

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.

Peace on Earth



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

December 25, 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

[illegible]

Merry Christmas! Throughout all the days of Christmas, share God's love with all those you meet. Spread Christmas joy and Christian love to everyone!

Thank you to all who so generously give to the support of our parish.
You are returning to God what God has so generously given to you.

December 17/ 18

	Stewardship	Envelopes
Collected at Mass	\$6,795	178
Mailed Envelopes	\$3,316	45
Total Collection	\$10,111	223

First Reading.....Nm 6:22-27
Second Reading.....Gal 4: 4 -7
Gospel.....Lk 2: 16 -21

Anthony Pissittier



PARISH MEMBERSHIP: We welcome all new parishioners! We ask them to register at the Parish Center and encourage the use of weekly envelopes. If you are moving, please notify the office.

MARRIAGES: Couples should make arrangements in person at least one year in advance for required interview. At least one of the parties must live within the parish boundaries or be a registered member of the parish. Please call the Parish Center for an appointment. No dates will be set over the telephone.

BAPTISMS: Ideally, prospective parents should call the Parish Center before the expected birth to discuss the arrangements for your baptism. The ceremony is held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Or call for appointment -
x131.

Tues., Thurs. ~ 10 am – 1 pm. Or call for appointment - x119.

Masses for the Week

Monday - December 26th

Joseph Biggica

Tuesday –December 27th

Anthony Pillittier

Wednesday - December 28th

Gloria & Nicholas Ferraro

Thursday - December 29th

Norman Gottfried

Friday - December 30th

Christina Kritzman

Saturday - December 31st

5^{pm}

Michael Pepkowski

Cathleen Piazza

Sunday - January 1st

8 am

Robert G. Aretakis

Leonard Baratta

10 am

Madeline Norelus Pascal

Antonio Surriel

12 pm

All St. Margaret's Parishioners

For all our parishioners suffering from chronic illness, as well as



Jim Rojas, Patricia Fiscina,
Marilyn Vacchio, Margaret Jung,
John Roucoulet, Logan Baar, Joseph
Dulovic, Joseph Laria, Terri Persina,
Estelle Beauchamp, Alyssa Baisch, Eppie
Larke, Jillian Brown, Virginia Butler,
Robert J. Heege, Eric Cohen, Kathleen
Weiss, Lorraine Vogel, Steven Vacchio,
Laura Durant, Joseph De Aguiar, Sal
Restivo, Robert Valletta, Joseph Kiely,
Sharon & Ray Klyn, Warne Family,
Michael C. Liotta, Anne Logan, Christine
Mc Cusker, Dominic Percoco, Gina
Rosenberg, Laura Positano, De Santis
Family, Patricia Wowk, Natasha
Roucoulet, John Reynolds, Scott Spencer,
Babies Aubry & Greyson, Marie & Tony
Caruana, Veronica Sheridan Cox,
Wendiann & Nicholas Alfieri, James &
Catherine Reynolds, Jennifer, John &
Olivia Rose Altieri, Melanie Seibel, Baby
Niko Sais, Christina Muller, & Dina
Rajotte.

Family members, please resubmit names for those who are ill. We will list them for 4 weeks, and then remove them unless told otherwise. Please note—due to privacy issues, we can include names given by the individual or a health care proxy only. Thank you.

It's hard to argue against technological advancement when a certain surgery adds fifteen years to the life of a loved one. It's hard to argue against the information age when a computer allows you to down-load data from a library in Vienna on to your p.c. in a matter of several minutes. But there is a down-side to technological advancement and the information age. Technological advancement and the information age have weakened our capacity to wonder.

The philosopher Sam Keen once wrote that wonder is the basis for all philosophy. In order to get at the meaning of life, he wrote, you must wonder.

What the philosophers call wondering about the curiosities of life, Christians call beholding the mysteries of life. Along with the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead, Christians most wonder about the Incarnation. How is it that a Divine Person took on flesh and became like us in all things but sin?

We call Christmas a mystery because the birth of Jesus Christ is unlike any other birth. Jesus was born to a married woman who never at any time had sexual relations with her husband. The Holy Spirit had come upon Mary and overshadowed her (cf. Lk 1:35), thereby conceiving the Child. Without the seed of man, the Child grew in His mother's womb until such time that a son was born. (cf. Matt 1:25)

I must confess that it is getting harder and harder in our culture to find the image of the Madonna and Child. Some devout Christians who send Christmas cards still use this image but advertisers don't. Advertisers and merchandisers don't use the image of the Madonna and Child because it doesn't sell.

Mystery doesn't sell but neither can we rid ourselves of it completely. The greatest unsolved mysteries are not the stories of a television show but the largely silent witness of those who love unto death.

When Christ was born in Bethlehem, very few were there. The Madonna was there, of course, and so was Joseph her just, industrious and chaste spouse. The shepherds were there, too. (cf. Lk 2:16-17) But apart from these, only the angels witnessed this mysterious occurrence. (cf. Lk 2:15)

When Christ died on Calvary, very few were there again. According to the evangelist, the mother of Jesus, along with her sister and two other Marys assembled at the foot of the Cross along with the Beloved Apostle John. (cf. Jn 19:25) Before drawing His last breath, Jesus entrusted the care of His mother to a new son, a son born of apostolic love. (cf. Jn 19:27)

As the Christ Child lay in the manger (cf. Lk 2:8), His tender flesh pressed against wood. More than thirty years later, the flesh of the God-Man pressed against the wood of the Cross. The Incarnation was an embrace of pain and suffering as well as delight and joy. The Incarnation is a divine commitment to love unto death.

We are children of the manger and the Cross. We bubble with excitement over sacramental marriages and sacramental ordinations. As memories of the ceremonies begin to fade, do we set down our crosses? No, we take them up and follow in the footsteps of the Master. (cf. Mk 8:34) In doing so, we do not so much save our lives as we lose them. (cf. Mk 8:35)

Now here's something that definitely won't sell: losing your life. Not even the philosophers can accept this. How can you find the meaning of your life if you lose your life? It doesn't make sense.

Pope John Paul II called losing your life the law of the gift. In other words, you never discover the true meaning of your life until you lose it in commitment. Christ is committed to us in the Incarnation and the Cross. Both mysteries are grounded in love. Although not the only commitments to Christ, sacramental marriage and sacramental ordination are public expressions of a mysterious love unto death. In marriage, the flesh of husband and wife are joined together to project into the world the *imago Dei*, the image of God. In ordination, a mere man is given the awesome power to call down the flesh of the Son of God on an altar.

In his book *The Rumor of Angels*, Peter Berger writes that we have signals of transcendence in our midst. The angels no doubt testified to the presence of the Divine on earth two thousand years ago. Today, angels continue this great work but we can't see them. We can see, however, those committed human beings who love unto death. They are the signals of transcendence who remind a skeptical world that Christmas is first, last and always a mystery.

If we can give thanks for a flesh that is destroyed, then surely we can give thanks today for a flesh that is brand new. In this Eucharist, immolated flesh becomes life-giving flesh. The Incarnation of Jesus made Him subject to death. But God has conquered death through the Resurrection. The love we celebrate today is not just a love unto death but a love through death and unto everlasting life.

Merry Christmas!



Merry Christmas from Msgr. Batule,
Fr. Patrick & all St. Margaret's Staff.



January 1st Solemnity of Mary

Saturday, December 31st, 5:00 PM
Sunday, January 1st, 8:00 & 10:00 AM
AND 12:00 NOON

The Parish Center will be closed on
Monday, December 26th for Christmas.



St. Margaret's Bible Study

The Parish Bible Study will begin at
10 AM on Wednesday, January 11th
and continue on Wednesdays in the
Parish Center.

Deacon Ed Hayes will be the facilitator.
Please bring your Bible.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

*For your personal adoration
and prayers.*

FIRST THURSDAYS ~ JAN. 5TH, FEB. 2ND

3:00 - 6:00 PM in the Church



Parish Social Ministry

Outreach Christmas

*Thank you to all who participated in our Christmas Day. It was a tremendous success!
We were able to help 80 children have a wonderful Christmas!*



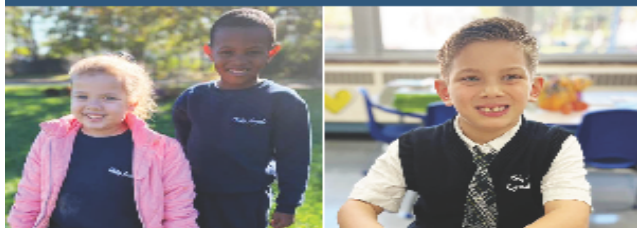
To clarify the matter of second collections, the following is offered to the parishioners of Saint Margaret.

Second collections are designated by the Diocese every year. We know when they occur by a **listing** of them and the **envelopes** for them which are mailed to parishioners who support our parish financially. It needs to be stated that designated second collections are **to be taken up at all Masses, in all parishes** in the Diocese.

If you are offering your donation to the parish weekly or monthly and you don't know when the second collections are, please see a listing for them in the ushers' room in the vestibule of the church or the bulletin boards of the church. We are grateful for your support of these second collections. They are not however optional and neither are they income for the parish.

Msgr. Batule



PRE-KINDERGARTEN - 8TH GRADE · PATCHOGUE, NY

HOLY ANGELS
REGIONAL SCHOOL
PATCHOGUE, NY

JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE!

SUNDAY · JANUARY 29, 2023

12:00 - 2:00PM

At the Holy Angels Regional School Open House, you will have the chance to meet faculty and staff, tour the buildings and see how Holy Angels can be the best fit for your child! All are welcome!

"Making the switch from public school to Holy Angels was by far the best decision we ever made; our children could not be happier and are thriving both academically and socially. We are confident that attending Holy Angels is preparing our children for their future!"

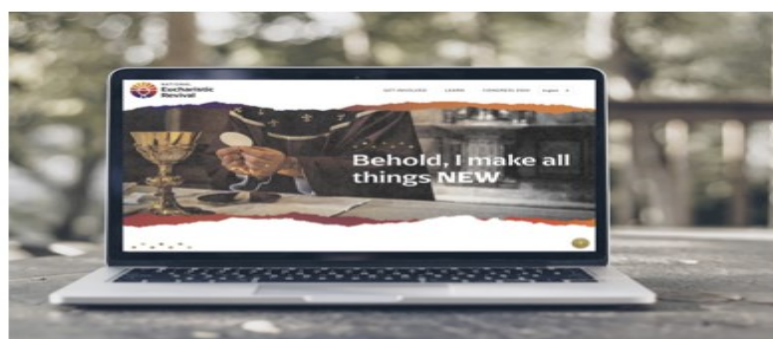
-A Holy Angels Regional School Parent

Why Holy Angels Regional School?

- For 100 years, Holy Angels has offered academic excellence, which fosters individual growth and development of the whole child: intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, physically, and socially according to time-tested, Catholic faith-based models of teaching and learning.
- Holy Angels is committed to integrate the Gospel message with the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of students, enabling them to become the leaders of tomorrow.
- Holy Angels cultivates a robustly Catholic culture centered on the spiritual, intellectual, sacramental, and liturgical life of the Church and challenges it's students to learn, lead, and serve as Jesus taught.
- Holy Angels provides a safe and supportive community that recognizes the dignity of every person and promotes human flourishing in a familial atmosphere.



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- 📺 @HolyAngelsRegional
- 📷 @HolyAngelsPatchogue



NATIONAL
Eucharistic
Revival

A three-year initiative to inspire and prepare the People of God through a renewed encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist.

Learn more by visiting:

www.eucharisticrevival.org



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