

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

or by appointment.

Pastoral Staff

Msgr. Robert Batule - *Pastor* x111

Rev. Patrick Abu-Bonsra - Parochial Vicar
x116 pabubonsra@saintmargaret.com

Deacons - Dcn Ed Hayes x0

Retired: Dcn William Kogler,
Dcn Biagio Muratore

Parish Center Office – Receptionist x0

Julie Burtoff, Admin Assistant x133
jburtoff@saintmargaret.com

Faith Formation Office

Jackie Mirenda, Coordinator x131
jmirenda@saintmargaret.com

Music Ministry

Dr. Daniel Crews, Director x117
dcrews@saintmargaret.com

Parish Outreach

Outreach@saintmargaret.com x119

Holy Angels Regional Catholic School

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



September 4, 2022

Phone: (631) 732-3131

Parish Office

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

Friday ~ 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Fax (631) 732 - 8827

www.saintmargaret.com

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813

Tomorrow, we mark Labor Day. While we are getting ready to finish up vacations, return to school and end temporary schedules, I take this opportunity to summarize a few important pastoral matters for which I ask your cooperation and support going forward.

The Eucharistic Revival: Back in June, the Church in the United States initiated a three-year period of focus on the Holy Eucharist. Let me say first that this revival is urgently needed. For a long time now, Mass attendance has been falling – to such an extent now only about 10% of Catholics go to church weekly. The reasons for this are numerous and over the course of the next three years, there will be opportunities to address these factors which have caused fewer and fewer Catholics to worship regularly and share in the grace-filled celebration of the Lord's Paschal Mystery. For we must start with the fact that we are in a lot of trouble, and we must do something about the precipitous decline we are in. This is not just one pastor saying this but **all** the Bishops of our Church in **all** fifty states.

We need to call Catholics back to the active practice of their faith, we need to reassure Catholics who are wavering in their faith and begin to re-build a culture of church-going. We are going to set about doing this with preaching on the Mass, catechesis on the Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. On the last point, Eucharistic Adoration, we have already been doing this at various intervals since the autumn of last year. This will continue in our parochial schedule, and as always, we ask you to participate when you are able.

The preaching on the Mass will occur on the **fourth weekend every month**. The catechesis will be offered in our fall **faith enrichment** evenings. Please follow announcements in the weekly bulletin for more information.

Faith Formation: Also known as Religious Education, it too will reflect the Eucharistic orientation which we are making a priority in our parish now. To accomplish this important goal, we are asking our parents to attend with their children on Sunday mornings brief catechetical sessions called **Twenty Minutes with the Director/Pastor** before the 10:00 AM Mass. To love the Eucharist, we must be at it. We cannot love what we do not know.

More will be said on this topic as we move along. For now, I will only say that Sunday is the Lord's Day and we mark the renewal of ourselves – body, soul and spirit – with an immersion in the salvific act of Jesus' dying and rising for **our eternal life**.

Faith Enrichment Evenings: Five of them will be offered on **Monday nights** starting later this month and continuing in October. These sessions are intended primarily for catechists who are working with the children enrolled in our program of religious instruction. We want to assist our catechists in their apostolate, but the offerings are open to **all parishioners** who want to learn more about their faith. Again, see the weekly bulletin for more details.

Not related *per se* to the Eucharistic Revival we are undertaking but still related to the Mass are the training sessions for new **Altar Servers** which commence on Tuesday, September 13th and will continue into October (**five sessions – all of them beginning at 5:00 PM**).

Evening of Recollection: Right around the corner is the annual Evening of Recollection for lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. It starts in church on **Wednesday night, the 7th of September, at 7:00 PM. Following the Holy Hour in the church, there will be a meeting in the parish center.** It will be concluded by 9:00 PM.

Msgr. Batule
Pastor

Catholic University of America Collection

Next weekend, the diocese will be taking up the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Catholic University is a national research university with over 5,700 undergraduate and graduate students in more than 250 academic programs in the heart of Washington, D.C. By giving to the collection, you are supporting both future Catholic leaders, religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, Faith-inspired education and the University's various research and training initiatives that support dioceses and parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of their faithful. The Catholic Project - an initiative that brings together clergy and laity to address the challenges that the Catholic Church faces in the U.S. contributing education, formation, research, events, and media, a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management, and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers are a few examples how the University is serving the Church and nation. Please give generously. Support the collection at: futurecatholicleaders.igivecatholictogether.org.

St. Margaret's Bereavement Ministry



"Who we have once enjoyed and deeply loved, we can never lose, for all that we love deeply becomes a part of us." ~ Helen Keller

You need not travel this journey alone...

If you are 4 to 6 months or more past the loss of your loved one, consider joining with others who are on the same pilgrimage to hope, acceptance and a new life.

Meetings will be held in the Parish Center beginning on **Thursday, September 22nd with a choice of either an 11 AM or 2 PM session.**

For more information please contact Barbara Gottfried at (631) 698-6053, prior to this date.



Dear Friends:

The Diocese of Rockville Centre has an extraordinary history of providing help and support to hundreds of thousands of people every year. More than forty unique programs and ministries receive funding because of generous parishioners like you – who make a gift each year to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. These programs help us to live our faith, as well as improve the lives of our neighbors. I pray that I can count on you to make a gift once again this year.

The Appeal helps our diocesan community feed the hungry, educate our children, provide adequate shelter for senior citizens and disadvantaged families, address the spiritual needs of people from many diverse ethnic backgrounds, and support the needs within each parish. It is truly a Long Island effort that allows us to come together *As One Family in Mission*.

Your gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal help to build a community of Faith by supporting the education of our seminarians as they prepare to become priests in our diocese. Meet Seminarian Hurley Mendez.



"I feel very blessed to be able to answer my call in the Diocese of Rockville Center. The CMA has supported me by providing the necessary resources to access formation programs where I can receive the knowledge and skills to experience and encounter Christ and serve and support the needs of our Diocese. I thank all those who join this noble campaign because they help not only in the formation of seminarians but also in programs that support the most vulnerable, giving fruits of charity and love, and thus, promote the mission of saving all the People of God."

"As a seminarian, my call is to mold my heart to the heart of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who gave His life for his sheep. To be a seminarian is to be a friend of Christ and follow His Footsteps, carry on what He began, and spread it in every place, always, and to the entire world."

It is only through your generous support, that we will be able to serve all of God's people here on Long Island.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

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Please make checks payable to **Catholic Ministries Appeal**.

Parish _____ Total Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____ Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

From the Pastor's Desk

If you are an adult who has considered **becoming a Catholic** or know of an adult who wants to become a Catholic, please keep in mind that we accept candidates for conversion. The traditional starting time for those who are interested in becoming a Catholic is the early autumn as the school years opens.

Let us know of your interest by calling the parish center at your earliest convenience.

Adult Catholics who never celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation and wish to do so are asked to notify us. A few months ago, we had a group of adult Catholics celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on the Solemnity of Pentecost (June 5th).

We plan on doing the same for 2023. Following Easter in the next calendar year, the group will begin meeting to receive catechesis.

Kindly advise us if you want to join us. Please call on the phone or come in person to the parish center.

**The Parish Center will be closed on
Monday, September 5th
for Labor Day.**

Altar Servers Training

Training will begin on Tuesday, September 13th and will continue into October (**five sessions – all of them beginning at 5:00 PM**).



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

For your personal adoration and prayers.



FIRST THURSDAYS

OCT. 6TH, NOV. 3RD, DEC. 1ST

3:00 - 6:00 PM in the Church

Filipino Mass

St. Margaret of Scotland Church

*Come join to sing and praise!
Sunday, September 11th*

Rosary ~ 2:00 PM

Mass ~ 2:30 PM



Faith Formation

Registration ~ September 2022

Please mail or drop off your registration at the Parish Center for placement.

Are you new to the Parish? You may email Jackie at jmirenda@saintmargaret.com or x131 with any concerns or questions.



Faith Formation ORIENTATION DATES

LEVEL 1 – Monday, Sept. 12 at 6:00 pm

LEVEL 2 – Monday, Sept. 19 at 6:00 pm

LEVEL 3 - Tuesday, Sept. 13 at 6:00 pm

LEVEL 4 & 5 —Tuesday, Sept. 20 at 6:00 pm

LEVEL 6—Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 6:30 pm

LEVEL 7—Thursday, Sept. 15 at 6:30 pm

LEVEL 8—Thursday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 pm

Catechists Needed!

Who will share the Faith with our youngest parishioners?

We have youngsters in need of a Catechist. Help prepare our youth for the future by sharing your Faith with them once a month. Contact the Faith Formation Office for information at 631-732-3131 x131 or jmirenda@saintmargaret.com

Sunday, Sep 04, 2022**Value life above all**

What does it mean to renounce possessions? Monastic tradition recognizes that even owning a spoon is spiritually dangerous if the spoon possesses us back. Most of us own far more than utensils. We might consider the example of Lutheran humanitarian Dr. Albert Schweitzer. He wasn't a perfect man nor a flawless theologian. Schweitzer got a lot wrong about his medical mission in Africa. But he got one thing very right: Reverence for life is paramount, and society's resources should serve life as its primary ethical foundation. Place your worldly treasure at the service of life.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 9:13-18b; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33 (129). *"Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."*

Monday, Sep 05, 2022**Home is where the charity is**

Today's commemoration of International Day of Charity got its start in Hungary to memorialize the death of Saint Mother Teresa (who died in 1997); the United Nations took it worldwide in 2012. The Missionaries of Charity, the order Mother Teresa founded with 12 members in 1950, continue her legacy by serving the "poorest of the poor." Now in 139 countries, the more than 5,000 sisters run orphanages and homes for those dying of AIDS, and care for refugees, the blind, disabled, aged, alcoholics, the poor and homeless, and victims of floods, epidemics, and famine. Despite the breadth of these efforts, Mother Teresa always said, "Love begins at home." Start your charitable activity there and watch where it takes you.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Luke 6:6-11 (437). *"I ask you, is it lawful to do good on the sabbath rather than to do evil, to save life rather than to destroy it?"*

Tuesday, Sep 06, 2022**Let the children come**

With Labor Day ending the summer, today is the first day of classes for millions of U.S. schoolchildren. Christian fantasy writer Madeleine L'Engle—who died on this day in 2007—once made a keen observation, which is helpful as children's faith formation classes begin anew: "No wonder our youth [are] confused and in pain; they long for God, for the transcendent, and they are offered, far too often, either piety or sociology, neither of which meets their needs." They encounter churches "which have become buildings that are a safe place to go to escape the awful [awesome] demands of God." Pray for parish religious ed programs today.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11; Luke 6:12-19 (438). *"Everyone in the crowd sought to touch him."*

Wednesday, Sep 07, 2022**Honor those who preserved the treasure**

On this day in 1303, Pope Boniface VIII was attacked in his hometown of Anagni, Italy, where he was sought out for his refusal to grant favors to the French monarchy. He briefly escaped with the help of the townsfolk, but died three weeks later in Rome, refusing to back down in the face of the monarch's attempts to

control the church. Pray for all those who have faced persecution and even death so that we could worship freely and without fear.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Luke 6:20-26 (439).

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man."

Thursday, Sep 08, 2022**Born free**

Catholics have dozens of ways to honor Mary, and today's celebration of her birth fits into that larger picture of love and reverence. Today's date is nine months after the December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception and is also meant to celebrate Mary's sinless condition from her very beginning. Today's feast day tends to fly below the radar in the U.S. church, but in Mangalore, India, Catholics hold flower-festooned processions, pray novenas, and prepare festive meals. It's a good day anywhere to consider Mary's radical embrace of her calling and ask her help to do the same in our lives.

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF MARY

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 (636). *"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."*

Friday, Sep 09, 2022**Check for blind spots**

Saint Peter Claver, S.J. (1580-1654) spent most of his life in Cartagena, Columbia ministering to enslaved people arriving at the ports. He left a lasting legacy that inspired the formation of the Knights of Peter Claver, the largest African-American Catholic fraternal order in the United States; the Apostles of the Sea, who continue to minister to seafarers around the world; and the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver, who serve the poor, particularly in Africa. However, like any of us—even saints—Peter had his blind spots. Though he worked tirelessly to serve those arriving in shackles, he himself enslaved people. Many Catholics at the time spoke out against slavery; Peter did not, nor did the majority of the Catholic hierarchy. Enlightenment takes time. Like Peter Claver, show compassion as you strive for clearer vision.

MEMORIAL OF PETER CLAVER, JESUIT PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27; Luke 6:39-42 (441). *"Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?"*

Saturday, Sep 10, 2022**Help the pain**

Since 2003, World Suicide Prevention Day has been observed by dozens of countries. Hosted by the International Association for Suicide Prevention, the World Federation for Mental Health, and the World Health Organization, today is marked by activities designed to make people aware of the human cost of suicide and the means of prevention. For instance, by some estimates, 22 American service veterans take their own lives every day. We've got to do everything in our power to help these souls who have been so damaged by the horror of war. Check with your local VA to see how you can help.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Luke 6:43-49 (442).

"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' but not do what I command?"

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



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Parish Outreach

Food Pantry Needs

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: Rice Meals, Instant Potatoes, Gravy Packets, White Bread, Jars of Juice, Hearty Soups, Crackers, Shelf Stable Milk, Laundry Detergent
*A very special **THANK YOU** to all!*



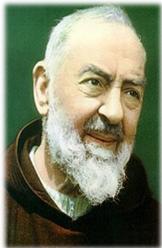
October Bloomin' 4 Good Program



Each month, the **Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program** selects a nonprofit organization local to each store to benefit from the sale of **specialty marked \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good bouquets**.

For the month of October 2022, St. Margaret of Scotland Food Pantry is the selected organization...so, plant some seeds and support the Food Pantry!

Get excited to purchase some gorgeous bouquets at STOP & SHOP ~
425 Portion Rd. in Lake Ronkonkoma.



A Celebration of Saint Padre Pio

Franciscan Friars of the Atonement
in Garrison NY

will be hosting a celebration on

Saturday, Sept. 24th ~ 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Mass in Italian at 11:00 am in Our Lady of Atonement Chapel followed by the Blessing of our new statue of St. Padre Pio.

There is time to explore the grounds, Stations of the Cross, and light candles.

Picnic grounds and tables available for your food or use our food trucks. Religious store on site.

For info email Deacon Tom Rich at trich@atonementfriars.org



Preparation for
**Total Consecration
to Jesus
through Mary**

according to St. Louis Marie de Montfort

This 33-Day Preparation for Total Consecration according to St. Louis Marie de Montfort is a personal devotion in which one prepares spiritually to become consecrated to Jesus through Mary. Participants spend 33 days prior to the Consecration preparing interiorly using brief spiritual readings, prayer, and reflection.

Weekly preparation classes are being offered by Regina Cordium Praesidium/Legion of Mary, using guided videos from **Fr. Hugh Gillespie, SMM**. This 5-week series will be held at the Montfort Spiritual Center in Bay Shore at 7pm beginning **Sept. 4th**. There is a \$20 supply fee.

For info or to register, call Lori at **631-678-6258**.

You Can Help Heal Your Marriage!

RETRouvaille
A LIFE LINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

**Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other?
Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other?
Does talking about it only make it worse?**

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples worldwide experiencing ALL TYPES of marital difficulties. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend-**NOVEMBER 4th- 6th**, **please call 1-800-470-2230** and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help. ~ **website www.helpourmarriage.org**.
Couples of all faiths, or no faith, are encouraged to attend. No one is turned away for lack of funds.