

# ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

*Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service*



## ***Pastoral Staff***

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*Retired:* William Kogler, Biagio Muratore

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Julie Burtoff, x119

**Holy Angels Regional Catholic School**  
Patchogue, NY 631-475-0422  
Jeannine Stewart, Principal

## ***Celebration of the Eucharist***

Weekday: (Mon, through Fri) 9am

Sunday: Sat - 5pm,

Sun - 8am, 10am & 12 noon

**Confessions:** Saturday—1-2 PM in the  
Parish Center or by appointment.



## **A Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank You for waking us  
up on this glorious morning;  
You for giving my family,  
loved ones and I, health and strength;  
Thank You for that unconditional, undying.  
Never-failing, endless love  
that graces us each day;  
for love came down and saved us on the cross,  
in the form of flesh  
and for that we are eternally grateful.

## **November 22, 2020**

**Phone: (631) 732-3131**

**the Parish Office**

*will be open limited hours during the week*

***Mon, Tue & Wed 9am to 1pm***

*Any meeting will be by appointment Only.*

Fax (631) 732 - 8827

[www.saintmargaret.com](http://www.saintmargaret.com)

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813



## Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

The readings on this Feast of Christ the King offer us three visions of the final days. The first, from the prophet Ezekiel, suggests that God will finally appear as the good shepherd to rescue the lost and forsaken. Matthew's Jesus gives us a vivid and more personal image of the end times. The Son of Man appears in glory, seated on a throne, surrounded by angels who gather all the world to be judged. The third image comes from Paul's faith in the universal effects of Christ's resurrection. Paul's vision looks to the moment when God will be all in all, when everyone is drawn into the life and love of God.

All three images see God's love at the heart of human history and the history of the universe itself. The first image emphasizes God's saving love and grace, reminding us that our life is a gift and God will be with us always. The second image reminds us that we have been given freedom and that, as we choose how to live, we are fashioning our eternal future. The third way of looking at the end sees the Crucified and Risen Christ as drawing all creation toward being caught up in the very energy of God.

There are moments when we need the comforting image of God as shepherd to assure us that what is beyond our control has not escaped the realm of God's potential to save. At other moments, we need to be confronted with the starkness of the separation of sheep and goats, reminding us that the choices we make create our future. Both of those approaches can lead us to Paul's mystical vision and hope for union with God and all God's creation. ~ *Fr. Jim*



## Thanksgiving Day Mass ~ 9 AM

### Pandemic Improv - Can you help?

Like all households, St. Margaret of Scotland church has been adapting to the changes the coronavirus has placed on us. Thanks to the generosity and flexibility of parishioners, we have been able to provide as normal a parish life as possible.

But, special demands centering on Christmas are another issue!

With the limitations and uncertainty that we are living with, some changes have to be made. Most importantly, **the schedule of Christmas Masses needs to be different.** For Christmas Eve, we plan on a 2:00pm, a 4:00pm and an 8:00pm Mass. Christmas Day will have three Masses also. However, due to the limited space in our lobby, we will be unable to have any Masses downstairs, which is why we are using the one-time permission from the Bishop for a 2:00pm Mass on this Christmas Eve, in place of the Auditorium 4:00pm Mass.

In addition, here are some practical details that need people to help:

- 1) Greeters (Ushers) for the Christmas Eve and Day Masses.** The number of ushers has taken a hit due to the virus, and so, the current active members could not cover all the Masses. Having people at the front doors and in the church to assist people is essential.
- 2) Church Christmas decorating.** Here also, the pandemic has cut into our volunteers. You can help by giving some time to get things out of storage and set up. There will not be as much as in previous years, but we want to have the Church look festive.
- 3) Church seating roping.** With the pandemic staying as long as it has, the original plan of using painters tape to limit seating has passed its time. We would like to have something more attractive to mark the pews. Some churches are using roping, hanging them from the tops of the pews. If you can help with planning and creating these ropings, you would be adding to the weekly attractiveness of our church.



**These are the areas that are most obvious; others will follow.**

**If you are interested or would like more information, please email the parish at: [bgoode@saintmargaret.com](mailto:bgoode@saintmargaret.com) or call 631-732-3131 x133**

### RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION ~ Saturday ~ 1:00pm to 2:00pm

Due to the need for privacy without using an enclosed room, parishes have had to be creative in finding a suitable space for hearing confessions. We will be using the Parish Center foyer. The red front door will be propped open and a screen will be inside, between the priest and the penitent. There will be no chair or kneeler since we could not disinfect them.

You simply come in, stay standing, confess, receive your penance and depart.



***If you see someone in the foyer, do not come up the walkway! Remain on the sidewalk (or in your car) to keep a safe distance.***

# Faith Formation

## Correction for LEVEL 5

Your next gathering will be **Weds., Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>!**

## LEVEL 6

Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> ~ 6-7 PM

**Catechists & Volunteers  
are needed one  
day a month**

## Find Services NYS

New York State launched a new web application to help New Yorkers find state services and benefits. The "Find Services" web application was developed in partnership with Google.org, to assist New Yorkers in locating appropriate services with one streamlined web application. This application provides an easy-to-use starting point for first-time program users:

<https://findservices.ny.gov/app/survey>

## SUNDAY MASS ON ST. MARGARET'S WEBSITE

In addition to our weekend Masses, available at 5<sup>pm</sup> Saturday and 8<sup>am</sup>, 10<sup>am</sup> and Noon, the Sunday Mass continues to be streamed each weekend. There are two ways to watch it:

First, on our website [WWW.SAINTMARGARET.COM](http://WWW.SAINTMARGARET.COM). Click the "Learn More" link on the "Online Masses and Latest Bulletin" page. It will take you to an info page; click link for "Online Mass." All the Masses since March are available. (In addition to our Mass, there is a link for the masses celebrated each day from St Agnes Cathedral.)

Second, there is a St. Margaret of Scotland channel on YouTube. Go to the YouTube app, search for St. Margaret of Scotland and [look for our logo](#). (There are other parishes with the same name.) Only the video for the current weekend is available.



## Social Security Administration Important Information

We are still available to help by phone. A local representative is available to take your call Monday thru Friday ~ 9AM-4PM.

**1-866-771-1991 ~ (TTY) 1-800-325-0778**

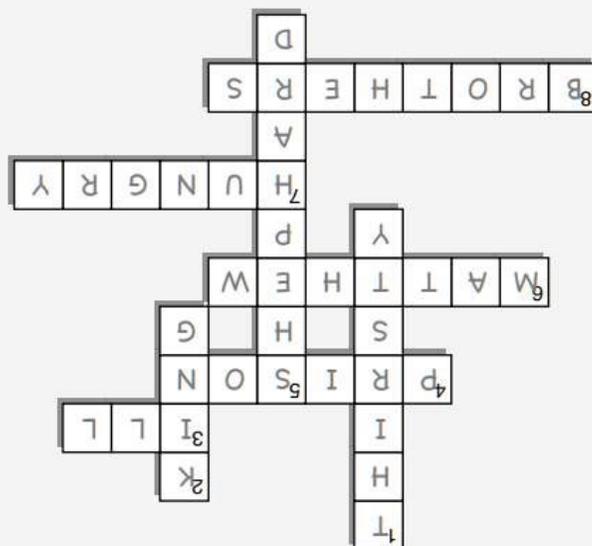
We may be able to schedule an appointment if we cannot help you by phone. Please do not come into one of our local offices as we *cannot* accept walk in visitors.

You may also visit [SSA.gov](http://SSA.gov) to complete a service online.

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You  
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment  
receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



## *The Case for Christmas* Online Bible Study

starting November 30, 2020 and ending January 1, 2021

*The Case for Christmas* is a 4-week video Bible study you can do on your own or with friends, family, and neighbors!



In this free 4-week Online video Bible Study, you'll explore the scenes surrounding the birth of Jesus—and see the Christmas story in a new light! You'll learn to separate the holiday from the holy day, the facts from the fantasy, and the truth from the tradition to know with confidence that the Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth are accurate and true!

*You can do on your own or with friends, family, and neighbors!*

When you register, you'll get the **FREE download of the Advent Toolkit** with beautiful art prints and a Scripture reading plan as you countdown to Christmas. With these online lessons, you'll appreciate the meaning of Christmas in a new light!

For more information and/or to register for *The Case for Christmas* Online Bible Study, [starting November 30, 2020 and ending January 1, 2021,](http://biblegateway.com/landing/case-for-christmas-sign-up/)

either (1) type the address below into your browser, or  
(2) open our online bulletin and copy the address & paste it to the browser.

[biblegateway.com/landing/case-for-christmas-sign-up/](http://biblegateway.com/landing/case-for-christmas-sign-up/)

## Parish Social Ministry

### CHRISTMAS WISH LIST ~ By 12/8

*St. Margaret's Outreach is asking for donations of*  
**STORE GIFT CARDS & FAST FOOD GIFT CARDS (TEENS) IN LIEU OF TOYS AND GAMES**

Please keep in mind we can  
always use  
**NEW Socks, Hats,  
Gloves & Scarves!**

***Christmas Door Collection***  
December 4 / 5

Basket will be in the lobby after Mass

***Thank you for your generosity!***



*Drop off at the Parish Center ~ Mon., Tues., Weds. 9-1 **or**  
Thursday at the back door of the Parish Center from 9-11 am. Thank you!*

**Thank You  
to all who donated to the Pantry  
this past week**

**St. Vincent de Paul Society  
has opened the Clothing Bins**

**next to the ballfield on the north side of our  
property for your donations.**

***Thank you for your patience and donations.***

## THANKSGIVING Thank you!

St. Margaret's Outreach would like to thank every one who donated to our Thanksgiving Distribution. Every gift card, turkey or groceries you donated helped over 65 families! They were assisted with a meal, turkey and a smile from our wonderful volunteers!

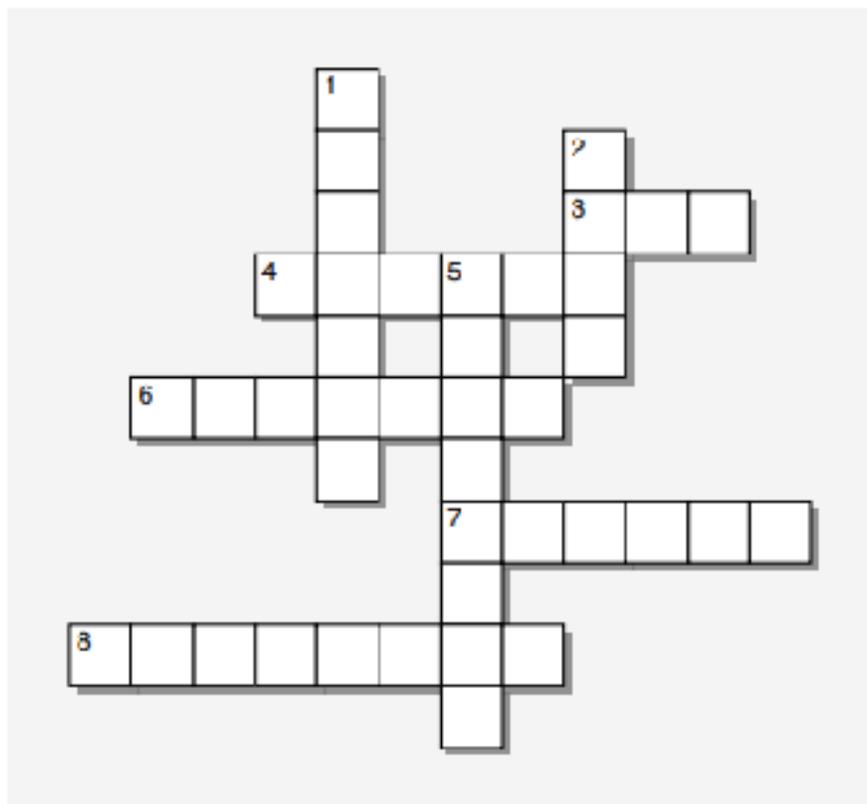
Thank you also to Newfield High School for a tremendous food drive and turkeys! Box loads of food were dropped off to fill our shelves!





# Sunday Gospel Activities

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe; Matthew 25:31-46



## Across

3. Another word for sick, "He is \_\_\_ and can not attend school today".
4. The place we send someone who has broken a law is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Today's Gospel reading is from the Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. When a person is really \_\_\_\_\_, they need some food to eat.
8. Two boys who share the same mother and father are called \_\_\_\_\_.

## Down

1. When a person is \_\_\_\_\_, they need something to drink
2. Today we celebrate the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, \_\_\_\_\_ of the Universe.
5. The person who takes care of the sheep is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

Brought to you by CatholicMom.com and Holy Cross Family Ministries.

**THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER.**

## **Sunday, Nov 22, 2020 SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE You decide**

The church year ends this week. Along with that we're invited to consider another ending: our mortality. What goes on in eternity, anyway? Thomas Aquinas declares that God and eternity are the same. When we go from here, we go to God. How we experience the Divine Presence depends on whether our lives have become fully compatible with Love. Francis de Sales envisions Jesus saying to us: "Be it done as you desire; and because of what you have done, come, enjoy eternity." The desire of my heart will be answered: Will the choice be a life of love? TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28; Matthew 25:31-46 (160)*. "These will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

## **Monday, Nov 23 MEMORIAL OF BLESSED MIGUEL AUGUSTÍN PRO, PRIEST, MARTYR ¡Viva Cristo Rey!**

Mexican Jesuit priest Miguel Pro was executed on fabricated charges in 1927 by a fiercely anti-clerical government. Pro had served the persecuted church by secretly celebrating the sacraments. He was killed by firing squad while holding a rosary in one hand and a crucifix in the other, his arms stretched out in imitation of the crucified Christ, shouting "Long live Christ the King!" His death energized the resistance. We may not be called to such dramatic sacrifice, but can we give up some comfort and convenience to fight for the greater good? TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5; Luke 21:1-4 (503)*. "This poor widow put in more than all the rest."

## **Tuesday, Nov 24 MEMORIAL OF ANDREW DŨNG-LẠC, PRIEST, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS Holiness in high numbers**

Nine times in the liturgical lineup of feast days we memorialize a canonized person or two "and companions." All were martyrs and many had been foreign missionaries. Today's memorial honors Andrew Dũng-Lạc, a Vietnamese priest beheaded in 1839 for promoting Christianity instead of the official state religion; he's joined by another 117 killed in Vietnam, tortured and martyred during the 18th and 19th centuries. Just as we began this month with the feast of All Saints—honoring a multitude of holy unknowns—may every instance of "and companions" encourage us to call to mind the "great cloud of witnesses." TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 14:14-19; Luke 21:5-11 (504)*. "Reap the harvest, for the time to reap has come."

## **Wednesday, Nov 25 MEMORIAL OF CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGIN, MARTYR Raise your voice**

Christian tradition holds that Catherine of Alexandria (287-305) was an eloquent young Christian convert who challenged the Emperor Maxentius' persecution of Christians. That faithful courage led to her own martyrdom. The United Nations has declared today the Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, asking the world to recognize that "violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread, persistent, and devastating human rights violations in our world today." We honor the courage of Saint Catherine by paying attention to the violence that others endure, speaking up in defense of the voiceless, and adding our prayers for those whose suffering too often goes unnoticed. TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 15:1-4; Luke 21:12-19 (505)*. "They will seize and persecute you . . . they will have you led before kings and governors because of my name."

## **Thursday, Nov 26 THANKSGIVING DAY Give thanks, indeed**

This Thanksgiving won't be celebrated the way many of us hoped and imagined back when the pandemic started. And yet, we are alive. Most of us reading these words can breathe freely. The virus has reminded us to never again take these simple matters for granted. One of our wisest teachers about prayer, Dominican priest Meister Eckhardt (1260-1329), said: If the only prayer you ever said in your entire life is thank you, that would suffice. Even amid hard times, giving thanks to God is appropriate. Let it be your prayer today. TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Luke 21:20-28 (506)*. "But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."

## **Friday, Nov 27 Turn the page**

The "Book of Life" is mentioned several times in the Bible. A bit like the contact list you keep on your phone, the Book of Life is the figurative expression of how God is said to keep track of those heading for heavenly repose united with the Divine. According to Jewish tradition, God opens the Book of Life on Rosh Hashanah and leaves it open for 10 days, until Yom Kippur. During those days, believers spend time repenting of their sins and amending their lives in order to be written into the Book of Life. If there's something you need to repent, today is a good day to turn the page. TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 20:1-4, 11—21:2; Luke 21:29-33 (507)*. "Then another scroll was opened, the Book of Life. The dead were judged according to their deeds."

## **Saturday, Nov 28 OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Call forth your best self**

Perhaps you've heard that Jesus' life was foreshadowed in passages from the Hebrew scripture that predated him. But were you aware that Mary's life and role in salvation history might have been as well? The prophet Isaiah (7:14) speaks of a young woman (sometimes translated as a "virgin") who will give birth to a son she will name Emmanuel, meaning "God with us." Mary has been "going ahead" of us for generations, a role model beckoning us to live our best lives, regardless of how improbable, even miraculous, that might turn out to be. TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 22:1-7; Luke 21:34-36 (508)*. "These words are trustworthy and true."



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