

# ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

*Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service*



## ***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

## ***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.



## ***Second Sunday of Advent***

## ***Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception***

December 8<sup>th</sup>

Mass ~ 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM

*Holy Day of Obligation*



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## **December 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](http://www.saintmargaret.com)

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813



At Mass this weekend, we are presented with Saint John the Baptist who is the precursor of the Lord. There are a couple of things we learn about him from the gospel which is proclaimed for us today. First, he wore clothing “made of camel’s hair.” (Matt 3:4) It wasn’t exactly a fashion statement, believe me. His words were not exactly warm and inviting. He called the Pharisees and Sadducees a “brood of vipers!” (Matt 3:7) when they came to him for baptism. Even his diet of locusts and wild honey (cf. Matt 3:4) was too much for his contemporaries.

We are left to inquire, who would want to listen to such a fellow? It turns out not a few people. The evangelist tells us in his text that the “whole region around the Jordan were going out to him . . . as they acknowledged their sins.” (Matt 3:5)

Yes, acknowledging their sins. While Advent is not only about sin, there is no way of getting around the stubborn truth that sin does hold us back. It holds us back from recognizing the One Whom John heralded at the Jordan. For his was a baptism there of repentance. (cf. Matt 3:11)

As we make our way through the Advent season, we are waiting for the arrival of our Infant Savior. We pay attention to Saint John the Baptist because he knew of which he spoke. He was unafraid to say, for example, “the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.” (Matt 3:11) And if John was not worthy to carry the sandals of the one coming after him (cf. Matt 3:11), what does that say about us?

It says that we are sinners. And to be free of our sins, we have need of someone who will prod our consciences and be that catalyst who spurs us to ask God for His forgiveness. We need Saint John the Baptist therefore as much as his first century peers did. We have to hear the words spoken long ago by the Lord’s cousin: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” (Matt 3:2) We are better for hearing these words. And blessed will we be for acting on them!

Don’t miss our celebration of the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. It is a Holy Day of Obligation.** Masses are at 9:00 AM and at 7:00 PM.

Two weeks from the Second Sunday of Advent (on **December 18<sup>th</sup>**) is our annual **Lessons and Carols** at 4:00 PM in the church. All are cordially invited to join us. Kindly make the effort to be with us, and then join us immediately afterwards for a reception in the auditorium.

I ask you to place on your calendar the following dates for 2023: February 27, March 6, March 13, March 20, and March 27. Our chief Lenten practice next year will focus on the Holy Eucharist and the foregoing dates will give us an opportunity to deepen the **Eucharistic Revival** occurring in our midst. We will gather on Monday nights during Lent to reflect on the following themes: **The Eucharist in the First Thousand Years, The Eucharist in the Second Thousand Years, The Eucharist in Literature and Music, The Eucharist in Art and Architecture and The Eucharist in the Post-Conciliar Period.** Succeeding bulletins will offer more details. Stay tuned.

Remember that Saint Margaret offers periods of **Eucharistic Adoration** regularly throughout the year. On the First Thursday of the month in the afternoon beginning at 3:00 PM and seasonally (Advent, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time) in the evening starting at 7:00 PM. Join us to pray in the Presence of Christ Who sustains us in all the days and seasons of our lives.

As we continue to make our way through Advent, I invite you to give consideration to the **Sacrament of Penance**. Advent is an especially appropriate time to go to confession. Recall that a priest is available to celebrate the sacrament with you on Saturday afternoons at the 4:00 o’clock hour. It is a good way to prepare for Christmas and experience the grace and mercy of the Lord. Even if your sacramental confession is not in immediate preparation for Christmas, **confessions of devotion** are always salutary and good for the soul.

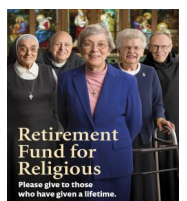
Continue to observe the holy season of Advent with prayer and the works of mercy.

Msgr. Batule  
Pastor



## Retired Religious

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, “I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our Faith” Show your thanks for the prayerful service of the elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Your gift next weekend provides care, medicine and more. Please be generous.



## Parish Social Ministry

### CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

*St. Margaret's Outreach is asking for donations of **NEW** toys for children & teens in need this Christmas Season.*



**Please keep in mind we can always use**

**NEW Socks, Underwear, Hats, Gloves & Scarves!**

*Nail Polish Sets*

*Board Games*

*Pajama Pants*

*Books/Toys*

*New Kids' Blankets*

*Art / Craft Supplies*

*Bath & Body Works*

*Educational Games*

*\$10 / \$25 Walmart or Target Gift Cards*

*Fast Food Gift Cards for Teens*

*Men/Women Size Clothing for Teens*

*PLEASE BRING UNWAPPED TO PARISH CENTER BY DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>. THANK YOU!*

### Thanksgiving Thank You!

We are grateful to all those who donated to our parish needs during this season.

Brookhaven Lions Club

Legislator Nick Caracappa's Office

Selden Fire Department

Country Village Estates

Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Div. 8/9

Newfield High School



*Thank you to all who donated their time, talents, food, gift cards and smiles! Our Outreach Community is thankful to you all.*



### Oplatek – A Polish Christmas Tradition

One of the highlights of Christmas festivities in Poland is the Oplatek (pronounced "o-PWAA-tek"). The Oplatek is a decorated Christmas wafer, similar to a large white host. Each person receives one, and then invites the others gathered to break a piece off and eat it. While they are breaking one another's oplatek, people exchange wishes for a blessed Christmas and good health and prosperity. After all those present have broken and shared the Oplatek, good food and Christmas car-ols (in Polish and English) are enjoyed.



This year, members of our Polish community will gather for a traditional Oplatek celebration, and they invite all parishioners to join them in this beautiful tradition.

We will meet in the auditorium on Saturday, **December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.** If you would like to come, we ask you to do few things: (1) number of people coming & (2) plan on bringing a traditional Christmas dish that can be shared at the potluck meal, (3) consider a monetary donation (\$25 per family) to cover the costs and church offering. Since arrangements take time, we ask that you call or email by December 4<sup>th</sup>. Call the Parish Center at 631-732-3131 x133 or Henryk Chelminski at 631-693-9310. Email: [HENRYKCHEL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HENRYKCHEL@GMAIL.COM).

### Congratulations Honor Roll Students

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

***St. Anthony's High School, Huntington***

Nelson Beausoleil, Tiffany Bosch, Valerie Bosch, Sarah Breuer, Caily Ging, Cassandra Hussey, Sean McMillin, Cameron-Noelle Mendoza, Deanna Miklitsch, Daniel Sawicki, Aelish Symonds, Donovan Symonds & Gabriela Troche

*We commend their efforts to excel!*



### 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.

### Catholic Gifts ~Looking for Catholic gifts and items?

You can visit Our Lady of the Island Shrine, 258 Eastport Manor Rd. in Manorville. They carry a large variety of religious articles. [OURLADYOFTHEISLAND.ORG](http://OURLADYOFTHEISLAND.ORG)



## From the Pastor's Desk

We are in the process of updating our donation records. If you are contributing to the parish using electronic giving and are **not** using donation envelopes sent through the regular mail, please contact the parish office. If you are not using envelopes at all to support the parish, please let us know too. If you are not supporting the parish at all but you do receive envelopes through the regular mail, please let us know as well.

Each month, the envelope company sends envelopes to as many as three times the parishioners who use them. The envelope company in turn charges the parish for all envelopes sent regardless of use or not. We hope to have a much more accurate number of regular envelope users by Christmas time. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

*For your personal adoration and prayers.*

*FIRST THURSDAYS ~ JAN. 5<sup>TH</sup>, FEB. 2<sup>ND</sup>  
3:00 - 6:00 PM in the Church*



### Filipino Mass

St. Margaret of Scotland Church

*Come join to sing and praise!*

***Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>***

Rosary ~ 2:00 PM ~ Mass ~ 2:30 PM

## Faith Formation

### You are Invited to our Christmas Pageant

***Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> ~ 2:00 PM***



The children of Saint Margaret's parish prepare a gift for the Christ Child. They honor His birth by retelling the Christmas story for their family, friends and all of our parishioners.

*Party to follow immediately after Pageant.*

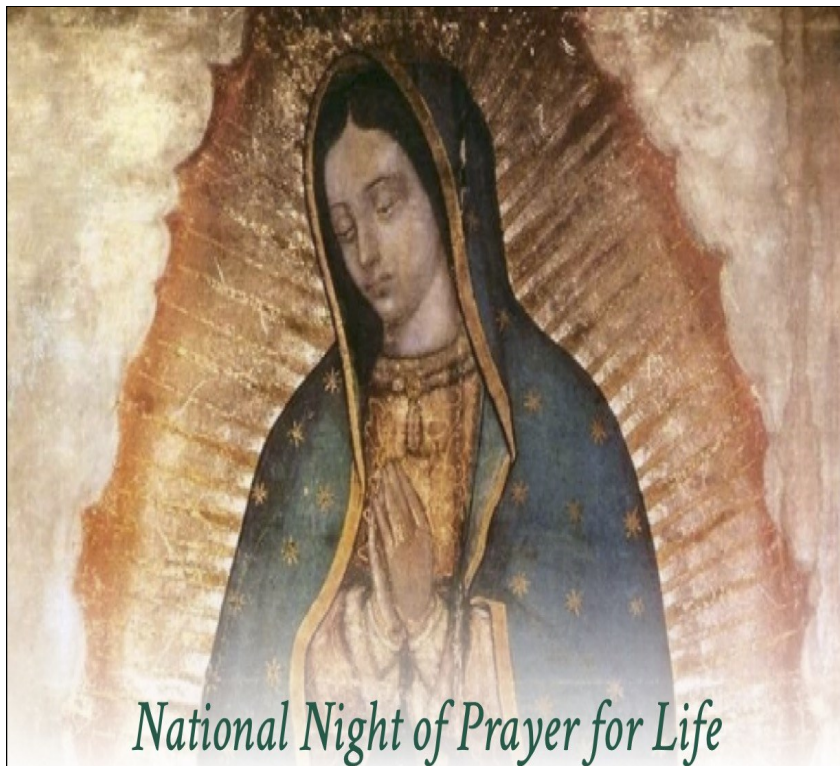


## LESSONS and CAROLS

***Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> ~ 4:00 PM***

*We invite all parishioners to join us. The service consists of biblical readings and hymns as we await the birth of Our Savior.*

*The Music Ministry will lead us in the singing portion of the prayer service. Hospitality will be held immediately following in the auditorium. All are welcome !*



## National Night of Prayer for Life

Diocese of Rockville Centre

Thursday December 8th

9:00 PM - 1:00 AM



WE ASK EACH PARISH TO JOIN IN PRAYING ON THIS HOLY OCCASION.

*We understand that not every parish is equipped to host prayer during those late hours thus you may modify your prayer schedule to be united in prayer at a time that works best for your parish that evening. Please consider having a Holy Hour for life that evening.*

Hour of Unity 12:00 AM - 1:00 AM EST

We will be united in prayer with churches across the country.

### Brief History

On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (then celebrated on December 9th), our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn and of the Americas, first appeared to Juan Diego. The National Night of Prayer for Life bridges these two feasts to honor Our Blessed Mother and to pray for the Lord's mercy and restore life, liberty, faith, and peace.

Sign up: [www.nationalnightofprayerforlife.org](http://www.nationalnightofprayerforlife.org)

The church is open at 8:30 AM Monday through Friday. We encourage parishioners and other church-goers to come early for Mass.

The recitation of the rosary is encouraged among those so inclined.



## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

### CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, December 21

4:00 – 5:00 PM

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Saturday, December 24

10:30 – 11:30 AM

### MASSES

Saturday, December 24

4:00 PM (upper church only)

12:00 AM Midnight

Sunday, December 25

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

### NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Saturday, December 31

5:00 PM

Sunday, January 1

8:00 AM; 10:00 AM; 12:00 PM



## Living Waters Wholistic Healing

*Therapeutic Catholic Counseling dedicated to healing the whole individual with a an integrated approach to the intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual. For more info go to [livingwaterstherapy.org](http://livingwaterstherapy.org).*

# *Advent Wreath to Color*

