

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service



Celebration of the Eucharist

Weekday: (Mon through Fri) 9:00 AM

Saturday: 5:00 PM,

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

Confessions:

Saturday - 4:00-4:45 PM in the Church
or by appointment.

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April 2, 2023

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Friday ~ 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

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Today the Church marks Palm Sunday, which derives its name from the palm branches placed on the ground for Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem just days before His Passion and Resurrection. Today begins Holy Week which contains the saving acts of Our Lord Who laid down His life for us on Calvary and then was raised up in glory on Easter.

I use this column to emphasize for all of us that Holy Week makes a claim on each one of us to remember yes, but participate also in the rites which bring us into deeper union with Christ Who brought about our salvation by adhering faithfully to the Father's will.

I start with the Masses which are offered today in our parish church. The liturgy is longer than usual and puts a sharp focus on what the Lord did to save us from sin and death. May I recommend that you use the Gospel you hear today as an aid to your personal prayer, realizing that the best and most lasting test of genuine love is suffering. How might I unite my suffering in the daily course of my life to that which Christ endured out of love for me?

On Monday of Holy Week, I urge you to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Penance during the hours set aside for this purpose. This might be ideal for those penitents who find it difficult to make it to the confessional on a Saturday afternoon. Your parish priests are going to be available for a total of five hours, beginning in the afternoon at 2:00 PM and continuing until 4:00 PM, and then again from 6:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Go to confession is my suggestion to one and all.

A few days later, on Holy Thursday at 8:00 PM, we recall the Last Supper which Jesus shared with His apostles in the upper room. It is the beginning of what we call the **Sacred Triduum**. At the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, the liturgy asks that we be attentive to the Holy Eucharist, the ministerial priesthood and fraternal charity. Following the Mass, there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 12 midnight.

On Good Friday, the Church observes the Passion of the Lord at 3:00 PM. The liturgy has three parts: the liturgy of the word, the veneration of the Cross and the reception of Holy Communion. In the evening of Good Friday, we pray the Stations of the Cross at 7:30 PM.

On Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil is celebrated at 8:00 PM. While there are no Baptisms or Confirmations taking place at this liturgy this year, we pray with the Church throughout the world that Christ always be our light in the darkness of the world.

I take this moment now to encourage parishioners to come to the liturgies which I just mentioned, especially the Holy Thursday Mass in the evening and the Liturgy of the Passion in the afternoon of Good Friday. In recent years, attendance at these two liturgies has fallen way off as to become anemic.

The special character of the **Triduum** includes a celebration of Morning Prayer on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. We begin at 8:30 AM each of those days. In addition to the Diocesan Day of Reconciliation on Monday of Holy Week, we also celebrate the Sacrament of Penance on Good Friday immediately following the Liturgy of the Passion for one hour (4:30 until 5:30 PM), and again on Holy Saturday for an hour from 11:00 AM until 12 noon.

Please see the Holy Week schedule sent to registered parishioners in the regular mail. It is also posted on the bulletin boards in the church.

As you know, we fast and abstain from meat on Good Friday according to the usual prescriptions. It is a day for calling to mind the sacrifice of Christ Who gave up His life that we might have eternal life in the company of all the angels and saints in heaven.

Lastly, I want to appeal to your generosity – your financial generosity, that is. Please give to Saint Margaret as generously as you can at Easter. It is not easy to keep pace with the expenses to which we are subject all during the year. Our Easter collection allows us to catch up a bit on our payment of invoices. Please be generous in your gift to your parish.

Have a good Holy Week.

Msgr. Batule
Pastor



Divine Mercy Novena

The Novena will begin on Good Friday, April 7th after the 8:30 AM Morning Prayer and after the 3:00 PM Passion.

Holy Saturday will be after the 8:30 AM Morning Prayer. Easter Sunday you may do private.

Daily Novena will be after morning Mass

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 16th ~ 3 PM in the Church

Guidelines for Fasting & Abstinence

All Catholics who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on all the Fridays of Lent.

All Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Good Friday.

This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from Good Friday fast and abstinence.

Easter Food Blessing

Blessing of the Easter food and baskets will be on Holy Saturday, April 8th at 11:00 AM in the Church. Please be on time.



Children's Stations of the Cross



Friday, April 7th

11:00 am in the Church



Baptisms

Preston Michael Howell Morlas
Michael William Andrisani
Elijah Joseph Castillo

Holy Land Collection

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The pandemic hit particularly hard the Christians in the Holy Land. Most of them depend on pilgrimages to work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is also necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land where the Church was born. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS! For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.



Holy Week Services

Reconciliation, Monday ~ April 3

2:00-4:00 PM & 6:00-9:00 PM

Holy Thursday ~ April 6

8:30 AM—Morning Prayer

8:00 PM — Mass of the Lord's Supper
Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight

Good Friday ~ April 7

8:30 AM—Morning Prayer

3:00 PM — Passion of the Lord

4:30 –5:30 PM –Confession

7:30 PM Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday ~ April 8

8:30 AM—Morning Prayer

11:00 AM—Confessions

8:00 PM — Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday ~ April 9

Church ~ 8:00 & 10:00 AM & 12:00 Noon

CONFESSIONS



Diocesan Day of Reconciliation

Monday, April 3rd

2:00 ~ 4:00 PM and 6:00-9:00 PM



Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, April 7th — 7:30 PM

Adoration

At the midway point in Lent, we begin to call attention to the liturgies of the Sacred Triduum. On Holy Thursday night, the Church celebrates the **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00 PM in the church.**

Following the Mass, there is Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight.

Kindly see the sign-up book in the vestibule for Adoration and write your name in for one of the time slots.~Msgr. Batule

Eucharistic Miracles

An exhibit on **Eucharistic Miracles** will be coming to Saint Margaret in late April. Over the weekend of April 22nd/23rd, parishioners will have the opportunity to view the exhibit in the auditorium following parish Masses.

Don't miss it. The exhibit is yet another way to enhance the profile of the **Eucharistic Revival** which began last year and will conclude next year.

The Lord is with us always through the Holy Eucharist; we should be with Him some of the time.



Adult Confirmation Preparation

We invite adult Catholics who have never celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation to contact us should they want to be confirmed. Adult Catholics will be confirmed at Pentecost on Sunday, May 28th at the 12 noon Mass in the church. Those wishing to be confirmed **must** contact us now. Catechesis for Confirmation begins after Easter on Monday, April 17th at 7:30 PM in the parish center.



The Diocese of Rockville Centre GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2023 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue
Celebrant: Most Reverend John O. Barres

Sunday, June 4, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Church of St. James, Seaford
Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle

Register online at drcv-faith.org

Registration must be received by Friday, April 28, 2023

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at lrobustelli@drcv.org



Because no marriage is beyond hope...

A **marriage-saving** program is here in the
New York/Metropolitan Area

April 21-23, 2023

- Is your marriage tearing you apart?
- Do you feel hurt and angry?
- Does talking make it worse?
- Thought of leaving or divorce?
- Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

Retrouvaille* can help.

To register or for more information:

1-800-470-2230

<https://www.helpourmarriage.org>

info@HelpOurMarriage.org

Retrouvaille is a practical program for married couples facing difficult challenges

It is not a marriage retreat, or counseling. You will not be asked to share the personal details of your story. Retrouvaille is different; it's a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect, and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage. Catholic in origin, couples of all faiths, or no faith background, are encouraged to attend. We are a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities world-wide.

To contact the Long Island/New York Business Office:
516.920.9337/LongIsland@HelpOurMarriage.org

Sunday, Apr 02, 2023**Duty calls**

Catherine de Hueck Doherty founded Friendship House to foster interracial understanding. Her spirituality was centered on the “duty of the moment,” which she described as “what you should be doing at any given time, in whatever place God has put you. . . . If you have a child, your duty of the moment may be to change a dirty diaper. So you do it. But you don’t just change that diaper, you change it to the best of your ability, with great love for both God and that child. . . . [T]he duty of the moment is the duty of God.” This Passion Week, do your duty.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

TODAY’S READINGS: Procession: Matthew 21:1-11 (37); Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14—27:66 (38). *“My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will.”*

Monday, Apr 03, 2023**Final accounting**

The seventh corporal work of mercy is to bury the dead. Everyone deserves a dignified burial, and anyone who has lost a loved one knows how many arrangements go into caring for the body of the deceased until they are interred and making sure their soul is commended to God. The process is an act of love. It can go beyond the burial too—ongoing prayer for the deceased, visiting the gravesite, and even disposing of their material things. If you’re skilled with numbers and transactions then helping to sell a person’s home and volunteering for the stressful task of settling their finances—which can take months or years—can be a special kind of charity.

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11 (257). *“Mary took a liter of costly perfumed oil made from genuine aromatic nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and dried them with her hair.”*

Tuesday, Apr 04, 2023**Practice extreme love**

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died this day in 1968. On the night before his assassination, King gave his famous “I Have Been to the Mountaintop” speech. But it’s King’s words in “Letter from Birmingham Jail” that provide a lens to the Lord’s Passion this week. “Though I was initially disappointed at being categorized as an extremist,” King wrote, “I gradually gained a measure of satisfaction from the label. Was not Jesus an extremist for love: ‘Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you.’” How will you acknowledge God’s extreme love this week?

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38 (258). *“Jesus answered him, ‘Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, though you will follow later.’”*

Wednesday, Apr 05, 2023**Keep moving toward justice**

On this day in 1968, the Catholic mayor of Chicago, Richard J. Daley, infamously authorized his police department to use lethal force in the riots following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. the previous day. The event would lead to a national uproar and also to the founding two weeks later of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus, an organization that persists to the present day. The organization’s leaders would play a pivotal role in what is now known as the “Black Catholic Movement,” integrating black spirituality into

their liturgies and practice of the faith. As we remember the life and legacy of Dr. King and so many other freedom fighters, let us also make use of our faith in the holy struggle for justice and solidarity.

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25 (259). *“Who disputes my right? Let him confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?”*

Thursday, Apr 06, 2023**Break bread together**

The Eucharist, instituted at the Last Supper, which we commemorate today, is called the “source and the summit of Christian life” (*Lumen Gentium* 11). The idea is that we become what we eat, that we take on the characteristics of Jesus by consuming his body. Because of the centrality of the Eucharist—and to uplift its unifying force—the U.S. bishops have organized a Eucharistic Revival that includes a Eucharistic Congress this July, to be followed by a “year of mission.” As these sacred days unfold, allow the Eucharist to unite you to Christ and your sisters and brothers.

THURSDAY OF HOLY WEEK (HOLY THURSDAY); EVENING MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

TODAY’S READINGS: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15 (39). *“If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another’s feet.”*

Friday, Apr 07, 2023**Words count**

“It is finished” is among the final phrases of Jesus found in the four gospels, collectively known as the “Seven Last Words.” The others are “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.” “Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” “Woman, behold your son. [Beloved disciple], behold your mother.” “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” “I thirst.” “Father, into your hands I commend your Spirit.” Taken together these words tell us everything about who Jesus was, why he lived and died, and what he calls his disciples to do. “Who will we be if we listen to the lessons of the Last Words of Jesus?” Alice Camille asks and answers in her brilliant little book *Seven Last Words*. “People of love and joy, ready to forgive, buoyed by hope.” May we be such people.

FRIDAY OF THE LORD’S PASSION (GOOD FRIDAY); DAY OF ABSTINENCE

TODAY’S READINGS: Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42 (40). *“When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’ And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.”*

Saturday, Apr 08, 2023**Silent emptiness**

Christ has died. The church is empty. The altar is bare. The tabernacle is vacant. The Real Presence feels like the Real Absence. Following an ancient tradition, the church does not celebrate the sacraments on this day. For that reason, Holy Saturday is a great time to visit your church and meditate on the emptiness and silence of the building. Our experience of God often seems empty and silent, with no outward sign of the divine help we always need. All we have is our faith, hope, and trust in God’s abiding attendance in our lives.

HOLY SATURDAY

TODAY’S READINGS: Vigil: Genesis 1:1—2:2; Genesis 22:1-18; Exodus 14:15—15:1; Exodus 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Isaiah 54:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10 (41). *“His appearance was like lightning and his clothing was white as snow.”*

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



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Faith Formation

Save the Date! Vacation Bible School



Theme ~ Stellar Jesus Light shines!
July 10-14 ~ 9:15 am-12:30 pm

Ages 4 yrs old to 6th grade ~ Fee \$35 per child
Volunteers Needed! Adults & Students grade 6 and up.
High Schoolers welcome.



Registration open! Limited to first 100 children.
Any question ~ Jackie Mirenda at 631-732-3131 x131 or jmirenda@saintmargaret.com

Parish Social Ministry

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: **Hearty Soups, Applesauce, Kid's Snacks**

A very special THANK YOU to all!



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 15 / 16**. (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



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Memorial Donation – Easter 2023 (deadline: April 6th) ~ Please Print

Donor(s) _____

Address _____

Name of Person(s) or Couple Memorialized

Living _____ Deceased _____