



ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service

January 4, 2026

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



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Time, Talent & Treasure

Living Stewardship ~ Pillar of Hospitality: As we near the end of the Christmas season, be sure to keep Christ alive in your hearts. Don't let all the good deeds you performed and all the spiritual formation you developed during the Advent and Christmas seasons stay there- live the meaning of Christmas throughout the year, throughout your life.

General Intercession: For all those who will be born this year. We pray to the Lord...



Sacrificial Giving

Thank you to all who so generously give to the support of our parish.
You are returning to God what God has so generously given to you.

December 20/21

	Stewardship	Envelopes
Collected at Mass	\$10,908.00.....	214
Mailed Contributions	\$4,944.00.....	72
Total Collection	\$15,852.00	

December 27/28

Collected at Mass	\$7,013.00.....	150
Mailed Contributions	\$2,030.00.....	45
Total Collection	\$9,043.00	

Readings for Next Sunday The Baptism of the Lord

First Reading.....	Is 42:1-4, 6-7
Second Reading.....	Acts 10:34-38
Gospel.....	Mt 3:13-17



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday 9:00AM—1:00PM, 2:00—5:00PM

Friday 9:00AM—1:00PM

(631) 732-3131

81 COLLEGE ROAD • SELDEN • NY 11784-2813

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: We welcome all new parishioners! We ask them to register at the Parish Center and encourage the use of weekly envelopes. If you are moving, please notify the office.

MARRIAGES: Couples should make arrangements in person at least one year in advance for required interview. At least one of the parties must live within the parish boundaries or be a registered member of the parish. Please call the Parish Center for an appointment. No dates will be set over the telephone.

BAPTISMS: Ideally, prospective parents should call the Parish Center before the expected birth to discuss the arrangements for your baptism. The ceremony is held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE ~ PARISH CENTER:

Monday—Thursday: 9:00AM – 4:00PM. Call for an appointment - x131

PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRY ~ PARISH CENTER:

Tuesday—Thursday: 10:00AM – 1:00PM. Call for an appointment - x119

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 5

Amos Reilly

Tuesday, January 6

Baby Edith Catherine Koller

Wednesday, January 7

Frank Sorrentino

Thursday, January 8

John Strange Sr.

Friday, January 9

Berta Junco

Saturday, January 10

8:30AM

Philip LoBosco

5:00PM

Vincent & Rosemarie Morreale

Sunday, January 11

8:00AM

Kenneth Duggan

10:00AM

Ellen Wesler

12:00PM

All St. Margaret's Parishioners

For all our parishioners suffering from chronic illness, as well as: Jim Rojas, Marilyn Vacchio, Wendian & Nicholas Alfieri, Laura



Durant, Laura Positano, Lorraine Vogel, Patricia Wowk, Sharon & Ray Klyn, Veronica Sheridan-Cox, Joseph Laria, Scott Spencer, Christina Muller, James & Catherine Reynolds, Valarie & Victor Aurigue, Elizabeth Robitaille, Diana Lyons, James DeVivo, Lauren Esposito, Steven Vacchio, Brooklyn Gonzalez, Melissa Kitching, Angela Discepolo, Christine Rosado, Joseph Benevento, Rosemarie Rizzo-Cohen, James Bennett, Katherine & Kenneth Kermain, John Sullivan, Melissa Rodgers, Richard Martin, Suriah Bridglall, Estelle Beauchamp, Nicholas DiMonda, Christopher D'Costa, Crotieau Family, Brahaspatti Lewing, Jaime Ottenwalder [U.S. Navy], Carol Etro, Malachai Roucoulet, John Roucoulet, Raymond Grunthaner

Family members: please resubmit names for those who are ill. We will list them for four weeks, and then remove them unless told otherwise. Please note: due to privacy issues, we can include names given by the individual or a health care proxy only. Thank you.

On this first Sunday of the new calendar year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Our focus continues to be on the Christ Child then. Jesus' birth signals that a new order has arrived. A new kind of King ushers in a new scale of values with the Incarnation. The Epiphany of the Lord reminds us that Christ's truth is not just for simple shepherds. The wise and the sophisticated need a new measure for truth also. Acknowledging this is never easy, for it almost always involves contradicting and opposing revered cultural icons.

The Magi teach us not just the importance of paying homage to the truth. They teach us, too, that after encountering the truth, we can no longer remain unaware. It is necessary to pursue "another way." (Matt 2:12) Christ the Truth leads us along His Way and this yields Life. (cf. Jn 14:6) The truth is that we must pass the way of the Cross before we can experience the new life of the Resurrection.

The Solemnity of the Epiphany establishes conclusively that what happened in Bethlehem is indeed not just for Israel. The birth of Jesus is an invitation for all of us to search diligently for what is missing in our lives. We will only find Christ if we are mature enough to admit that the Babe of Bethlehem's kingship is ageless. Chronological age ought never to be an obstacle in realizing our childhood in God. The Christ Child assures us that we must grow up in faith all the while we testify in word and deed that the Kingdom of God belongs to children. (cf. Matt 19:14)

And now a round-up of parish matters.

Our parish *Lessons and Carols* featured our choir and a children's chorus on the last Sunday of Advent (December 21st). At the reception in the auditorium, we held our CHRISTMAS RAFFLE. We had two winners. The second-place prize was the Christmas creche which was made in the Holy Land. The winner gave the prize back to the parish. And the winner of the first prize (\$3000.00) returned a portion of that amount to the parish. We are grateful to see this kind of generosity. Thank you!

The Life Center informed us right before Christmas that our parishioners contributed over \$4,000.00 in the Baby Bottle Campaign (the exact count was \$4,025.00). Congratulations to all who contributed! You may recall the speakers made their appeal on the first weekend of October. The bottles came back to us on October 25th and 26th.

We had a Reconciliation Monday on December 22nd. I will wait until a later time to offer a personal evaluation – recall that this is the first time the Diocese of Rockville Centre had a Reconciliation Monday before Christmas. The Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Brooklyn have been using a Reconciliation Monday before Christmas for several years. I also want to see if there are impressions from the field in the other parishes of our Diocese. It is likely that we will have some consideration of this topic in the Deanery to which Saint Margaret belongs.

I remind parishioners who are bringing donations to Parish Outreach that all donations are brought to the **rear** of the pastoral center building when the building is closed (outside of business hours). They are **never** left at the front door of the building.

I remind all families who have children enrolled in FAITH FORMATION that parents and children together are to attend TWENTY MINUTES with the Pastor/Director according to the schedule set at the beginning of the catechetical year. This is a **requirement** of the program. Further, attendance is taken. And there will be follow-up when excessive absences have been accrued. Make-up sessions are held at the conclusion of the catechetical year.

I also want to observe that Mass is offered after TWENTY MINUTES. Unless there is an emergency of some kind, parents are not to attend TWENTY MINUTES and then walk out on Mass. This becomes a moment to re-state the long-standing precept of the Catholic Church that Catholics are to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed on Sunday mornings between the 10:00 AM Mass and the 12 Noon Mass. I do not anticipate any more disruptions in the schedule. So, please come to Adoration or return to it from 11:15 AM until 11:45 AM. If you are looking for a New Year's resolution, please consider a commitment to Eucharistic Adoration.

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.

Saint Margaret's Spousal Bereavement



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



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sundays 11:15-11:45AM
Saturdays 4:00-4:45PM

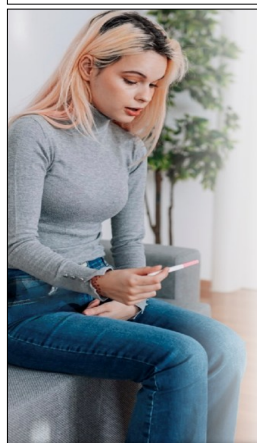
Thursday, January 8th 3:00-6:00PM

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.

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.



Facing a difficult pregnancy?

Say "Yes" with

FIAT

Let it be done

Pregnancy Support



Hope is here.

If you or someone you know needs assistance with an unexpected or difficult pregnancy, help is available:

Call 631-476-LOVE (5683) any day, any time (24/7).

All conversations are safe and confidential.



POWERED BY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS • DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Save the Date

Winter Blood Drive
Tuesday, February 17th
1:00-7:00PM
Church Auditorium



2025 Tax Statements

Please call the Parish Center if you would like a copy of your 2025 tax statement. Dial 732-3131 x133. Leave a message with your name, address, phone number, and envelope number (if available). The statement will be mailed to you. Email aburtoff@saintmargaret.com if you would prefer to have it emailed to you as a PDF attachment instead.



Faith Formation

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

- ◇ January 4 — Levels 1 & 2
- ◇ January 11 — Levels 6 & 7
- ◇ January 18 — Levels 3, 4, & 5



- ◇ January 25 — Levels 1 & 2
- ◇ February 1 — Levels 6 & 7
- ◇ February 8 — Levels 6, 4, & 5

Parish Social Ministry

Food Pantry Needs

The parish food pantry assists the needy in the community. We ask that parishioners who would like to make 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!*



This week's requests:

- ◇ Laundry Detergent
- ◇ Toilet Tissue
- ◇ Toothpaste
- ◇ Shampoo
- ◇ Paper Towels
- ◇ Bar Soap
- ◇ Beef Stew
- ◇ Egg Noodles

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.



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 732-3131 x117. *Prayerfully consider.*



PBJ 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.



5 STEPS SAFE ADULTS CAN TAKE TO PROTECT YOUTH ONLINE



- 1 Maintain open and ongoing communication about social media and online interactions
- 2 Monitor technology use (trust but verify)
- 3 Set and enforce boundaries for utilization of social media and tech
- 4 Educate yourself on the latest trends and potential risks
- 5 Inform children and youth they can always tell you if someone makes them feel scared, uncomfortable or unsafe online



www.virtus.org

New Parishioner? Moving? Need to update information?

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

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

New _____ Moving _____ Updating _____



HOLY ANGELS REGIONAL SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM



WHY HOLY ANGELS?

- For 100 years, Holy Angels has offered academic excellence, which fosters individual growth and development of the whole child—intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, physically, and socially—according to time-tested, Catholic faith-based models of teaching and learning.
- Holy Angels is committed to integrating the Gospel message with the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of students, enabling them to become the leaders of tomorrow, all while providing a safe and supportive community
- Holy Angels cultivates a robustly Catholic culture centered on the spiritual, intellectual, sacramental, and liturgical life of the Church and challenges its students to learn, lead, and serve as Jesus taught.



Tell Congress to Stand Up for Religious Workers

Catholic parishes, hospitals, schools and other ministries are facing a staffing crisis caused by federal policy, as foreign-born priests, religious sisters & brothers get caught up in the bureaucratic red tape of our broken immigration system. A bipartisan bill has been introduced in Congress to address the issue, making it easier for religious workers here legally on temporary visas to remain in the country until they can get a green card. Currently, because of a backlog in applications for the specific permanent visas these individuals need, many are forced to leave the country for a year, leaving our ministries unstaffed and our Catholic people without access to sacraments and spiritual care. Please contact Senators Schumer & Gillibrand and your member of Congress to urge them to pass the Religious Workforce Protection Act this year!

Go to NYScatholic.org/action-center or drvc.org to sign the petition.



A LIFE LINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES



Is your marriage tearing you apart? Do you feel hurt and angry? Does talking make it worse? Thought of leaving or divorce? Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction? No marriage is beyond hope. Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples worldwide experiencing all types of marital difficulties.

Their Next Weekend is January 23-25

Please register by January 9

The Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington
1 (800) 470-2230 | HelpOurMarriage.org

Looking for Catholic Gifts and Items?



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



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 Tom Piderit at (631) 682-8711.



Mass Book

The 2026 Mass Book is 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.



Church Hours

The church is open at 8:30AM Monday through Friday. 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.

Rosary for Life

Join the Office of Human Life, Family, & Bioethics in prayer every Friday at 3:00PM. Email lhonkanen@drvc.org if you would like the link sent to you each week.

Scan for Zoom link:



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

Altar Bread and Wine

The altar bread and wine offering funds the cost of the Blessed Sacrament for the week. It may be as a remembrance for one who has passed, or a special intention of someone who is still with us.

The requested offering is \$25 and may be completed in the Parish Center.

