



ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service

September 14, 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*



Today, we mark the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The gospel text at Mass includes the verse “God so loved the world that he gave us his only Son.” (Jn 3:16) Readers of this column may remember watching sports on television in which fans in the stadiums (usually football stadiums too) would hold signs with the words I cited above. You don’t see much of the signs anymore. If they are there, you wouldn’t know it because the television cameras don’t show the signs. It’s too bad we exercise such censorship, self-imposed or not, because biblical verses are not alienating, as some say they are. Why would the God Who made us want to alienate us? Saving us is not alienating us; it is loving us. Indeed, God draws close to us, paradoxically, through the Cross. By that Cross, we have life on high. Sin and death have been overcome. Let us not be embarrassed then, but let us be confident!

Public expressions of faith do make some Americans skittish. We live in a deeply secularized society now, and thus we think by restricting the Cross to certain “safe” places like churches, we won’t risk arousing complaints against us. But not even in churches are we safe anymore.

Survivors who suffer in the aftermath of the terrible school shooting at the Annunciation Catholic Parish in Minneapolis and those who died there as a result of its horror in late August, for all of them there is hope. Saint Paul writes in his Letter to the Romans that hope does not disappoint us because it rests with the Son Who loves us to the grave and beyond it. He can do that because He went to the grave Himself for us out of love. And love for Christian believers is eternal because the Resurrection is eternal!

Let me mention some matters now which are related to the calendar for the month of October.

The first Sunday of October is Respect Life Sunday. I encourage parishioners to go to the Life Chain (also known as Stand Up for Life) held on Route 110 in Melville. Participants should go to the east side of Rt. 110, south of Jericho Turnpike for a 2:00 PM start. It concludes at 3:30 PM.

It is a largely silent and prayerful public witness. I have attended for many, many years now. Please consult the bulletin boards in the church for more details. You will also see that Saint Margaret is a sponsor of the event – along with many other parishes and other organizations on Long Island. So, drive over in your car, and join with other pro-life people to stand up for the humans we can’t yet see with our eyes - not until they are born.

The first weekend of October (the 4th and 5th), we have the start of the Baby Bottle Campaign here at Saint Margaret. We last had it in 2023. It begins with brief talks by volunteers before Masses. The speakers are volunteers at the Life Center. As you leave church after Mass, you can pick up from the ushers the baby bottles. At the end of October (24th and 25th), you return the baby bottle with your loose currency and change in it.

As we started the school year, we had Orientation sessions with the families of the children enrolled in our parish Faith Formation program. We continue to emphasize the importance of Twenty Minutes with the Pastor/Director on Sunday mornings before the 10:00 AM Mass. We ask the parents to attend with their child(ren) these catechetical sessions according to the schedule drawn up by Mrs. Jackie Mirenda. The schedule goes almost the entire length of the school year (September – May). Families should bring with them to the sessions their copies of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

We have a liturgical observance on October 7th honoring Our Blessed Mother (Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary). I ask parishioners to join us on that day (a Tuesday) after the 9:00 AM Mass at the grotto on parish property to pray in common the holy rosary. We will do this weather permitting, of course.

We resume our socials on Sunday mornings after the 10:00 AM Mass on September 28th. The Knights of Heart of the Island Council host the event. Come and join us for some hospitality at the end of this month in the church basement.

Until the next time.

Msgr. Batule
Pastor

Saint 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 Saint Margaret's parishioners. For more information please contact Barbara Gottfried at (631) 698-6053.



2026 Mass Book

The Mass Book for 2026 is now open. 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. *We request one individual be remembered per Mass. Thank you.*



Church Hours

The church is open at 8:30AM Monday through Saturday. We encourage parishioners and other churchgoers to come early for Mass. The recitation of the rosary is encouraged among those so inclined. The church closes at 12:00NOON daily.

Baptisms 
Deiter Maura Westphal

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

You're invited to spend some time with Jesus. Exposition takes place every week. Stop by the church for personal adoration and prayers.

Saturdays 4:00-4:45PM

Sundays 11:15-11:45AM

First Thursday, October 2nd 3:00-6:00PM

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



VIRTUS®

Thank you to all our ministers who are in compliance with the Diocese of Rockville Centre. As a reminder, all volunteers who are involved in any ministry in the diocese need to have completed the following:

- Attend a "Protecting God's Children" class
- Create a Virtus account on VirtusOnline.org
- Sign the Code of Conduct on website
- Complete a background check on website
- Complete the monthly bulletins (sent to your email) if you work directly with children

If you have not done these things, you are not cleared to volunteer in our parish.

To find out the status of your Virtus account, or if you need assistance, contact Adriana at ABurtoff@saintmargaret.com or at x118.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Registration

Faith formation classes have now started! We ask families who have not registered their child yet to do so **as soon as possible**. Thank you for your cooperation.



- ◇ First-time registrants will need a copy of each child's baptismal certificate submitted with their registration form.
- ◇ Reminder: all children need to be enrolled for Faith Formation each year.
- ◇ Any St. Margaret's parishioner who would like more information on how to become a catechist may reach out to the parish center and ask for Jackie.

Orientation

The last remaining orientation is **Level 1**, which will meet
Monday, September 15th, at 5:00PM.

Please Note: All orientation gatherings are for parent/child. Materials will be distributed.

Contact Jackie Mirenda at JMirenda@saintmargaret.com or x131 with any questions.

Twenty Minutes with the Pastor/Director — Sundays at 9:30AM

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ◇ September 14 — Levels 6 & 7 | ◇ October 12 — Levels 6 & 7 |
| ◇ September 21 — Levels 3, 4, & 5 | ◇ October 19 — Levels 3, 4, & 5 |
| ◇ September 28 — Level 8 | ◇ October 26 — Levels 1 & 2 |
| ◇ October 5 — Levels 1 & 2 | ◇ November 2 — Levels 6 & 7 |



Parish Social Ministry

Parish Food Pantry Needs

The parish food pantry is currently **out of** or **critically low** on several goods:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| ◇ All Soups | ◇ Kids Snacks |
| ◇ Shelf Stable Milk | ◇ Canned Green Beans |
| ◇ Dinty Moore Stew | ◇ Boxed Mashed Potatoes |
| ◇ Boxes of Rice | ◇ Gravy |
| ◇ Oatmeal | ◇ Shampoo |
| ◇ Cookies | ◇ Paper & Plastic Bags |



We ask that all donations be brought to the front door of the Parish Center during office hours placed in 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

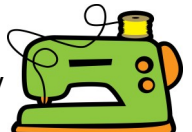



Please continue to donate travel size soaps, shampoos, and wash cloths for wash up kits. These kits are assembled by volunteers and donated to *Lighthouse Missions*. This organization provides individuals with essential items such as food, personal care products, household supplies, and more. You may drop items off at the parish center.

Do You Sew?



Your talent is needed, sewers of Saint Margaret. The Stony Brook Children's Hospital needs your help making pediatric patient surgical caps, memory pouches, or demise wraps. Patterns and materials are available to be picked up in the parish center. *You sew — we deliver!* Call Jackie at x131 if you can assist.





Blood Drive

Callari Memorial Blood Drive

Roll up your sleeve in memory of someone special.



Selden Fire Department

Sponsored by Legislator Nick Caracappa

Tuesday, September 16th

1:45-7:45

44 Woodmere Place, Selden – Truck Bays

Appointments are preferred and walk-ins are welcomed!
Scan the QR code or call 1-800-933-2566,
or visit www.nybc.org

All donors will receive sandwiches, salads, and refreshments!

Any medical questions please call 1-800-688-0900
Any further questions contact Jennifer at 516-310-2382




Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Visit nybc.org/coronavirus for COVID-19 safety protocols.

For many years the Callari family chaired and coordinated the Selden Fire Dept. and St. Margaret's R.C. church blood drives.

In the past few years, and with deepest regrets from our communities, we lost these wonderful volunteers. Selden Fire Department is holding a memorial blood drive to honor Ex. Capt. and former Commissioner Joe Callari, his wife Sue Callari former Chaplain S.F.D.L.A. and their daughter Roe Callari Ex. Capt. of S.F.D. and Past President of S.F.D.L.A. respectively.

Please join us to honor this dedicated family by donating a pint of blood.
Your pint of blood will save 3 lives!

#nybloodcenter 
800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org

Hospitality Sunday

Our “welcome back” *Hospitality Sunday* will be **Sunday, September 28th**, at 11:00AM, in the church auditorium. Sponsored by *The Heart of the Island Knights* of Columbus. All are invited!



Holy Angels Regional School



Holy Angels has ongoing enrollment for the 2025-26 school year. Educating students age Pre-K to 8th grade, Holy Angels Regional School in Patchogue is marking 100 years of Catholic education. Give them a call at (631) 475-0422 for more information or to schedule a tour. Check out their website, too, at HolyAngelsRegional.org.





All good things must one day end



But good memories last forever



JOIN US FOR WHAT MAY BE OUR FAREWELL EVENT
AT THE MIDDLE COUNTRY HIBERNIAN HALL
AS WE CELEBRATE HALF-WAY TO ST. PATRICK DAY
ON
Saturday, September 20, 2025
Time: 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY THE POPULAR
Susan & Gerard



MEMBERS BAR PRICES
50/50 RAFFLE
BASKET of CHEER

\$30. ADMISSION INCLUDES
one free drink, a corned beef sandwich
and all the memories you can create



for reservations
call (631) 846-3106

Looking for Catholic Gifts and Items?

Visit Our Lady of the Island Shrine at 258 Eastport Manor Rd. in Manorville. They carry a wide variety of religious articles.
OurLadyOfTheIsland.org




Parish Happenings

St. Margaret's *Ministry of Hope*

If you feel you are being called to minister to those who have recently lost a loved one, consider calling the parish center for more information on the Ministry of Hope. It is a ministry that reaches out to those who have recently lost a loved one, conducts a prayer service at the funeral home if necessary, and assists the priest with the funeral at Saint Margaret's.



Bible Study

Bible Study will resume on **Wednesday, September 17th**. It will meet on Wednesdays at 10:00AM in the parish center, led by Deacon Ed Hayes. All are welcome. Please bring your Bible.



Hands Needed



Our Music Ministry is still in need of volunteers 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 the parish center at (631) 732-3131 x117. *Prayerfully Consider.*

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, and Fraternity. The members of our local council serve in many ministries of the Church. They assist with parish events such as the parish food drive, hospitality Sundays, and blood drive. Prospective members may call Anthony Rebaldo at (631) 346-9026.

Peanut Butter & Jelly Ministry



The Peanut Butter & Jelly Ministry takes place on Tuesdays at 10:00AM in the Parish Center. The sandwiches feed the hungry in surrounding areas. Parishioners are invited to attend as their schedule allows. **Volunteers must be Virtus compliant.** Call the Outreach office at (631) 732-3131 x119 if you would like to volunteer, donate, or assist with drop-offs. Thank you!

Community Happenings

Catholic High School Open Houses

Saint Anthony's High School

Saturday, September 27 — 9AM-12PM

StAnthonysHS.org | | admissions@stanthonyshs.org

(631) 271-2020 ext. 226 | 275 Wolf Hill Rd., South Huntington, NY 11747

Kellenberg Memorial High School

Saturday, October 4 — 9AM-1PM

Kellenberg.org/OpenHouse | 1400 Glenn Curtiss Blvd., Uniondale, NY 11553



Chaminade High School

Saturday, October 4 — 10:30AM-2:30PM

Chaminade-HS.org | 340 Jackson Ave., Mineola, NY 11501

(516) 742-5555 | Pre-registration is required



Head to CHSEE.org for more information on admittance to a Catholic High School.