

# ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

*Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service*



## ***Pastoral Staff***

Msgr. Robert Batule - *Pastor* x111

Rev. Patrick Abu-Bonsra - Parochial Vicar  
x116 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

## **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.

# Ash Wednesday

February 22<sup>nd</sup>

9:00 AM ~ Mass

12:00 PM ~ Prayer Service

4:00 PM ~ Prayer Service

7:30 PM ~ Mass



Remember you are dust, and unto dust  
you shall return.

Repent and believe in the Gospel.

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## February 19, 2023

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

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813



Saint Anselm, the Benedictine priest and bishop (1033 – 1109), once wrote in *Cur Deus Homo* (Why God Became Man) that God sent His Son to redeem us from our sins. With Christ's coming the first time in the Incarnation, there was great joy. But our sins do not occasion joy; they occasion our sorrow. The Church has a remedy for our sins. It's called Lent. And Lent starts on February 22<sup>nd</sup> this year.

I want to mention a few practices we might use to have a more fruitful season of penitence. I'll mention each one and then offer a brief commentary for each Lenten practice.

I want to start with the **Holy Eucharist**. I start here because the Sacrament of the Lord's Presence is the *preeminent* way for us to be in communion with Christ. The Eucharist contains the saving act of the Lord – His suffering for us, His dying for us on the Cross and His Resurrection. That suffering, dying and rising took several days of Jesus' ministry. It is made available to us in the single act of the Holy Eucharist. The Holy Eucharist makes present once again what occurred on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

We are in the midst of the **Eucharistic Revival** now. Let this be a time for some to embrace more ardently the Paschal Victory of the Lord and attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with greater frequency; let this also be a time for others to resume a regular practice of the faith by going every Sunday and each Holy Day.

A second practice which should get our attention this Lent is **sacramental confession**. This Lent resolve to use the sacrament at some point. Some Catholics continue to use the Sacrament of Penance all the while many of their co-religionists have stopped going and haven't gone in years or decades. If you are in this first group of Catholics, still using the sacrament – good, keep going. The grace of the sacrament is a rich and abiding source for helping us to imitate the Lord in all the ways we possibly can. If you happen to be in the second group, those who have given up on the sacrament, re-consider your decision. Pray for the courage to start anew, to return to the mercy of the Lord in hearing once again those most welcome words from your confessor: "I absolve you of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

A long-time Lenten practice has been the **Stations of the Cross**. Fewer and fewer Catholics pray the stations anymore. And that is too bad. If we want to imitate the Lord, we can't leave out His suffering for us, a redemptive suffering at that. A redemptive suffering is one taken up out of love for the sinner. In praying the stations, we express our thanksgiving to the Lord Who fell three times under the weight of the Cross and got up each time on the *Via Dolorosa*. He did that for us! He didn't give up on us even as we do indeed give up on ourselves all the time.

And, lastly, there is **fasting** and **almsgiving**. These practices Jesus enjoins on us in Saint Matthew's Gospel, specifically in the passage which we hear in church on Ash Wednesday. (cf. Matt 6:1-4; 5-8 and 16-18) To fast is to get ready for what the Lord is going to give us. Fasting is a form of self-denial. If we don't deny ourselves, we will not be able to recognize just how good is the Lord's gift to us. We won't be able to discern what is eternally good unless we deprive ourselves of those things which are short-time pleasures. Among us are those who are deprived of what *they need as opposed to what they would like to have*. In response to this kind of dearth, we can help to relieve suffering. This is why the practice of the corporal works of mercy is so important to the followers of Jesus. When one part of the body suffers, do all the parts suffer. (cf. 1 Cor. 12:26)

A few good practices to use this Lenten season that there might be a harvest of a hundred, sixty or thirtyfold. (cf. Matt 13:8)

Msgr. Batule  
Pastor

The Parish Center Office will be closed on  
Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>  
for President's Day.



The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) will continue our immense Telethon tradition this year! This exciting event will commence on Saturday, February 25th from 2 – 10 PM and continue through Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 10 PM. Guaranteed to be the most engaging telethon to date, the entertainment will continue with many surprise guests along with our on-air family that you have come to know. Please join the excitement and consider pledging! The process is easy, you can pledge securely online by visiting [www.CFNtv.org](http://www.CFNtv.org) or by scanning the QR Code

below, using a smartphone or any smart device. We know we can continue to count on you, as we always have! CFN is available throughout the Tri-State Area on Optimum, channel 29/137; Verizon FiOS TV channel 296; Spectrum, channel 162/471. Additionally, you can tune in nationwide on the following streaming services – Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Roku, Android TV, and Apple TV.



## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

For your personal adoration and prayers.



**FIRST THURSDAYS**  
**MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup> & APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
**3:00 - 6:00 PM in the Church**



The church is open at 8:30 AM Monday through Friday. We encourage parishioners and other church-goers to come early for Mass.

The recitation of the rosary is encouraged among those so inclined.



This weekend a family-owned and operated business based in the city of Bethlehem (the Holy Land), specializing in the production of olivewood handicrafts, will be at our parish. Their products are of high quality. Their primary concern is their customers' satisfaction and support of the Christian community in the Holy Land. We guarantee the wood's origin as being from the Holy Land and sustainably sourced via the practice of seasonal pruning. **Their sale will be in our auditorium after Masses on**



Watch for St. Margaret of Scotland's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dates.

## Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent ~ 12:00 noon & 7:30 pm



February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

April 7 — 7:30 pm

## St. Margaret's Bible Study

The Parish Bible Study is held on **Wednesdays at 10 AM** in the Parish Center.



Deacon Ed Hayes will be the facilitator. Please bring your Bible.

## 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.

## Mass Book for 2023

The **Mass Book for 2023 is open in the parish center.** We encourage you to remember deceased relatives and friends at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Through the Communion of Saints, we are never removed from those whom we love. We hope for a reunion with them in God's providence, and praying for them now helps to bring that reunion a nearer prospect.

## Divine Mercy Novena

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

Holy Saturday will be after the 8:30 Morning Prayer. Easter Sunday you may do private. Daily Novena will be after morning Mass

## Divine Mercy Sunday

April 16<sup>th</sup> ~ 3 PM in the Church





# COFFEE with JESUS

## Lenten Series via Zoom

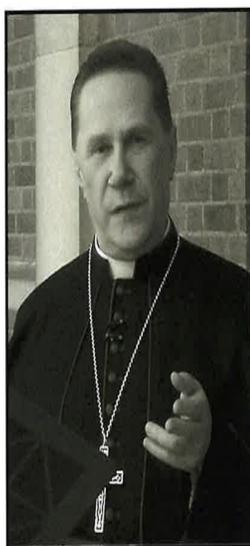
### Join Bishop Andrzej

10:00 am on Friday mornings during Lent:

February 24, March 10 and March 24

Online Lenten reflections  
on Scripture Readings,  
with the special emphasis  
on the Last Words of Jesus.

Great opportunity to prepare and nourish your mind, spirit and heart in preparation for Easter.



To register,  
please call Suzanne 516-744-6850  
or email [westernvicariate@drv.org](mailto:westernvicariate@drv.org).

Once you are registered, you will be emailed the ZOOM information prior to each session of this Lenten series.



## Congratulations Honor Roll Students

St. Margaret's Parish family would like to congratulate the Honor Roll students from



### St. Anthony's High School, Huntington

Nelson Beausoleil, Tiffany Bosch, Valerie Bosch, Sarah Breuer, Cassandra Hussey, Sean McMillin, Cameron-Noelle Mendoza, Deanna Miklitsch, Daniel Sawicki, Aelish Symonds, Donovan Symonds, Gabriela Troche & Ajani Valerio

*We commend their efforts to excel!*

"We pledge to persevere in prayer, fasting and witnessing to the sacredness of every human life."

- Bishop Barres' statement regarding the U.S. Supreme Court Decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, June 24, 2022



## Rosary for Life

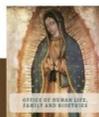
JOIN the OFFICE of HUMAN LIFE, FAMILY and BIOETHICS in PRAYER

**Every Friday - 3:00 PM**

### Via Zoom

Click here for link  
Meeting ID: 856 4708 7922  
Passcode: 677757  
Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923

Email [dcrean@drv.org](mailto:dcrean@drv.org)  
if you would like the link sent to you each month.



[www.drvc.life.org](http://www.drvc.life.org)



To clarify the matter of second collections, the following is offered to the parishioners of Saint Margaret.

Second collections are designated by the Diocese every year. We know when they occur by a **listing** of them and the **envelopes** for them which are mailed to parishioners who support our parish financially. It needs to be stated that designated second collections are **to be taken up at all Masses, in all parishes** in the Diocese.

If you are offering your donation to the parish weekly or monthly and you don't know when the second collections are, please see a listing for them in the ushers' room in the vestibule of the church or the bulletin boards of the church. We are grateful for your support of these second collections. They are not however optional and neither are they income for the parish.

Msgr. Batule

**Sunday, Feb 19, 2023****Kindness and care, from beginning to end**

Sometimes you have to do things for yourself. Mathilda Beasley (1833-1903), of Creole and Native American parents, founded a Franciscan community of color in Savannah with little help from normal church channels. Her sisters cared for orphaned black children, continuing the work until things ran out: money, housing, and the health of Mother Beasley. Though the community was suppressed, Mother Beasley was the third founder of an order of black sisters in the United States, after Elizabeth Lange and Henriette Delille. God measures our efforts, not our success.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48 (79). *"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God."*

**Monday, Feb 20, 2023****Either part of the problem, or . . .**

Imagine being a lifelong Catholic—yet being refused admittance to a Catholic school. Or being asked to move to the back of the church at Mass because of your race. Professor Thomas Wyatt Turner (1877-1978) experienced plenty of discrimination, which is why he helped found the NAACP in 1909 as well as the Federated Colored Catholics in 1924. The latter group pledged their services to the church "for whatever good they were able to effect in the solution of the problems facing the group in church and country." On this World Day of Social Justice, be part of the solution.

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 1:1-10; Mark 9:14-29 (341). *"Why could we not drive the spirit out?" [Jesus] said to them, 'This kind can only come out through prayer.'"*

**Tuesday, Feb 21, 2023****Climb to holiness**

Dante Alighieri, writing *The Divine Comedy*, paid Peter Damian the great honor of placing him in one of the highest circles of Paradise. In fact, Peter is the first of two important monastic figures to greet Dante in "seventh heaven," the other being Saint Benedict of Nursia. Both represent this heavenly level: spiritual contemplatives who've lived a life of temperance and prayer. Dante has Peter and Benedict climbing up and down a golden ladder, reminiscent of the "Ladder of Humility" (12 steps) described in the Benedictine Rule and the "Ladder of Divine Ascent" (30 steps) written by monastic Saint John Climacus. If you need to build a Lenten practice, step up to the task tomorrow.

MEMORIAL OF PETER DAMIAN, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 2:1-11; Mark 9:30-37 (342). *"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."*

**Wednesday, Feb 22, 2023****Out of the ashes**

Happy Ash Wednesday! Yes, it can be a cause for celebration. Best known as the first day of Lent, this day remains sacred to Catholic communities in the West as a day of solemnity following the Carnival season, capped off yesterday with Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday"). Though most often associated with revelry and excess, the season just completed is also a holy one. Carnival is full of Catholic symbolism and festive acknowledgement of God and creation, in keeping with the church year and its marking of spiritual times and seasons. Now, as we enter a period of fasting and abstinence, let's remember to continue seeking God's

goodness in the rich traditions of the faith. Don't forget to stop by church for ashes today!

ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18 (219). *"For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him."*

**Thursday, Feb 23, 2023****Emulate those who stood firm**

Polycarp was a bishop, and his death the church's first recorded martyrdom. He was born in 69, just a few years after Peter and Paul were executed, and Roman authorities burned him to death after what one account calls a "witty conversation" between Polycarp and Statius Quadratus, Roman proconsul. Polycarp became one of what would turn out to be a flood of Christians who have been put to death, and continue to be so, for not renouncing their faith. Sometimes "not renouncing" means publicly living Christian ethics against pressure; sometimes it means stating one's belief in words. Strive to be a courageous witness for faith, as those who came before us have been.

MEMORIAL OF POLYCARP, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25 (220).

*"What profit is there for one to gain the whole world yet lose or forfeit himself?"*

**Friday, Feb 24, 2023****Fast approaching**

The practice of fasting during Lent finds its genesis in our Lord's journey into the desert where he fasted and prayed for 40 days and nights in preparation to begin his public ministry (Matthew 4:1-2; Luke 4:1-3). We observe the 40 days of Lent in imitation of Christ's time in the desert. We walk into the desert with Christ and fast so as to have the strength to do good and avoid evil, with the help of God's grace. We strive to atone for our sins and purify our lives in preparation for the celebration of Christ's glorious rising from the tomb.

FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15 (221). *"This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: . . . Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own."*

**Saturday, Feb 25, 2023****What's on your bookshelf?**

It is often said that Lent is a time to take spiritual inventory and do a "spring cleanup" as we renew our baptismal promises. The conjunction of Lent with Black History Month and Catholic Press Month affords us an unprecedented opportunity to take spiritual inventory of our bookshelves, too! What books do we have from the black Catholic community that can enrich us, expand our spiritual horizons, and even challenge us? This Lent, consider picking up *Uncommon Faithfulness: The Black Catholic Experience* (2009) or *Black Catholic Studies Reader: History and Theology* (2021). Make one of these books or a similar one part of your Lenten renewal.

SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32 (222). *"Then the LORD will guide you always and give you plenty even on the parched land."*

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



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# Faith Formation

## Confirmation Volunteer Update!



Our 1<sup>st</sup> year Confirmation Candidates created 73 Valentines for the Memory Unit at Oasis Assisted Living. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> year Candidates made 131 wash up kits for Pax Christi, 46 Valentines for the Memory unit, 52 Angel wreaths, stuffed 86 Easter eggs for distribution of our younger levels, did prep work for Vacation Bible School- cutting of stars along with organizing our supplies. What a blessing for their busy hands helping!

## 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 6<sup>th</sup> grade ~ Fee \$35 per child  
Volunteers Needed! Adults & Students grade 6 and up.  
High Schoolers welcome.

Registration opens 2/27 limited to first 100 children.  
Any question ~ Jackie Miranda at 631-732-3131 x131  
or [jmirenda@saintmargaret.com](mailto: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: **Non Sugar Cereal, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Mac & Cheese, Instant Potatoes, Juice, Saltine Crackers, Toothpaste, Bar Soap and Toilet Paper**  
*A very special THANK YOU to all!*

## FACE CLOTHS AND TRAVEL ITEMS NEEDED FOR WASH UP KITS

We are in need of NEW face cloths for our wash up kits projects.. If you have traveled lately and have small shampoo and hotel items please drop off these and the facecloths at the parish center. Thank you!



The Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls will be available the first week of Lent. You may pick one up in the Parish Center or the church lobby.

## Catholic Charities TALBOT HOUSE

Are you or someone you know having family or interpersonal problems due to drinking ALCOHOL and/or using DRUGS?

CATHOLIC CHARITIES /Talbot House, a Chemical Dependence Crisis Center, located in Bohemia, provides withdrawal & stabilization services on a voluntary basis to males & females over the age of 18, who are seeking to stop and/or withdraw from alcohol and/or drug use. The medical & clinical staff at Talbot House will assess the kind of care the person needs to begin their journey in recovery. For more info, call confidentially 631-589-4144. Talbot House staff is available 24/7.

**Talbot House is a "NO fee for service" program.**

## 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. .

**Catholic Gifts** ~Looking for Catholic gifts and items? You can visit Our Lady of the Island Shrine , 258 Eastport Manor Rd. in Manorville. They carry a large variety of religious articles. [OURLADYOFTHEISLAND.ORG](http://OURLADYOFTHEISLAND.ORG)

## Living Waters Wholistic Healing

Therapeutic Catholic Counseling dedicated to healing the whole individual with a an integrated approach to the intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual. For more info go to [livingwaterstherapy.org](http://livingwaterstherapy.org).