



ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service

February 23, 2025

Celebration of the Holy Eucharist

Weekday: Monday through Friday 9:00AM

Saturday: 8:30AM, 5:00PM

Sunday: 8:00AM, 10:00AM and 12:00NOON

Confessions

Saturday: 4:00-4:45PM in the church or by appointment

St. Margaret of Scotland Parish Center

81 College Road
Selden, NY 11784
(631) 732-3131

Msgr. Robert Batule, Pastor
x111

Rev. Patrick Abu-Bonsra, Parochial Vicar
x116 pabubonsra@saintmargaret.com

Deacons

Deacon Ed Hayes – Retired
Deacon William Kogler – Retired
Deacon Biagio Muratore – Retired

Parish Center Office

Receptionist x0

Adriana Burtoff, Administrative Assistant
x118 aburtoff@saintmargaret.com

Faith Formation Office

Jackie Mirenda, Coordinator
x131 jmirenda@saintmargaret.com

Music Ministry

Dr. Daniel Crews, Director
x117 dcrews@saintmargaret.com

Parish Outreach

x119 outreach@saintmargaret.com

Holy Angels Regional Catholic School

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



This is the last Sunday of February, and I would like to continue with the topic of reverence which I took up last week in this space. I introduced that subject the last time by saying that I had no idea when I was ordained a priest nearly forty years ago that I would be returning to this subject as often as I do in my writing in the bulletin, but that is what has happened. It's not because there aren't other topics to address; there are plenty, to be sure. It's just that worshipping together in church has so many distractions now that it is very hard to concentrate on the Presence of the Lord.

I mention concentration because it is often in short supply given all of the acts we attempt to carry out on a daily basis. Take, driving a car, for instance. With electronic devices going off in our immediate environment all the time, how hard it is to concentrate on driving. The urge to see who is calling now, who is texting now, is awfully hard to resist. So, we look down as the sounds keep going off, hoping that a glance will suffice. But our curiosity gets the best of us and we steal a look at the device's screen. If only I just see the name or the phone number, then I'll be satisfied. Well, we're not satisfied – we want to pick up and take the call or the text right away.

We can't resist. We give in.

My concentration is broken and I can't focus any longer on the Word or the Body, the pulpit or the altar, the silence or the hymn. My recollection is broken, and the more it is broken, the less likely I am to do anything about it. I wind up settling for distraction and I soon lose any hope that I can ever be recollected enough to encounter the Holy One Who is God on this planet.

Let me cover two other points before finishing this shorter than usual column from the Pastor.

On Monday last (the 17th), we marked Presidents' Day. We thought of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and the leadership they exercised at crucial moments of our national history. We could not have gotten through our Founding or our Near Dissolution without these men. The Church too has men who are distinguished by their profession of faith and they are regarded as pillars of strength for the faithful.

Just yesterday (on the 22nd), we celebrated the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter. The Gospel text assigned for Mass on this day has Jesus posing this question: Who am I? It is Peter who says that Jesus is the Messiah. The text (from Saint Matthew) shows the Petrine Ministry in the Church. The keys of the kingdom are given Peter by Jesus. "Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." (Matt 16:19)

Were not today a Sunday, we would be celebrating the Memorial of Saint Polycarp. Polycarp is an Apostolic Father (along with Saint Clement and Saint Ignatius). Polycarp heard the preaching of the Apostle John and became the Bishop of Smyrna. Polycarp was a Martyr.

The Apostolic Fathers followed the witness of the Apostles chosen by Jesus. Clement was a Pope (the fourth one) and was martyred before the start of the second century (d. 99). Ignatius was martyred also, in the first few years of the second century (d. 110). Polycarp's death was well along into the second century (c. 155), and he too was a martyr.

Martyrdom is the supreme witness to Christ and the Church. In any age, it is a sign of a love which refuses to acquiesce to fear.

Until the next time.

Msgr. Batule
Pastor



Ash Wednesday Schedule

Wednesday, March 5th

9:00AM Mass | 12:00PM Service
4:00PM Service | 7:30PM Mass

*“Repent, and believe
in the gospel.”*

Mark 1:15

Baptisms

Harper Heluano Coppola
Landon Joseph Finkel



Wedding Banns

Banns I:

Katherine Emily Mohammed
and Brian Michael Granata,
both St. Margaret of Scotland

St. Margaret’s Spousal Bereavement

Both individual and group bereavement counseling services are available for those who are mourning the loss of their husband or wife. All confidential sessions are held on a weekly basis and participants need not be St Margaret’s parishioners. For more information please contact Barbara Gottfried at (631) 698-6053.



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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

*For your personal
adoration and prayers*

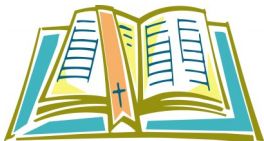
**FIRST THURSDAY
THURSDAY, MARCH 6TH**

3:00—6:00PM in the Church



BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Bible Study group meets every Wednesday from 10AM to 11AM in the parish center. Deacon Ed Hayes will be the facilitator. Please bring your Bible.



Rice bowls will be available next weekend for parishioners interested in taking part in the annual Lenten Catholic Relief Services

Rice Bowl project. We are encouraged to use the bowls to collect Lenten alms to feed the hungry in our community and in impoverished places all over the world. Rice bowls can be returned after Easter.

Visit CRSricebowl.org for more information.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

For your personal adoration and prayers,

Saturday Afternoons

4:00-4:45PM ~ In the Church

*Adoration is the highest act of worship. By sitting quietly before His presence in the Blessed Sacrament, we offer to God what is most personal and pleasing – our time and our hearts. This allows our gracious God to draw us lovingly to Himself. By joining our **adoration to prayer and praise, we celebrate that we are the Body of Christ. Come experience the beauty of this holy exchange heart to heart.***

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

THIS WEEKEND

February 23rd ~11:00AM

Following the 10:00 Mass

In the Church Auditorium

Sponsored by

The Heart of the Island

Knights of Columbus

All are invited!



VIRTUS

All current volunteers in the parish need to complete a background check through Sterling every five years. If you received an email from Virtus, please note it is legitimate and must be completed to continue your ministry work. Additionally, if you work with children in our parish, you must complete the monthly bulletins that should be going to your email.

****If you have not been receiving any email correspondence from Virtus or DRVC, please provide the parish with your current email address so that you are able to complete the background check.****

Log onto VirtusOnline.org. Once you have done so, you will be redirected to "Sterling Volunteers" for your background screening. Follow all the directions to complete the background screening application. **DO NOT STOP ONCE YOU BEGIN THE APPLICATION.**

Contact Adriana at ABurtoff@saintmargaret.com or (631) 732-3131 x118 if you need assistance.

Faith Formation

20 Minutes with the Pastor/Director ~ Sundays at 9:30AM

February 23rd – Levels 1, 2, & 3

March 16th – Levels 1, 2, & 3

March 2nd – Levels 4, 5, & 6

March 23rd – Levels 4, 5, & 6

March 9th – Level 7

March 30th – Level 7



Parish Social Ministry

Our food pantry is in need of



- ◇ JELLY
- ◇ BEEF STEW/CHILI
- ◇ OATMEAL
- ◇ NON-SUGARED CEREAL
- ◇ COOKIES/SNACKS
- ◇ JARS OF JUICE
- ◇ SHAMPOO
- ◇ LAUNDRY DETERGENT

Please bring all donations to the front door of the Parish Center during office hours or bring to the box in the back of the church.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ITEMS BY THE LOCKED FRONT DOORS OF EITHER BUILDING. Thank you!

Wash Up Kits

Please continue to donate travel size soaps, shampoo, and wash cloths for wash up kits. These kits will be donated to

LONG ISLAND CARES
MILITARY APPRECIATION
TUESDAYS PROGRAM

This program provides veterans with essential items such as food, personal care products, household supplies, and more.



Save the
Date!



St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School
Presents

A Taste for Education

March 10, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.

SJB Cougar Cafe

Persons under the age of 21 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

**Scan the
QR Code to buy
your tickets
today!**



**Tickets:
\$50**

Please contact Tim Murphy with any questions- murphyt@sjbdhs.org.

1170 Montauk Highway | West Islip, NY | 11795


Community Happenings

No Exceptions! No Compromises!


INTERNATIONAL GIFT of LIFE WALK NYC

9TH ANNUAL

Tuesday, March 25, 2025



GRAND PROLIFE MARSHAL
Rebecca Kiessling
Save The 1




SPECIAL GUEST
Fr. Chris Alar, MIC
Host, EWTN Living Divine Mercy


Tuesday, March 25, 2025 • Foley Square • New York City

Rally: 11:00AM
Foley Square
101 Worth Street
NY, NY 10013
Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Rally starts at Foley Square,
Walking down Broadway (aka
Canyon of Heroes) (0.9 miles)
Walk ends at Stone & Broad Street



BUSES
Available from
Westchester
Long Island
Call now to reserve
your seat.
(631) 487-7578

Make Your Tax Deductible Donation → 

Register and info:
(631) 487-7578 | email: info@PersonhoodEducationNY.com



St. Margaret's BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by
Legislator Nick Caracappa



Thank you to all who donated the gift of life at last week's blood drive! Thank you also to the Knights of Columbus and all who volunteered to make this blood drive a success. We were able to collect 39 pints of blood for those who need it!



Spring Bereavement Group Sessions

Parishes across Suffolk County will be conducting bereavement groups this spring for the newly bereaved, including those who have lost a spouse, parent, sibling, child, or partner.

Upon calling the parish of your choosing, you will be mailed a registration form.

There is a one-time cost of \$25 to sign up.

St. Joseph's RCC	Ronkonkoma	Contact: Michele Nappi (631) 588-8456
9 Weeks	Tuesdays	April 1st-May 27th 2:00PM-3:15PM
Holy Cross	Nesconset	Contact: Kelley Mowat (631) 265-2200 ext.13
7 Weeks	Wednesdays	April 2nd-May 14th 1:30PM-3:30PM
St. Joseph the Worker	Patchogue	Contact: Luciano Sabatini, Ph.D. (631) 823-0552
9 Weeks	Thursdays	April 3rd-May 29th 11:00AM-12:15PM