



ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service

October 5, 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*



We mark the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time today. It being the first Sunday in October, I will first offer some comments on the value of human life first because it is Respect Life Sunday. The designation **Respect Life Sunday** is not liturgical; it is pastoral. And the designation is really not all that “old.” It has been only a few decades that the expression has been in use. The marker of course for the designation is the Supreme Court decision (Roe v. Wade) in 1973. With legal protection given to abortion more than five decades ago, it seemed that all human life – at any stage too – could be cheapened and extinguished. And it has been.

The latest assault on human life is the practice of physician assisted suicide. As you probably know, a bill to give legal protection for this de-humanizing act passed both chambers of the New York State legislature months ago. To become law in our state, a bill like this requires the Governor’s signature. As I write this column, the Governor’s signature still has not been put on the bill. I have encouraged you before and I encourage you again now to contact the Governor’s Office and express your opposition to physician assisted suicide.

As for the **Stand Up for Life** event today, I ask you to participate at Route 110 in Melville and join other pro-life people in a prayerful, mostly silent witness to the beauty and goodness of life in the womb. It starts at 2:00 PM and finishes at 3:30 PM.

This weekend, we start the **Baby Bottle** Campaign. There will be speakers before each of the weekend Masses and the bottles will be distributed after Masses. We ask you to place your spare currency and change in the bottle and return it later this month. This Baby Bottle Campaign is a work of the Life Center which has four facilities across Long Island for the express purpose of helping women bring their pregnancies to term and deliver their children. Please support this vital apostolate.

On Tuesday the 7th, we are praying the holy rosary at the grotto on parish property after the 9:00 AM Mass. All parishioners are invited to join us.

Later this month (the 19th), the Church observes **Mission Sunday**. This is an annual commemoration and calls to mind a few things. First, we received the Faith because our parents saw to it that we were baptized. Some of us then were fortunate to have been raised in families where the Faith was taken seriously, and regular church-going characterized our upbringing. Second, our baptisms gave us a share in the Church’s mission, and this meant that we shared the gift of faith with others.

For the longest time, the missions were construed predominantly or exclusively as foreign or overseas in nature. In truth, the foreign or overseas missions is **only but a part** of the Church’s work. There is a lot of missionary work to be done right within our families, in our own communities and, yes, even in our parish churches. Many of those who were baptized – relatives, neighbors and acquaintances – stopped practicing the Faith. In imitation of Jesus, we have to go in search of the lost sheep in our midst and bring them back.

We bring them back to what the Church has been doing ever since the Last Supper. We bring them back to the Holy Eucharist. We need to concentrate on this part of mission now more than ever. We must be evangelizers all the time; we are never off duty so to speak. Jesus says the harvest is great but the laborers are few. We must also not be intimidated as evangelizers.

Let me finish with brief remarks on the scriptures assigned for Mass today.

I turn again to the Second Reading - the passage from Saint Paul's Second Letter to Saint Timothy. It completes my thought above about not being intimidated. The Apostle to the Gentiles writes that "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." (II Tim 1:7)

A cowardly evangelist is a contradiction in terms. By its very nature, evangelization must be carried out confidently. That confidence comes from faith. We are but humble servants of the Lord's truth; it's not our story. It's about the King of Kings, the Lord of lords. To quote the end of today's Gospel: "When you have done all you have been commanded, say 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'" (Lk 17: 10)

Until the next time.

Msgr. Batule

Pastor

Saint 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. Its members reach out to those who have recently lost a loved one, conduct a prayer service at the funeral home if necessary, and assist the priest with the funeral.



Bible Study

Bible Study meets on Wednesdays at 10:00AM in the parish center, led by Deacon Ed Hayes. All are welcome. Please bring your Bible.



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.



Altar Server Training

Altar server training will take place on **Tuesdays at 5:00PM** in the church during the month of October. New and returning servers are welcome. This invitation is open to all boys and girls grade 4 and above.

The dates are:
October 7
October 14
October 21
October 28



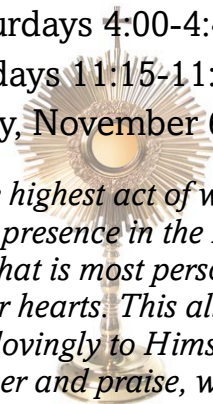
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturdays 4:00-4:45PM

Sundays 11:15-11:45AM

First Thursday, November 6th 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 of Christ. Come experience the beauty of this holy exchange heart to heart.





Stand Up For Life

Sunday, October 5th — 2:00-3:30PM

*St. Margaret Parish
is a sponsor!*

LONG ISLAND COALITION for LIFE, Inc.

The Long Island Coalition for Life is holding their annual *Stand Up For Life* event on Sunday, October 5th, from 2:00-3:30PM (rain or shine). This vigil is part of a nationwide family-friendly event, held at hundreds of cities across the USA & Canada. You do not have to bring anything — signs will be distributed. You are invited to come as you are. You can attend for part of the time or the full 90 minutes. Your presence can help save a life. There is strength in unity.

ALL PRO-LIFE PEOPLE ARE WELCOME!

They will be at two locations:

Huntington
Routes 110 & Route 25
(near the Whitman Mall)

Manorville
LIE Exit 70S
County Road 111

ProLifeLI.org | (631) 243-1435 | Info@ProLifeLI.org

*Have you ever thought about
going to the March for Life in
Washington DC in January? Do
you know about the largest
Pro-Life event right here on Long
Island for the past 27 years?*



Don't Forget Your Baby Bottle!

On the weekend of **October 4th & 5th**, St. Margaret of Scotland Parish will be hosting a Baby Bottle Fundraiser to benefit the Life Center of Long Island.

The Life Center is a pregnancy care center that consults with women and men who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. Did you know that they provide?

- ✓ Free pregnancy test kits
- ✓ Free sonogram
- ✓ Maternity housing with eligibility requirements referrals
- ✓ Medical care referrals
- ✓ Material aid including car seats, cribs, clothing, diapers, and many other needed baby items
- ✓ Male advocates available to speak with fathers



We are asking that you pick up a baby bottle and fill it with your donation.
(Please make checks payable to the Life Center of L.I.)

**PLEASE RETURN THE BOTTLES ON
OCTOBER 25TH & 26TH**

Most importantly, we are asking you to recite the prayer attached to the baby bottle. Prayers bring about something very powerful at the Life Center... a change of a mother's heart! We believe these prayers lead abortion-minded women to reach out to the Life Center in the beginning of their pregnancy.

Prayers also spiritually equip our consultants at the Life Center to say just the right words a mother or father may need to hear with hope of choosing the gift of life for their baby.

*Let us pray for the conversion of a mother's heart to give the
gift of life to her preborn baby!*

Rosary for Life

Join the Office of Human Life, Family, and Bioethics in prayer Every Friday at 3:00PM.

Scan for Zoom link:



Email Ihonkanen@drvc.org
if you would like the link sent
to you each week.

Call In #: 1 (646) 876-9923

*"We pledge to preserve 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*

New Parishioner? Moving? Need to update information?

Kindly fill out the form below—drop it in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Center. It will help us keep our files up-to-date and welcome newcomers.

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

New _____ Moving _____ Updating _____

Faith Formation

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

- ◇ October 5 — Levels 1 & 2
- ◇ October 12 — Levels 6 & 7
- ◇ October 19 — Levels 3, 4, & 5
- ◇ October 26 — Levels 1 & 2
- ◇ November 2 — Levels 6 & 7
- ◇ November 9 — Levels 3, 4, & 5



Parish Happenings

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.

Community Happenings



Coming to St. Patrick's

Friday, October 3rd: 6:00 to 10:30 PM
Saturday, October 4th: 1:30 to 10:30 PM
Sunday, October 5th 1:30 to 8:00 PM

All are welcome to join us at our first-ever

Fall Family Festival

on the grounds of St. Patrick Church & School
280 East Main Street in Smithtown
Amazing Rides - Gourmet Food
Beer & Wine Garden - Entertainment

Surprise Attractions

BIG RAFFLES!

Use QR Code to save money on rides with Pre-Sale Ride bracelets.



Free Paper Shredding Event

Saturday, October 18th | 10:00AM – 1:00PM



Michael J. Grant and Thomas A. Marinello Funeral Home, LLC, is hosting another free paper shredding event on Saturday, October 18th, from 10:00AM to 1:00PM. Bound books, plastic, vinyl, rubber, and metal clasps are not accepted. While your documents are securely shredded, enjoy a warm beverage, a snack, and the opportunity to meet their caring team. 493 Middle Country Rd., Coram | (631) 732-6969

Holy Angels Regional School



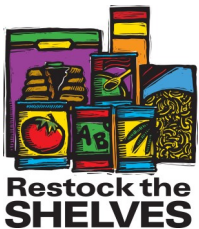
Holy Angels has ongoing enrollment for the 2025-26 school year. Educating all students Pre-K through grade 8. (631) 475-0422 | HolyAngelsRegional.org

Parish Social Ministry

Knights of Columbus GROCERY BAG DISTRIBUTION & COLLECTION



The ***Knights of Columbus*** are partnering with our Outreach Ministry to assist with replenishing our pantry.



Bags will be distributed on **October 11/12 at all masses**; donations will be collected on **October 18/19 at all masses**. They will be in front of the church to receive your donations. Please assist them—and us—as you can.

If anyone is able to help Outreach on **October 18/19**, please leave a message at (631) 732-3131 x119. ***Thank you!***

Parish Food Pantry Needs

The parish food pantry assists the needy in the community of Selden. We ask that parishioners who would like to make food donations to please bring them to the front door of the Parish Center during office hours or to place items in the box in the back of the church. *Please do not leave items by the locked front doors of either building. Thank you!*



The week's requests for the pantry:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| ◇ Jelly | ◇ Crackers |
| ◇ Hearty Stews | ◇ Kids Snacks |
| ◇ Oatmeal | ◇ Canned Fruit |
| ◇ Cookies | ◇ Shampoo / Toothpaste |

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 x119 if you would like to assist or volunteer somehow.

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?

The Stony Brook Children's Hospital needs 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.



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.

