

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service



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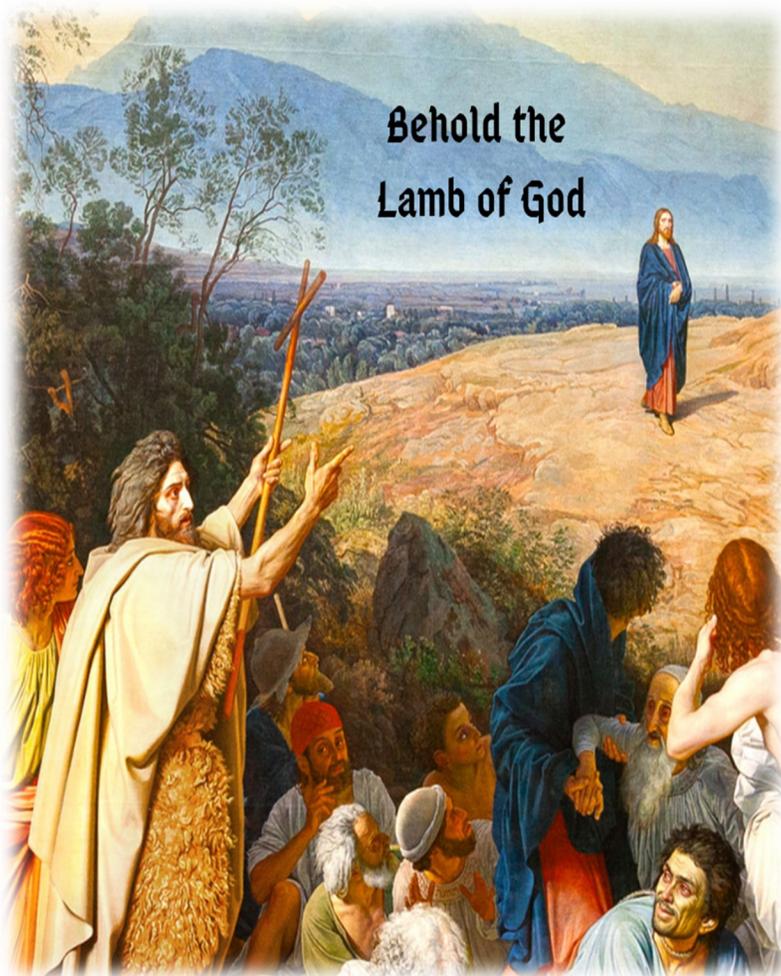
Celebration of the Eucharist

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.



January 17, 2021

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

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

The rollout of the Covid-19 vaccine has had a bumpy start, not surprising considering all the different states' directives. If you are planning on getting vaccinated (as I am), it is a matter of waiting for when our group will be called. However, despite the upswing of Covid cases and deaths, about 25% of Americans say that they probably or definitely will not receive a vaccination. If you are in this group, here are some thoughts from Pope Francis.

The Holy Father announced that he planned to be vaccinated against COVID-19 as early as the week of Jan. 10th, and urged everyone to get a shot, to protect not only their own lives but those of others. "I believe that ethically everyone should take the vaccine. It is an ethical choice because you are gambling with your health, with your life, but you are also gambling with the lives of others." [Pope Francis, 84, had part of one lung removed during an illness when he was a young man in his native Argentina, making him potentially vulnerable to the disease.]

The U.S. Bishops Conference also urges us to see that getting vaccinated against the coronavirus "ought to be understood as an act of charity toward the other members of our community."

For some Catholics, there is an extra worry: that the Covid-19 vaccines available were developed using cell lines from fetuses aborted 50+ years ago. The Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith addressed this in a recent statement. They explained that no fetal cells are present in any of the vaccines. And in the absence of any alternative, such vaccines "can be used in good conscience." It added that "All vaccinations recognized as clinically safe and effective can be used in good conscience with the certain knowledge that the use of such vaccines does not constitute formal co-operation with the abortion from which the cells used in production of the vaccines derive." The text, approved by Pope Francis, also said there was "a moral imperative" to ensure that poorer countries received access to effective vaccines. ~ Fr. Jim

RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION ~ Saturdays ~ 1:00pm to 2:00pm

Due to the need for privacy without using an enclosed room, we are using the Parish Center foyer. A screen divides the foyer between the priest and the penitent. There is no chair or kneeler since we could not disinfect them. You simply come in, stay standing, confess, receive your penance and depart.



In warm weather, the red front door is propped open. *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.*

In cold weather, the door needs to stay closed.
Please knock and wait to be invited in.

The Parish Office will be closed
on Monday, January 19th for
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

St. Margaret's Website

Keep up to date with all Faith Formation, info & bulletins.
Go check it out & make it a favorite!

SAINTMARGARET.COM



Long Island Coalition for Life

Help restore the right to life for preborn children. Please join the Long Island Coalition for Life for the Roe v. Wade Anniversary Memorial Face the Truth event on Sunday, January 17, 2021, from 1:30p.m. to 3:00p.m. This peaceful public witness will be held on the sidewalk in front of Nassau University Medical Center (2201 Hempstead Tpke., E Meadow), a hospital that commits abortions. Be a positive sign for LIFE! Signs provided. Rain or shine. Sponsored by: LICL (631) 243-1435, info@prolifeLI.org.

"Informed: Life is Worth Living" Film

Presentation ~ Long Island Coalition for Life will show the film "Informed: Life is Worth Living" at its meeting on Monday January 25, 2021, 7:30PM at St. Regis Council K of C Hall (Rosevale Ave. & Pond Rd., Ronkonkoma). This video, produced by Human Life Alliance, interviews people who have dealt with life and death health situations involving themselves, their family, and medical practitioners. The film (~ 1 hour) discusses end-of life decisions and experiences with assisted suicide, adverse prenatal diagnosis, organ donation, hospice and withholding of medical care. Please join us and become informed. Information: info@prolifeLI.org; 631-243-1435.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS

Good Shepherd Hospice Bereavement Services are opened to anyone in the community who has experienced a loss through death at no charge. Upcoming Virtual Bereavement Support Groups, led by a Bereavement Specialist, include:

Spousal/Partner Bereavement Support Group 1/12/21 - 2/16/21- 12:00pm-1:30pm

Registration Required - Please email/call: Carolyn Lisi- Haas, LCSW-R (631) 828-7629 / Carolyn.Lisi-Haas@CHSLI.org

Adult Loss of Parent or Sibling Bereavement Support Group 1/12/21 - 2/16/21- 5:00pm-6:30pm

Registration Required - Please email/call: Carolyn Lisi- Haas, LCSW-R (631) 828-7629 / Carolyn.Lisi-Haas@CHSLI.org

Faith Formation

LEVEL 6

Your next gathering will be Tues., Jan. 19th ~ 6:30-8pm

LEVEL 5

Your next gathering will be Weds., Jan. 20th ~ 6:30-8pm



Tax Statements

Call the Parish Center if you would like your 2020 tax statement at 732-3131 x133. Please leave a clear message with your name, address and if you know your envelope number which is located under the DATE. Statements will be mailed near the end of the January. Thank you.

All Capital Campaign Contributions over \$250.00 will be mailed automatically and separately. If below this amount please call and leave a message on x 128 to receive a copy.

Parish Social Ministry

**Thank You
to all who have donated to the Pantry. We
are able to keep our Selden families
supplied with your generosity!**

**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.***

New Parishioner?

Moving out of the parish?

Kindly fill out the form below—drop it in collection basket or mail to Parish Center. It will help us keep our files up-to-date and welcome newcomers.

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Telephone _____

New Parishioner _____ Moving _____

SUNDAY MASS ON ST. MARGARET'S WEBSITE

In addition to our weekend Masses, available at 5^{pm} Saturday and 8^{am}, 10^{am} 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. 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.



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.

Please do not leave clothing at our Thrift Shop entrance or our Parish Center doors. We do not have a Thrift Shop open to accommodate. You may take items to St. Gerard Majella on Terryville Rd. PJS or Resurrection Parish on Granny Road in Farmingville. Thank you.

January 6, 2021

A Statement from Bishop John O. Barres

In prayer, we ask God to bring peace to our nation and healing to the wounds that divide us. As Catholics, we foster that peace through respect for the sanctity of every human life and the witness of our charitable love. In his homily for the Feast of the Epiphany, Pope Francis said, “We need to take a different route, to follow a different path, his path, the path of humble love. And we have to persevere.” Let us pray that all Americans may follow God’s laws and act as instruments of His peace and love.



Diocese of Rockville Centre

A Prayer for America's Future

Heavenly Father, make us a great nation, yes. But more than that, make us good, Lord, with a heartbeat that wants every person of every creed and color to know Your love, Your goodness, and Your worth.

Make us wise as serpents, but gentle as doves. Turn our fears to [faith](#), as we look to You and You alone for the future of our country. Give us God-confidence that no matter what happens, we will believe You are not only in control, but that You know exactly what is needed to accomplish Your purpose. Help us not to second-guess Your moves, but to move at Your command, always without hesitation.

Forgive us for wanting our own way and making our own paths—often the ones paved with least resistance. Forgive us for fence-walking, or for ignoring completely the truths that can so easily set us free. Deliver us from mindless quarrels and destinations that lead us nowhere, but away from You. Free us from divisiveness, and melt our hardened hearts to love, not hate, and to heal, not debate. Amen.

Prayer for Inauguration Day

Almighty and eternal God, who watches over all nations, you chose to manifest your Kingdom through the words and actions of the day-to-day life of Jesus, our Savior. His humility taught us to respect all. His use of power focused on the care of all who came to him. His truthfulness challenged people to look beyond the walls that separate people to the truth of being one family. His loving trust in you was his compass.

On this Inauguration Day, we ask you to bless our President, Joseph Biden, who has been entrusted with the responsibilities of governing our nation, with those qualities. Assist him with your spirit of counsel and fortitude, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness, and be eminently useful to your people over whom he presides. May he encourage due respect for virtue and religion. May he execute the laws with justice and mercy. May he seek to restrain crime, vice, and immorality.

May he, along with the Vice President and the members of Congress and the Courts seek to preserve peace, promote national happiness, and continue to bring us the blessings of liberty and equality.

We pray to you, who are Lord and God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Tune into “Religion and Rock,” a nationally syndicated, 60 minute, classic rock program. Each week, Msgr. Jim Vlaun, a priest of our Diocese, takes a theme and explores it through various songs.

Broadcast on Sundays from 7:00 AM- 8:00 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM; on Saturdays at 11:00 PM on Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11:00 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117.

The upcoming themes are: Jan 17: Unity // 24: Searching for Meaning // 31: Spirituality

For more info, go to: www.religionandrock.com

A CHRISTMAS THANK YOU!

One gift we give each other at Christmas is making the Season as festive as we can. More than in previous years, our efforts in 2020 were so very important. The decorations around us and in our homes were not only beautiful and reassuring. They became windows to look out beyond the pandemic and celebrate the promise of the Birth of our Savior!

At our parish as everywhere else, adaptation was needed due to trying to stay safe. Thus, instead of one big gathering of volunteers to take down the Advent items and put up the Christmas decorations, it had to be done gradually. But the result on Christmas Eve and Day and throughout the Christmas Season was one that lifted the heart!

And so, as we celebrate the last of the Christmas feasts, the Baptism of the Lord, I want to say THANK YOU to all who were able to assist in:

- ◆ Helping families to have a brighter Christmas than they could on their own through the Outreach Christmas boutique;
- ◆ Setting up the manger pieces over the weeks of Advent as well as the trees and other large decorations in the Church and lobby;
- ◆ Arranging all the flowers so artistically;
- ◆ Serving the parish family through the various liturgical ministries (Musicians, Lectors, Ministers of Holy Communion, Ushers & Greeters), despite the depleted numbers due to the pandemic;
- ◆ Beautifying the Church through contributing for the church flowers;
- ◆ The extra behind-the-scenes preparation details needed, particularly watering the flowers.

Thanks, too, for the cards and delicious goodies that made the Parish Center and the Residence cheerier!

To one and all, thank you so much! ~ Fr. Jim

Emergency Care: Maximum Safety for Urgent and Emergent Needs

Catholic Health Heightened Safety Measures
Protects Emergency Department Patients

Catholic Health Services (CHS) maintains the highest level of safety across its integrated health care system. We've elevated that stellar care as we battle COVID-19. This is critical, because even during a pandemic, people will have accidents or health issues requiring emergency care. CHS wants you to know our emergency departments (ED) are safe centers of care. In fact, CHS has been successfully treating patients across the system and performing emergency surgeries throughout this pandemic. Similarly, CHS has been delivering babies, protecting the well-being of both mother and child.

CHS has put extensive measures in place to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus—from intensive sanitization to safe social distancing to isolation of COVID-19 patients.

If you or a family member are experiencing any symptoms that may require emergency care, call 911 or drive directly to a CHS hospital. We're ready, safe and able to help you. You may also contact our ambulance partner, Hunter Ambulance by calling (516/631) 719-HELP.

Do you need to fulfill your Marriage Prep Requirement?

Engaged Encounter is an effective PreCana program designed to provide you with the tools for a successful marriage.

Couples are provided with social-distancing during this time. Our next 2-day weekend will be held at the Seminary of the

Immaculate Conception in Huntington on March 6-7, 2021. For information please call Lenny & Pat Walker at 631-563-1032 or to register visit

www.longisland.engagedencounter.com



A WEDDING IS A DAY
A MARRIAGE IS A LIFETIME®

Sunday, Jan 17, 2021 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Lifestyles of the brave and mobile

Media coverage is thick concerning the lifestyles of the rich and famous. The lives of the truly heroic, on the other hand—faithful spouses, conscientious parents, the working poor, folks who turn their lives around after addiction or costly misdirection—are mostly hidden from view. Faithful discipleship requires effort, quiet persistence, and most of all, movement in the spirit. Followers don't stand still, unchangeable in opinions or behaviors. Growth is required. The terms of the deal are as follows: "Come—and see." TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42 (65)*. "'Rabbi . . . where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and you will see.'"

Monday, Jan 18 Abide your time this week

For more than 100 years, Christians around the world have been observing annually the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan. 18-25). For Catholics, this week is an opportunity to also ponder the Decree on Ecumenism from Vatican II. Is your diocese or parish participating in this healing effort? For resources, visit the World Council of Churches at of Prayer for Christian Unity. As you pray, call to mind this year's theme: "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit." TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:18-22 (311)*. "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?"

Tuesday, Jan 19 Pray the pope's prayer for peace

Exactly 60 years ago tomorrow, John F. Kennedy gave an inaugural address that quoted Romans 12:12, reminding citizens to be "rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation." One year later, Pope John XXIII became a secret intermediary between Kennedy and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, speaking a message of peace to the entire world during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Haunted by the experience, he penned his final encyclical, *Pacem in Terris*, stressing the church's Christian duty to address international issues of peace and human rights—speaking to all persons "of good will," not only Catholics. Pray for peace and the perseverance of hope. TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 6:10-20; Mark 2:23-28 (312)*. "Hold fast to the hope that lies before us."

Wednesday, Jan 20 MEMORIAL OF FABIAN, POPE, MARTYR Be open to the Spirit of surprise

In the year 236, Fabian left his farm and headed to Rome. He wanted to be in town for the election of a new pope. The furthest thing from his mind, or anyone's mind, was that he would be elected. Legend holds that as clergy discussed worthy candidates, a dove landed on the head of bystander Fabian. Thinking it was a sign from the Holy Spirit, the crowd elected Fabian by acclamation. A kind and capable administrator, he had the respect of both the faith community and three different emperors in a period of rare peace. Although that peace eventually ended and persecution cost him his life, Fabian's legacy endures. Be open to unexpected visitations of the Holy Spirit! TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17; Mark 3:1-6 (313)*. "Come up here before us."

Thursday, Jan 21 MEMORIAL OF AGNES, VIRGIN, MARTYR Draw inspiration from women of faith

Today we honor both Saint Agnes, virgin and martyr, and, in some places, Our Lady of Altigracia, protectress of the Dominican Republic. The devotion to both grew from grassroots popularity; that is, ordinary Christians were moved by their stories and lifted them up for veneration. Saint Agnes was executed for her faith in the fourth century. Our Lady of Altigracia is an image of Mary in the Dominican Republic that, according to legend, kept mysteriously moving to an orange grove until a church was built there. Centuries later memories of both women continue to inspire the faithful. Take a moment to reflect on women of faith who inspire you. TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 7:25—8:6; Mark 3:7-12 (314)*. "Jesus is always able to save those who approach God through him."

Friday, Jan 22 Embracing your inner apostle

How many apostles did Jesus call? If you said 12, well, you are sort of correct. Indeed, Jesus appointed 12 followers to be his close companions, to learn from him, and to preach the Good News. But it doesn't stop at 12. Jesus continues to call forth apostles in the church. We have bishops who continue the mission via the tradition of apostolic succession. We also have every single person in the church, including you! "The whole church is apostolic, in that she remains . . . in communion of faith and life with her origin: and in that she is 'sent out' into the whole world," says the Catechism of the Catholic Church. How will you respond to your call to apostleship? TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 8:6-13; Mark 3:13-19 (315)*. "Jesus went up the mountain and summoned those whom he wanted and they came to him."

Saturday, Jan 23 MEMORIAL OF MARIANNE COPE, RELIGIOUS Remarkable, two times over

Imagine leaving all that is familiar to minister in a far-off land. Now imagine doing it twice! German-born Marianne Cope came to the United States as a young woman and, as a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Syracuse, New York, became a founding leader of St. Joseph's Hospital in the city, one of the first general hospitals in the country. Then in 1883 she relocated with six other sisters to Hawai'i to care for persons suffering leprosy and to help develop the medical infrastructure of the island chain. Pray today for an ounce of the courage and sacrifice she modeled for us all. TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-14; Mark 3:20-21 (316)*. "Jesus came with his disciples into the house."



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