

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.

Pastoral Staff

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Retired: Dcn William Kogler,
Dcn Biagio Muratore

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Holy Angels Regional Catholic School

Patchogue, NY 631-475-0422
Jeannine Stewart, Principal

**July 19th
Auditorium**



**Family Movie
Night!**

See Inside for Details



July 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

Having celebrated Independence Day on Monday the 4th, I thought I might offer some thoughts on freedom from the vantage point of the Catholic faith. I should say first that the thoughts are not mine; they belong to Pope Saint John Paul II. I will just comment in this column on the assertions made by the Pope. These assertions are found in his encyclical entitled *Veritatis Splendor* (1993). What the pontiff was trying to do nearly thirty years ago in that document was show how goodness, truth and freedom are all interrelated.

He writes: “The question of morality, to which Christ provides the answer, cannot prescind from the issue of freedom. Indeed, it considers the issue central, for there can be no morality without freedom.” (34) We are all moral actors and what makes us so is that we are at heart free men and women. Freedom, though, has to be understood in a certain way. It is not doing whatever we want, whenever we want to do it. We call that license. Freedom, in contrast, is an interior power whereby we achieve self-realization in community.

Self-realization, the term, is no doubt very appealing to people today. However, we ought not to think in terms of self-fulfillment. Rather, we should think in terms of the reality of Christ. We think this way because we are really united to Christ through Baptism. He is the standard, He is the goal that we are striving after here on earth in order that we might not be separated from Him for all eternity.

Christ is the freest person to have ever walked the face of the earth. His disciples, you and me, undergo a formation in freedom by our imitation of Jesus. At the very same time, our discipleship forms us in the truth. And that is because Jesus is the Truth. (cf. Jn 14:6) Those who are free are made that way by the truth. Thus, we cannot arrive at freedom if we choose to live in such a way that truth does not exist, or manifestly reject it should we dare to say there is truth.

In *Veritatis Splendor*, the pontiff observes: “Human freedom and God’s law meet and are called to intersect, in the sense of man’s free obedience to God and of God’s completely gratuitous benevolence towards man.” (41) Freedom, dependent as it is on truth, also has a relationship to God’s law. Free and truthful men and women live in accord with God’s law. Some man-made laws may be onerous and stifling but not divine law and not the law of nature. Divine law and natural law are the delight of those made in the image and likeness of God. (cf. Gn 1:27)

Living in accord with divine law and natural law means adherence, it means obedience. But it’s not a blind, irrational obedience by any means. Here, again, the standard is Christ Who was obedient unto the Father’s will. (cf. Jn 5:30) And it is through Jesus’ obedience (cf. Phil 2:8) that we have freedom from sin and death. Sacrifice and suffering may and often do accompany the pursuit of God’s will in our lives. Yet even sacrifice and suffering cannot crush us because the Holy Spirit strengthens our resolve as we walk our own version of the *Via Dolorosa*.

Obedience is not weakness, but the proper response of those who wish to delight in the law of the Lord. Christ Himself is the end of the law. When we imitate Christ’s obedience, we will then see Him in His glory and splendor.

We really need a more mature consideration on the meaning of freedom in our culture. That can come provided we pay careful attention to how faith affects freedom. For too often, the meaning of freedom in our culture comes down to doing whatever I want so long as there is mutual consent and no one gets hurt. Not only is this a vulgarized meaning of freedom, but it is also a sensate understanding which does not enrich our lives but impoverishes them.

A freedom informed by faith engages the will which has been trained and disciplined by prayer and study to pursue truth. If freedom’s goal is not the truth, then it puts the lie to what the Bible says: *that we will know the truth, and the truth will set us free.* (cf. Jn 8:32)

Let us live freely then by living truthfully.

Msgr. Batule
Pastor



Prayers for our military

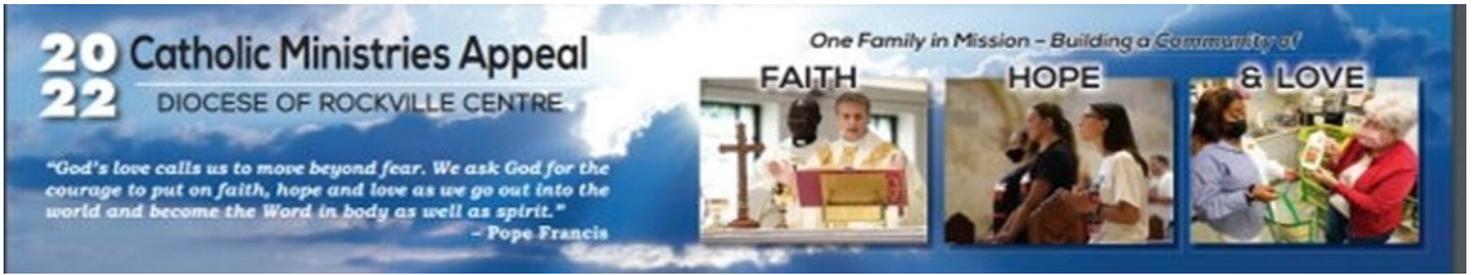
Jaime Ottenwalder, US Navy
Anthony Anglikowski, US Navy
Ivan Slawsky, US Army

St. Margaret’s Blood Drive

July 19th ~ Auditorium

3:00 pm—8:00 pm





Every day, people in our community are helped because of support from funds raise through the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Today, consider a dad like James. James saw information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal at his local parish, and he knew he had to turn to the Church for help since he had nowhere else to go. James had been gainfully employed for more than 10 years when he began to fall ill. Soon his medical issues made it impossible for him to keep working and he was forced to go out on disability.

After paying the co-pays on his medications, his family's rent and utilities bills, James had very little left to purchase food and other necessities for his family.

It was hard for him to ask for help, but with nowhere else to turn, he did. Catholic Charities found him a specialist who assessed the family's needs and directed them to appropriate resources in their community. He went to his Parish Outreach, where his family received food that allowed them to make it through the month. James and his family received the help they sodesperately needed,

Today, James is back to work and the family is doing well. *"I am so thankful that I know there is somewhere I can turn, where there are people that care, people I can talk to, if I am ever in sucha situation again,"* shared James.

Please consider donating to the Appeal and making a difference in the lives of others.

GIVE ONLINE AT <https://www.drvc.org/donate/>



Please make checks payable to **Catholic Ministries Appeal**.

Parish _____ Total Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____ Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

From the Desk of the Pastor



There will be training for **new** Altar Servers starting in September after school resumes. Youngsters in **grade 5 and above** are eligible to serve at the altar. Continue to watch the bulletin for more details.

Immediately following Labor Day, we will have once again our evening with lectors and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. It will be held on Wednesday the 7th of September beginning at 7:00 PM. The first hour will be a **Holy Hour** and the second hour will focus on organizational matters. Watch the bulletin for more details.

Our catechists will be receiving an invitation in the regular mail to join us for **faith enrichment** in the fall. It will consist of five sessions on Monday nights beginning at 7:30 PM. The sessions are also open to all parishioners. Again, continue to watch the bulletin for more details.



REMAIN IN ME!

You are invited to a women's weekend retreat at

**St. Joseph's Villa in Hampton Bays,
September 9, 10 & 11**

The L.I. Women's Ministry has had the pleasure of knowing our Guest Speaker, Patricia Molnar, for many years. Patricia has been a third order Carmelite since the Mid-90's. She spoke at a Carmelite Convocation in 2019 in Chicago speaking to over 400 people. She takes humble and spirit-filled ways of bringing all of us to a deeper awareness of the Lord's presence in our lives and continues to share her gifts wherever she goes.

For more info: email: l.i.womensministry@gmail.com or call Yvonne Bracone at (631)-398-4086 or Nina McGee at (516)449-6197. Limited space.



Filipino Mass

St. Margaret of Scotland Church

Come join to sing and praise

Sunday, July 10th

Rosary ~ 2:00 PM

Heart of the Island Council- Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a membership organization founded by Fr. McGivney in 1882 on the principles of Charity, Unity & Fraternity. The members of our local council serve in many ministries of the Church. Prospective members call Tom Piderit at 917-365-7546. .



Retrovaille ~ You Can Help Heal Your Marriage!

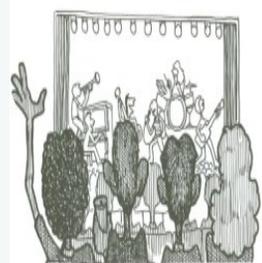
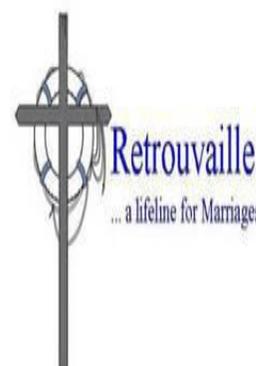
Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other?

Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other?

Does talking about it only make it worse?

Retrovaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples worldwide experiencing ALL TYPES of marital difficulties. For confidential information about the Retrovaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend **please call 1-800-470-2230** and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrovaille who can help. ~ **website www.helpourmarriage.org**.

Watch the bulletin for Fall Dates!



Family Movie Night!

July 16th ~ Auditorium 7:00 PM

\$5 Per Person ~ \$10 Per Family

For info call 631-682-8711

The evening is presented by the Knights of Columbus



Sunday, Jul 10, 2022**Right neighborly of you**

Mister Rogers sang to children daily about the pleasure and importance of being a good neighbor. A Presbyterian minister, Fred Rogers was aware of the biblical power in identifying others as neighbors—rather than competitors, outsiders, or enemies. Jesus flips the traditional meaning of the word when he claims the true neighbor not as one who is geographically near to us, but one who is dear to us and merits our compassion. We recognize our neighbors not by who they are or where they live, but who we are and how we treat them. Choose to be a neighbor to everyone you meet.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:10-14; Colossians 1:15-20; Luke 10:25-37 (105). *"Because he wished to justify himself, [the scholar] said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbor?'"*

Monday, Jul 11, 2022**Worth pondering, as a rule**

Saint Benedict, the "Father of Western Monasticism," established Christian monasticism as we know it with the founding of the Benedictine order in the sixth century, making it the oldest religious order in the Western Church. For 1,500 years, Benedictine women and men have been living communally in monasteries all over the world according to the *Rule of St. Benedict*, a succinct guide that emphasizes prayer, work, simplicity, and hospitality. They take unique vows of stability and ongoing conversion. Draw from the ancient wisdom of the Benedictines by reading the *Rule* yourself and see how this way of life might enrich your own.

MEMORIAL OF BENEDICT, ABBOT, FOUNDER

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34-11:1 (389).

"Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward."

Tuesday, Jul 12, 2022**Education for everyone**

The United Nations has decreed today International Malala Day—after the Pakistani activist, Malala Yousafzai, who wowed the world with her address to the U.N. on July 12, 2013, which also happened to be Malala's 16th birthday. Only the year before, the young woman was shot in the head by the Taliban for her advocacy of young girls getting an education. Malala was later an attendee at the 2015 U.N. General Assembly, listening as Pope Francis gave his first address there and insisted that the "right to education—also for girls, excluded in certain places"—be "ensured first and foremost." Learn how Caritas Pakistan continues Catholic advocacy for women and children.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24 (390). *"Take care you remain tranquil and do not fear; let not your courage fail."*

Wednesday, Jul 13, 2022**Let nothing hold you back**

On this day in 1918, Carlos Manuel Rodríguez Santiago was born into a Catholic family in Puerto Rico. While two of his siblings entered religious life, he was unable to achieve his goal of becoming a priest due to poor health. Even so, he maintained a fervent devotion to promoting the faith, running a magazine and discussion groups covering Catholic liturgy. Illness prevented him from completing college, but he nevertheless became a musical

master and anticipated the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council by promoting active lay participation and vernacular celebrations. He died at age 44 from cancer in 1963, shortly after the Council began, and was beatified in 2001. May Blessed Carlos ever intercede for us to persevere in faith and inspire greater devotion among the faithful!

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 11:25-27 (391).

"Although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned, you have revealed them to the childlike."

Thursday, Jul 14, 2022**Make cultural connections**

Today's saint, Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-1680), suffered the distrust of both of the cultures she belonged to. Many among her tribe of Mohawks rejected her embrace of Christianity. French Canadians, who dominated the Montreal church that she joined, sometimes held her at arm's length—when she and a devout companion, also indigenous, proposed founding a religious order, church authorities nixed the plan. But as a woman with a foot in both worlds, Kateri is seen today as a bridge between indigenous and European cultures in North America. Reconciliation between different groups is sorely needed today: Saint Kateri, pray for us!

MEMORIAL OF KATERI TEKAKWITHA, MOHAWK

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Matthew 11:28-30

(392). *"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."*

Friday, Jul 15, 2022**Know your net worth**

"If you do not know your own dignity and condition, you cannot value anything at its proper worth," says the wise Saint Bonaventure, noted 13th-century Franciscan theologian and doctor of the church. Take time to think about that admonishment today. Tally your credits and debits—the good and bad you've wrought, your accomplishments and failures. Then remember that nothing goes unnoticed by God: "Even the hairs of your head are all counted" (Matt. 10:30). Why? Because you are God's alone. Let that knowledge shape your understanding of everything. As Bonaventure puts it: "Every creature is a divine word because it proclaims God."

MEMORIAL OF BONAVENTURE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Matthew 12:1-8 (393).

"I desire mercy, not sacrifice."

Saturday, Jul 16, 2022**Choose a path of devotion**

The Third Order of Carmel is an association of lay persons who live according to the spirit of the Carmelite Order and share in its mission. Their charisms are prayer, community, and ministry. Lay Carmelites attend a monthly meeting in which they wear the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel as a sign of their dedication to the Virgin Mary. If possible, they participate in daily Mass and try to spend a half hour in meditation each day, reflecting on scripture. Lay Carmelites also pray the Morning and Evening Prayer of the Divine Office. Though they are not professed religious, they practice the virtues of poverty, chastity and obedience. Pray to Our Lady of Mount Carmel to inspire your own spiritual practice.

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 2:1-5; Matthew 12:14-21 (394). *"Many people followed him, and he cured them all."*

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



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Parish Outreach



The children are home from school!

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: Snacks, Juice Boxes & Jars of Juice, Canned Fruit and Pasta

A very special THANK YOU to all!

Faith Formation

Registration ~ September 2022

Letters have been mailed for your child's Faith Formation Registration.

Please mail or drop off at the Parish Center by August 10th

Our Faith Formation office will be closed from August 8th through August 21st.

We will be available for registration and questions.

You may email Jackie at jmirenda@saintmargaret.com or x131.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Adventure through
God's Colorful Canyons!

JULY 11th - 15th
9:15 AM - 12:30 PM
Registration Open



4 yr. old & up — entering 6th grade.
Potty trained & have been
separated from parent in the past.



FIRST 100 CHILDREN !

**\$35 per child ~ \$70 for 2 children
\$ 90 three children or more**

Register in the Parish Center

**We are in need of adult volunteers. Please call to let us know if you're able to assist us.
Must be VIRTUS certified (not sure, ask us). Teen Helpers ~ 7th Grade & Up
Call 732-3131 x131**