

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



Pastoral Staff

Msgr. Robert Batule - *Pastor* x111

Rev. Patrick Abu-Bonsra - Parochial Vicar
x 116 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

April 10, 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

In the ancient world, there was no better concrete expression of power than the Roman Empire. The Romans had the best schools and the most learned teachers. Their armies, which marched all over the known world at the time, scored victory after victory and subdued every foe. Roman engineering feats – bridges, great buildings and the like – were the envy of all seeking some permanent reminder of achievement. All of these things testified to Rome’s power, but perhaps nothing was more emblematic of Roman power than the law.

Long after Roman schools had passed out of existence, long after Roman armies had stopped conquering enemies and long after their buildings had been reduced to rubble, the power of Rome was still being felt through the law. The Romans had been notable for developing a system of law that sought justice over caprice, and established the concept of giving each person his due everywhere they went. History shows that material and physical accomplishments can be leveled to dust quickly, but not so the longing and passion we have for justice.

Early in the passion account of Saint John, Jesus appears before Pontius Pilate, the personification of Roman law, to answer the charge that He is a king. (cf. Jn 18:33-38) Jesus links kingship with truth in His reply to Pilate, acknowledging that the reason He came into the world is to testify to the truth. (cf. Jn 18:37) Pilate is mystified, however. “What is truth?” (cf. Jn 18:38) It is not enough for the Roman authority in Palestine to be cavalier in his attitude about the truth, he even says in reference to Jesus: “I find no guilt in him.” (Jn 18:38) Not finding guilt in Jesus, Pilate still – amazingly – does not treat Jesus justly. Instead, he acts on the Jewish custom of releasing a prisoner at Passover, allowing the guilty Barabbas to be spared over the innocent Jesus. (cf. Jn 18:39)

In Christ, One Who is innocent and blameless in every way is condemned to death. (cf. Jn 19:16) What can we say of power in the case of Jesus? It has been grossly misused, utterly debased and placed at the service of falsehood and compromise. Honor and integrity have been mocked; cowardice and pusillanimity have carried the day.

For some of us, power is found in always getting our own way. We cleverly manipulate situations so that we always come out on top; we won’t tolerate any other outcome. For others among us, power is in calculating how to make the most number of people dependent on us, thereby satisfying our need to be needed. There is enormous ego pleasure in knowing we are indispensable to others. For still others, power is being above the fray, detached, and untainted by the vicissitudes of life.

Holy Week shows us a beaten and dejected Savior. Bearing our infirmities and laying upon Himself our guilt (cf. Is 53:4,6), He challenges us to shake off our false notions of power – whatever they may be and in whatever form they may take. Power is not in what I cling to and what I hold on to; it is in how I empty myself as Saint Paul makes clear in the second reading at Mass today. (cf. Phil 2:6-7) The Lord’s obedience unto death (cf. Phil 2:8) is the real power at work in His life . . . and can be in our lives too if only we allow it to be so.

Let this column serve as an invitation then to join us for the liturgies of Holy Week, in particular the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday night (8:00 PM) followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the church until midnight; the Passion of the Lord at 3:00 PM on Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night at 8:00 PM. Celebrate the Paschal Mystery liturgically that we may live it in the circumstances of our lives!

Msgr. Batule
Pastor

From the Pastor’s Desk

As we enter Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum, I ask all of our parishioners to consider joining with us on Holy Thursday night for the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on April 14th at 8:00 PM. Following that Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be available in the church for personal adoration.

There is a sign-up book in the vestibule.

The time for adoration is from the close of the Mass until midnight.

Let us know if you can spend one hour with the Eucharistic Lord on the night we commemorate Jesus’ institution of the Holy Eucharist.



From the Pastor's Desk

With Holy Week so near now, we invite all of our parishioners to join us for the Liturgies of the Triduum and Easter Sunday Mass. See the bulletin for the dates and times of all that is going on in church between April 10th and April 17th.

Confessions are heard on Monday the 11th of April for several hours during the day and into the evening. We urge you to use the Sacrament of Penance then or later in the week on Good Friday immediately following the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. See the bulletin for times when the priests are available.

There is **no** Mass on Saturday the 16th at 5:00 PM. And Confessions are **not** heard at 4:00 PM on that day, either.

We have Morning Prayer on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday at **8:30 AM in the church**. We ask you to join us each of those days. There is **no Mass in the morning for April 14th, 15th and 16th**.

Once again, there will be a blessing of food on Holy Saturday (April 16th) at 11:00 AM. In the event of a funeral service in the morning at that time, the blessing will take place outdoors (presuming the weather is favorable).

We encourage you to join us on Friday night, April 15th at 7:00 PM in the church for Stations of the Cross. We mark the Passion and Death of Our Lord with this devotion. It is a good way to maintain our Lenten focus and prepare us for the Liturgies of Holy Week.

On the Sunday after Easter (April 24th), the Church celebrates Divine Mercy Sunday with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 PM in the church. All are invited to join us.

For the Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on April 14th, the rehearsal is **Wednesday, April 13th at 4:00 PM in the church**.

For the Good Friday Passion of the Lord on April 15th, the rehearsal is **Wednesday, April 13th at 5:00 PM in the church**.

For the Holy Saturday Easter Vigil on April 16th, the rehearsal is **Saturday, April 16th at 1:30 PM in the church**.



Further down the road, in the Easter Season, we will have a May Crowning of the Blessed Mother on Sunday, May 8th following the 12 noon Mass.

And in June, on the 19th, when the Church marks the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, there will be a Procession with the Blessed Sacrament following the 12 noon Mass.

Msgr. Batule ~ Pastor

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 Good Friday fast and abstinence.



Holy Week Services

Confession, Monday ~ April 11

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

Holy Thursday ~ April 14

8:30 AM—Morning Prayer

8:00 PM — Mass of the Lord's Supper

Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight

Good Friday ~ April 15

8:30 AM—Morning Prayer

11:00 AM — Children's Stations of the Cross

3:00 PM — Passion of the Lord

4:30 –5:30 PM –Confession

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday ~ April 16

8:30 am—Morning Prayer

11:30 AM — Blessing of the Food

8:00 PM — Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday ~ April 21

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

Easter Food Blessing

Blessing of the Easter food and baskets will be on Holy Saturday, April 16th at 11:00 AM in the Church. Please be on time.



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.

Stations of the Cross



April 15th ~ 11:00 am & 7:00 pm

Children's Stations of the Cross



Friday, April 15th

11:00 am in the Church

Divine Mercy Novena

The Novena will begin on Good Friday, April 15th after the 8:30 AM Morning Prayer and after the 3:00 PM Passion.

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

Daily Novena will be after morning Mass

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 24th ~ 3 PM in the Church



From the Pastor's Desk

We wish to announce that adult Catholics who have not celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation and wish to do so are going to be able to do just that on Sunday, June 5th at the 12 noon Mass. In advance of that day, there will be catechesis offered on Wednesday nights beginning April 27th at 7:30 PM in the parish center building. The sessions will last five (5) weeks and conclude on May 25th. If you have not yet contacted us, please do so that you may be included in the conferral of the Sacrament of Confirmation on the Solemnity of Pentecost.

We invite any interested adult parishioners who are already confirmed to join us for these sessions. We will consider the following topics over the five weeks: Faith, Christ, Church, Sacraments and Morals.

We anticipate each session going about 75 – 90 minutes.

Msgr. Batule and Fr. Patrick will lead the sessions.



Sunday, Apr 10, 2022 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD Revealing companions

Today the church follows Luke's narrative of the Passion, where participants are revealed by the company they keep—or avoid. Most of Jesus' followers flee his side, fearing to share their teacher's fate. Meanwhile, the Roman governor Pilate makes a strange alliance with local puppet-king Herod, a man he despises. Both agree on one thing: Holding onto power is their highest priority. Then Simon, a Jew from the African dispersion, finds himself forced to carry Jesus' cross: something the disciples were terrified of doing. Tradition holds this Cyrenian and his family later joined the early church. Whose company are we keeping? TODAY'S READINGS: *Procession: Luke 19:28-40 (37); Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Luke 22:14—23:56 (38)*. “As they led him away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian . . . laying the cross on him.”

Monday, Apr 11 MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK What's your pet project?

Everyone knows Saint Francis of Assisi loved animals—but so did many other saints. Saint Basil the Great urged Christians to see animals as our brothers. Saint Cuthbert made friends with birds. Saint Giles was a vegetarian. And Saint Gertrude of Nivelles, the patron saint of cats, is known for feeding and loving the strays around her monastery. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that “God surrounds animals with His providential care” and Catholic moral theology and ecology have always insisted that it is an act of cruelty to abuse an animal. Today is National Pet Day, a chance to thank God for all creatures—as well as advocate for their welfare. TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11 (257)*. “You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

Tuesday, Apr 12 TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK Reoiled and ready to serve

During this Holy Week your diocese will celebrate its annual Chrism Mass. Diocesan priests join their bishop as he mixes and blesses a year's supply of sacred oils to be used across the diocese for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (Oil of Catechumens), the Anointing of the Sick (Oil of the Infirm), and the sanctification of those who receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders (Holy Chrism). We are anointed for a noble purpose and receive a healing balm. Give glory to God who seals us with inherent dignity and makes us whole. TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38 (258)*. “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him.”

Wednesday, Apr 13 WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK Cinema that inspires

On this day in 1964, Sidney Poitier became the first African American to win the Academy Award for Best Actor for his performance in *Lilies of the Field*. The moment was also notable in that Poitier was an immigrant from the Bahamas and a black Catholic—bringing two marginalized groups together in one historic personage. His role was also unique, that of a handyman who helps a group of nuns—immigrants themselves—with their aging farm property. With its vision of interracial harmony and positive portrait of the church, the film attained legendary status. May we all aspire to live out the call of unity. TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25 (259)*. “I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.”

Thursday, Apr 14 HOLY THURSDAY; EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Lean into the Real Presence

Do we ever plumb the depths of what the Eucharist means in our lives? Christ present. Blood poured out for the world. Unifying meal. The many ways to understand what Jesus gave to us on Holy Thursday may take more than a lifetime to truly grasp. Some of the deepest truths of faith are those that we cannot completely unlock intellectually. Perhaps today is a moment to let go and just relax into Jesus as we receive him at Mass. “He is present for your happiness,” Saint Francis de Sales tells us. “Welcome Him as warmly as possible, and behave outwardly in such a way that your actions may give proof to all of His Presence.” TODAY'S READINGS: *Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15 (39)*. “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Friday, Apr 15 FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (GOOD FRIDAY); DAY OF ABSTINENCE You were there for the long haul

Good Friday, called “Long Friday” in some cultures, marks the close of the long fast of Lent. The word Lent, itself, derives from Old Germanic words for long, or lengthening, days, likely referring to spring. Regardless of what we call this day or the season that brought us here, it has indeed been a long fast. Have you spent these 40 days the way you had intended? Or did you perhaps pass the cup of self-sacrifice early on? Not to worry. In the end, it is more about quality than quantity. As Doctor of the Church Saint John Chrysostom says, “No matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great.” TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42 (40)*. “See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted.”

Saturday, Apr 16 HOLY SATURDAY; EASTER VIGIL Experience the real absence

Today the church is silent, the altar is bare, the tabernacle is empty. Holy Saturday is observed without ceremony of any kind. The Easter Vigil does not start until the sun goes down. Before the kindling of the Easter fire, Holy Saturday remains a blank spot in the church's calendar signifying the real death of Jesus. Perhaps it is a good time to visit your church and experience our lifeless Lord. If you get there before the hubbub of Easter preparation begins, you can keep vigil in the quietude of a church reflecting on its beloved Christ, crucified. 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; Mark 16:1-7 (41)*. “Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?”



Parish Outreach



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: Small Jelly Jars, Jars of Sauce, Egg Noodles & Shelf Stable Milk
A very special THANK YOU to all!

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.



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 have celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage between 2020 and 2022 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

Sunday, May 1, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

Church of Christ the King, Commack
Celebrant: Most Reverend Richard G. Henning

Sunday, May 15, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

Church of St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays
Celebrant: Most Reverend John O. Barres

Sunday, May 22, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

Church of St. James, Seaford
Celebrant: Most Reverend Luis Romero

Register online at drcv-faith.org

Registration must be received by Friday, April 22, 2022

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



Free Covid Test Kits @ Parish Center

Please feel free to come into the Parish Center during office hours to pick up free test kits. They have been donated through the office of Nick Caracappa, Suffolk County Legislator.

Not All Parishioners are able to get to Church ~ Can you Help?

If you are a Extraordinary Minister with part B training & could assist in home visits to bring the Eucharist, please call Julie at 732-3131 x133. **THANK YOU!**



Prayers for our military

Jaime Ottenwalder, USN
Anthony Anglikowski, USN

Vacation Bible School

Save the Date!

July 11 ~ 15, 2022



Please Pray for our Our First Communion Children



as they prepare to receive on *May 7th*



And Confirmation Candidates

as they prepare for the
Sacrament on *May 19th*