8:00am, 10:00am & 12 noon

Confessions:

Saturday - 4:00-4:45 PM in the Church



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Holy Angels Regional Catholic School

Patchogue, NY 631-475-0422
Jeannine Stewart, Principal

February 13, 2022

Phone: (631) 732-3131

Parish Office

Monday through Thursday ~ 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday ~ 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

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It's clear that the apostles were at their lowest point when Jesus was crucified. Jesus had already predicted that they would scatter (cf. Jn 16:32) and that is what happened – all but John who remained at the foot of the Cross. (cf. Jn 19:26) Not knowing if this was the end for them also, the majority of the men Jesus called to His side at the beginning of the public ministry fled in fear. It wouldn't be until the Resurrection of the Lord that the fear would dissipate for these closest associates of Jesus.

The Acts of the Apostles is our guide to just how changed these men had become. In chapter after chapter and verse after verse of this New Testament book, we see that a new confidence had taken hold of these men. They had now become bold witnesses, unafraid to go anywhere and tell anyone that the Lord had been raised from the dead in glory. The Resurrection had not just changed the Lord; it changed the fishermen who had left their nets behind and would now commence another kind of catching.

The source of this transformation of course was the Holy Spirit and the apostles had been tutored about this Person of the Blessed Trinity at the Last Supper. In the upper room on the night before His death, Jesus promised to send the Advocate (cf. Jn 16:7) who would convict the apostles about sin, righteousness and condemnation. (cf. Jn 16:8) Without going into a long catechesis on how we understand sin, righteousness and condemnation right here and now, I want to focus on the apostles being *convicted*.

To *convict* is to make one certain of what he believes, to strengthen what he regards as true. Until that occurs, you can be ambivalent or conflicted or doubtful. These are internal conditions which ordinarily must be overcome before you can put your faith into action. When you find yourself in a state of ambivalence or conflict or doubt, you can appeal yourself for the Holy Spirit's help to be convicted or you can avail yourself of someone else's counsel.

As we know with the apostle Thomas, doubt has a role to play in faith. After being doubtful for a time, you can emerge from this state with an extraordinarily deep faith. Prayer may have helped you to resolve the doubt and you do not return to this uncertain, anxious state again. But, then again, doubt can prevail for a long period and you remain unable to make a decision.

Those who counsel the doubtful are making use of an aptitude or habit. As with other aptitudes or habits, counsel may have been there at the beginning or it may have been acquired somewhere along the line – usually through prayer and a rich interior life. In any event, we should resist the inclination to think of it primarily as a technique. Techniques are helpful, but counsel is a gift which comes from living a Spirit-led life in the first place. The Spirit is given to lead us to all truth. (cf. Jn 16:13) A not insignificant factor in making discoveries of the truth is the aptitude to evaluate wisely.

To those who have received this *charism* to evaluate wisely, they should not hide the gift. At the same time, neither should they go around broadcasting the fact like some soothsayer might. In friendship, the gift of counsel reveals itself in a matter of fact kind of way. Become a good friend of Christ and counsel will show itself readily enough so that you can help yourself and others.

To those who need counsel from someone else, they ought not to put off asking for this assistance. Be discerning in choosing the person you think can offer wise counsel and admit to him or her that you require help in clarifying a situation or an issue. It is only by getting rid of the yoke of fear that we can do great things for the Lord.

O Lord, grant me good counsel to serve you well!

Msgr. Batule
Pastor

Becoming a Catholic Christian & Completing your Confirmation ~ RCIA

Do you know a friend or family member who has expressed a desire to learn more about the Catholic faith? Is there someone who has mentioned to you that they are thinking about becoming a Catholic and does not know how to proceed? Are **you** someone who is reading this yourself and would like to learn more about the Catholic faith?

If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes," then you are invited to continue your exploration with the members of our RCIA team. RCIA stands for ***Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults***.

The first stage is called "Inquiry," a time to ask questions and receive answers without any pressure to make a decision. The goal is to help adults move toward a commitment to the Lord and full participation in the Catholic community at their pace. It is meant specifically for adults who are seeking Baptism, or those who have been baptized but have not received **Confirmation or Eucharist**. For more information, please call the Parish Center (631-732-3131 x 133).



Give from the heart

February is American Heart Month.

**DONATIONS
SAVE LIVES**



BLOOD DRIVE

In Memory of Richard Beauchamp

St. Margaret of Scotland

Wednesday, February 23

3:00pm – 7:30pm

81 College Rd., Selden – Auditorium

All donors will receive a McDonald's voucher!



Appointments are strongly preferred- Scan the QR code above or call 1-800-933-2566/ visit www.nybc.org

Any further questions contact Kristen at KReutter@nybc.org

Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Masks are required for all donors regardless of vaccination status. Visit nybc.org/coronavirus for complete COVID-19 safety protocols.



800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org     [#nybloodcenter](https://www.instagram.com/nybloodcenter)

Ash Wednesday ~March 2nd

In less than a month, we start the Lenten Season. We begin with Ash Wednesday of course. Please see the schedule below for when ashes will be distributed.

7:30 AM	Prayer Service
9:00 AM	Mass
4:00 PM	Prayer Service
7:30 PM	Mass



As part of our observance of Lent this year, there will be Stations of the Cross on Friday nights at 7:00 PM in the church.

There will also be an addition of more time during the week to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. On the Wednesdays of Lent, there will be a priest available in the church from 3:00 – 4:00 PM for parishioners to go to confession.

As we have done before, there will be time in the Lenten season for Exposition and Adoration and Benediction on a weekday evening. Watch the bulletin for the date and time.

Further down the road, in the Easter Season, we will have a May Crowning of the Blessed Mother on Sunday, May 8th following the 12 noon Mass.

And in June, on the 19th, when the Church marks the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, there will be a Procession with the Blessed Sacrament following the 12 noon Mass.

Next week, I will offer some recommendations for making Lent this year a spiritually fruitful observance.

Msgr. Batule
Pastor

The 2022 Mass Book is open for you to have family members and friends remembered at the divine liturgy Monday through Friday at 9:00 AM and at all the weekend Masses. Please consider reserving a Mass intention for a deceased relative or friend at some point this year. Anniversaries of birth and death are common dates to choose. It is a most salutary gesture for it expresses a desire that we live with the Lord for all eternity. The parish center office is where you can arrange for Mass intentions during the week (Monday to Thursday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM).



Heart of the Island Council- Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a membership organization founded by Fr. McGivney in 1882 on the principles of Charity, Unity & Fraternity. The members of our local council serve in many ministries of the Church. Prospective members call Tom Piderit at 917-365-7546. .



Sunday, Feb 13, 2022 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **Courage under fire**

They called him the "Scourge of Apartheid" and "Guardian of the Light." Was he a Marvel superhero? Would you believe an archbishop? An Oblate of Mary Immaculate, Denis Hurley of Durban (1915-2004) opposed the racist regime of South Africa for 50 years, calling it "blasphemy" and "intrinsically evil" as first the world's youngest bishop and later as the youngest archbishop. Hurley joined Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and three others on the South African government's "most wanted" list. Standing up for the truth may put us on a hit list. It also makes us blessed in God's eyes. TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 17:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26 (78).* "*Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, . . . on account of the Son of Man.*"

Monday, Feb 14 MEMORIAL OF CYRIL, MONK, AND METHODIUS, BISHOP **Courting faith**

Today may be the feast day of Saint Valentine, but Saints Cyril and Methodius get higher billing by the church with a memorial today. These brothers who were missionaries shared the love of Christ, not by penning endearing notes to loved ones, but by translating the Bible into a local language. In fact, they invented an alphabet so they could do it! The best way to reach people is to meet them where they are. If someone is in a different place on their spiritual journey, do you insist they "catch up" to you? Or do you run up to greet them and speak of God's love in terms they understand? Maybe you'll end up walking arm in arm in the same direction. TODAY'S READINGS: *James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13 (335).* "*The Pharisees came forward and began to argue with Jesus, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him.*"

Tuesday, Feb 15 **Faith and facts fit together**

Galileo, father of the scientific method, was born on this day in 1564. Famously, the Catholic Inquisition condemned him for insisting the Earth revolved around the sun—an unpopular position made twice as controversial for seeming to defy the pope. Ever since, Galileo remains the poster child for "faith versus reason," which feeds the unjustified stereotype that Catholicism is "anti-science." It's not. In fact, practicing Catholics, including priests and nuns, are found among notable scientists, past and present. And when Pope John Paul II issued an official apology in 1992, it came through the Pontifical Academy of Science. Time to unite spirit and intellect to help us understand the glories and challenges God's creation presents to us. TODAY'S READINGS: *James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21 (336).* "*All good giving and every perfect gift is from above.*"

Wednesday, Feb 16 **"Holy Spirit, come"**

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal has helped reinvigorate the faith and refreshed the experience of worship for diverse pockets of churchgoers. Beginning with the 1967 Duquesne Weekend—a meeting in Pittsburgh at an Episcopalian prayer service, where a group of Catholics encountered the "charismatic gifts" of speaking in tongues, miraculous healing, and other supernatural occurrences—Catholics across the country and eventually around the world began to experience a similar sense of renewal and ecumenical connection. Though the gifts of the Spirit are available to all, not everyone will experience them in the same way. What is essential is to be open to the Holy Spirit at all times. TODAY'S READINGS: *James 1:19-27; Mark 8:22-26 (337).* "*He laid hands on the man's eyes a second time and he saw clearly.*"

Thursday, Feb 17 MEMORIAL OF THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER, RELIGIOUS

God calls us each by name

Today the church honors the seven men who founded the Servite religious order in Italy nearly 800 years ago. The Servites have branches for every type of Catholic vocation: laity, priests, brothers, contemplative nuns, and active (apostolic) sisters. This international religious institute is nearly 800 years old, with rich traditions of prayer and service. If you are single and seeking your path, have you considered life as a consecrated brother, sister, or priest? VocationMatch.com is a good place to begin your exploration. TODAY'S READINGS: *James 2:1-9; Mark 8:27-33 (338).* "*'But who do you say that I am?' Peter said to him in reply, 'You are the Christ.'*"

Friday, Feb 18 **Cross-culture conflicts**

The concept of "taking up one's cross" has never been an easy one to understand. It does not mean to suffer in silence and passively accept our fate. When we "take up our cross," we signal our willingness to suffer for the sake of good, to give witness to what is right, to announce charity where there is greed, love where there is hate, and peace where there is war. Blessed Titus Brandsma, a Carmelite priest who was martyred in Dachau after speaking out against Nazism, wrote, "They who want to win the world for Christ must have the courage to come into conflict with it." TODAY'S READINGS: *James 2:14-24, 26; Mark 8:34—9:1 (339).* "*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.*"

Saturday, Feb 19 **OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Let your prayer shine**

The Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary traditionally contained three sets of mysteries—the Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious—each set reflecting on five events in the life of Jesus and Mary. In 2002 Pope Saint John Paul II introduced a fourth set, the Luminous Mysteries, which included the Baptism of the Lord, the Wedding at Cana, the Proclamation of the Kingdom, the Transfiguration, and the Institution of the Eucharist. Each of these additional mysteries reveals a facet of the identity of the Lord. Saint Irenaeus wrote of the Transfiguration: "The glory of God is a live human being and a truly human life is the vision of God." Take time to know Jesus better by praying the Luminous Mysteries. TODAY'S READINGS: *James 3:1-10; Mark 9:2-13 (340).* "*And he was transfigured before them.*"



Upcoming Bereavement Support Program Offered at St. Mary, East Islip

Eight Week Group beginning Tuesday, March 15, at 7pm

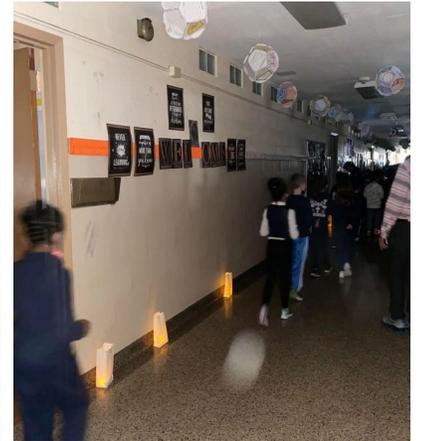
Support Groups are opened to anyone who has suffered a loss at **least three months prior** to the start of the group. Loss must have occurred prior to Dec 15, 2021. There is no cost but a commitment to attend each meeting throughout the program is required. Groups are offered in a closed and confidential setting with highly trained facilitators and limited to 13 people. All Covid CDC guidelines will be properly adhered.

Pre-registration is required Call 631-581-4266 ext. 125 to register



Holy Angels Regional School *Open Registration Pre-K to 8th Grade.*

Contact us to schedule a tour 631-475-0422 -
1 Division St., Patchogue –JEANNINE STEWART, Principal



The students had a wonderful Catholic Schools Week. A few highlights: They enjoyed fun moments with each other with the Brain Challenge game show and dressing up as they dreamed of their future vocations. They concluded the week with an absolutely beautiful luminary prayer walk. Overall, it was a wonderful week making memories together and recognizing why it is so special to be a student at Holy Angels.

Hands Needed!

Our Music Ministry is in need of someone to assist in placing the words on our screen during Mass. All that is required is clicking the next screen with one button. Please see Dan, our Music Minister, after Mass or call at 631-732-3131 x117. Prayerfully consider.



Parish Outreach



PLEASE bring all donations to the front door of the Parish Center during office hours or bring to the box in the rear of the Church.

We are in need of: Shampoo, Bars of Soap & Toothpaste

A very special THANK YOU to all!

Diocesan COVID Update:

“The Governor of New York State has included houses of worship in her recent directives. Therefore, since the Church does not require parishioners to present proof of vaccination in order to worship God, we ask that all parishioners (two years of age and older) comply with the requirement to wear masks when participating in any activities on parish grounds. This State requirement is currently in effect. We will continue to adapt accordingly as new information becomes available. Your patience and Christian charity towards one another during this difficult time is appreciated.”