



ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CHURCH

Making Disciples through Prayer, Faith Formation and Service

April 5, 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

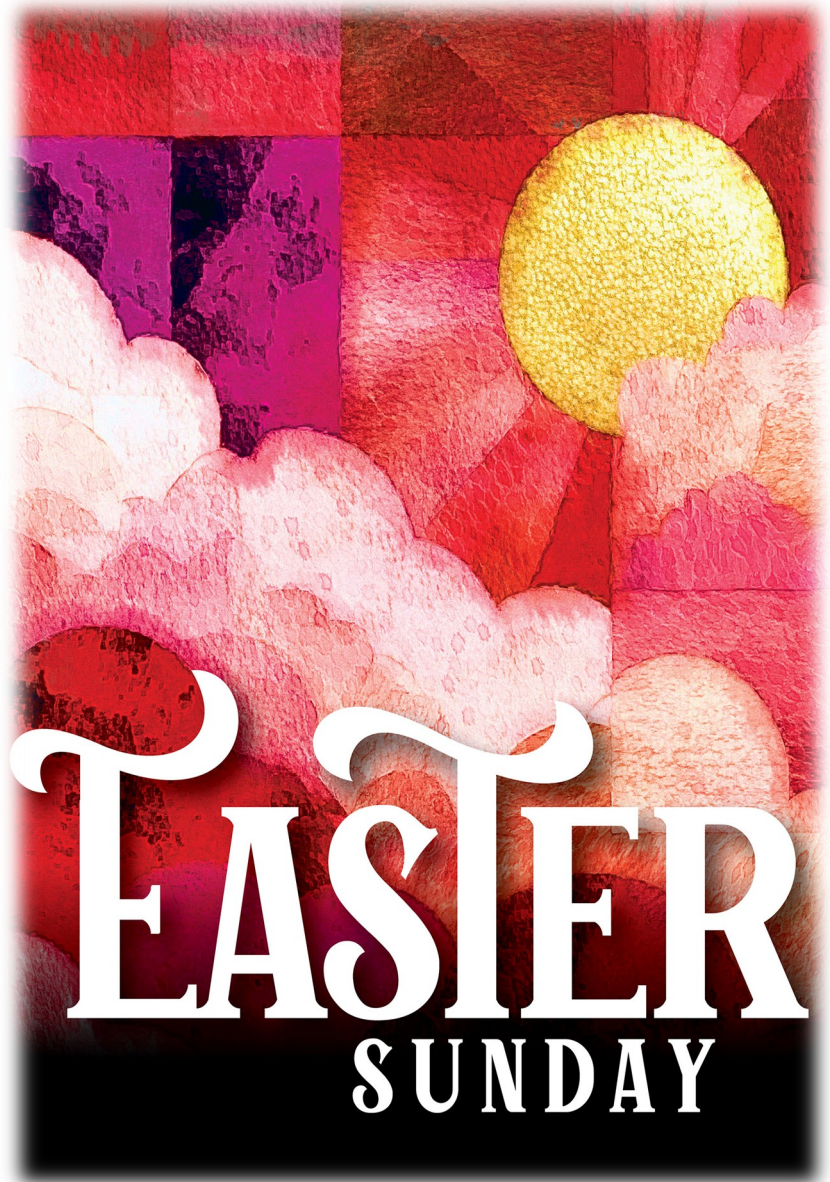
Dr. Daniel Crews, Director
x117 dcrews@saintmargaret.com

Parish Outreach

x119 outreach@saintmargaret.com

Holy Angels Regional Catholic School

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



The Easter Mystery: A Call to Love

In the gospel for Easter Sunday, we have Saint John's account of the two apostles, Peter and John, discovering the tomb empty. The evangelist records how John, the younger of the two, outran Peter and arrived first at the sepulcher. But the younger apostle deferred to Peter and allowed him to enter first. John followed and the evangelist remarks of him that he saw and believed. (cf. Jn 20:8)

Seeing leads to believing. But why is it said of only one apostle that he believed? John is the beloved apostle. (cf. Jn 21:20) He sees and believes out of love.

Love is not an illusion. It is not a deception. It doesn't mistake beauty for dread but sees the beauty in dread. The apostle who sees and believes out of love is there at the Cross. (cf. Jn 19:26) He is the only apostle on Calvary; all the others had scattered. The ten others (excluding Judas whom we believe took his own life) couldn't bring themselves to see a suffering and dying Jesus. Their eyes couldn't stand the sight.

Christian love doesn't turn a blind eye to the unpleasant and the embarrassing. It sees and beholds it. Recall that just a few days ago, in the Liturgy of the Passion on Good Friday, the priest held aloft a wooden cross and sang: "Behold the wood of the Cross, on which hung the salvation of the world." (*Roman Missal*) Our response was not exactly timid or retiring: "Come, let us adore," we cried out. (*Roman Missal*) All these centuries later, it's easy to sing out in full measure – after all, we are just gazing on a replica of the real thing. But John saw the real thing: a real crucifixion and a real Risen Christ.

Paul of Tarsus was a man who thought he saw things accurately but he was terribly wrong regarding his first perception. In the Acts of the Apostles, the sacred author describes a blind Paul (cf. Acts 8-9) before his conversion. The blindness is removed when Ananias lays hands on him. (cf. Acts 9:12) Amazingly, "things like scales fell away from his eyes and he regained his sight. He got up and was baptized." (Acts 9:18)

What accounts for this conversion? It is love. It is the more excellent way in Saint Paul's thinking and leads the apostle to write that magnificent ode to love in his First Letter to the Corinthians. After a wonderful description offered by the apostle – Love is patient, love is kind. . . , etc., the apostle still writes the following: "At present we see darkly, as if through a glass." (1 Cor. 13:12)

We think we see clearly, but we really don't. What the Resurrection does is allow us to see with the eyes of faith. We catch a glimpse of what is in store for those who love. For us, there is no surprise when Jesus calls loving God the greatest commandment. (cf. Matt 22:34-40) Yet, the most remarkable thing of all is not that we love God, but that He loves us first. (cf. 1 Jn 4:10)

The Lord gives us a body, as Saint Paul notes, on the pattern of the Son's glorified body. (cf. Phil 3:21) There is a foretaste of this surpassing mystery in the act of Eucharistic Communion. We who receive Holy Communion eat the bread which has come down from heaven. Eating this bread will bring us eternal life. (cf. Jn 6:51) There isn't a more profound union with the Lord that we can have now, in this life. And, yes, it foreshadows the life which is ours in heaven.

Happy Easter





Divine Mercy Novena

The Divine Mercy Novena began on Good Friday, April 3rd.
Beginning Easter Monday, Daily Novena will be after morning Mass.
Divine Mercy Sunday is April 12th.

Divine Mercy Sunday celebration will take place
next Sunday at 1:30PM in the church. All are invited!



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sundays 11:15-11:45AM
Saturdays 4:00-4:45PM
Thursday, April 9th 3:00-6:00PM

Bible Study

Bible Study takes places on
Wednesdays at 10:00AM in the Parish
Center, led by Deacon Ed Hayes.
All are invited. Please bring your bible.



Catechism Classes



We will be offering a ten-week course
of Catechism Study on Tuesday
afternoons in the Parish Center,
beginning Tuesday, April 14th, at
2:00PM. This course will be a one-hour long session
of immersion in the Catechism of the Catholic
Church (CCC) each week. As long as the class has
ten attendees, the course will run. If interested in
attending, consider calling the Parish Center to
indicate your interest. We will have extra copies
of the Catechism if you do not have one.

Adult Confirmation Classes



We invite adult Catholics who have never celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation to attend our Confirmation Preparation Program. Adult Catholics will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, at the 10:00AM Mass. Catechesis for Confirmation begins Monday, April 13th, at 7:30PM in the Parish Center. The classes will last five sessions, concluding on May 11th. Attendance for all five sessions is mandatory.

Topics discussed include Faith, Christ, Church, Sacraments, and Morals. A copy of your updated Baptismal Certificate will be required. Call the Parish Center or email Adriana at ABurtoff@saintmargaret.com for more information or if you have any questions.

From all the staff at
Saint Margaret's...



CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Through CRS Rice Bowl, faith communities in every diocese throughout the United States put their faith into action through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Videos, resources, reflections, stories of hope, recipes, and more can be found on their website: www.crsricebowl.org. Rice bowls may be returned after Easter Sunday at mass or at the Parish Center.



Easter 2026

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Happy Easter to you and your families!

This Easter Sunday, Easter Octave, Divine Mercy Sunday and Easter Season we continue to pray and contemplate our Lord's Resurrection appearances, and we give thanks for Pope Leo XIV and his worldwide spirit of Catholic mission.

In his Cycle of Catechesis on the Resurrection of Christ, Pope Leo writes: "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is an event that one never finishes contemplating and meditating on, and the more one explores it, the more one is filled with wonder, drawn in as if by an overwhelming yet fascinating light. It was an explosion of life and joy that changed the meaning of reality itself, from negative to positive; yet it did not happen in a striking way, much less a violent one, but gently, hidden, one might say humbly." (October 22, 2025 Audience)

Pope Leo recognizes that there is much sadness in the world – "a feeling of precariousness, at times profound desperation." We think especially of the daily crosses and trials of those from war-torn and violence-ridden areas of the world.

The Holy Father then reflects on the despair of the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus. Their hearts burn and their joy is restored as the Risen Lord explains the Scriptures to them and they recognize Him in the breaking of the bread. In this way, the Paschal Mystery gives us hope and strength in every trial and circumstance.

Pope Leo concludes: "May the unexpected joy of the disciples of Emmaus be a gentle reminder to us when the going gets tough. It is the Risen One who radically changes our perspective, instilling the hope that fills the void of sadness. On the paths of the heart, the Risen One walks with us and for us. He bears witness to the defeat of death and affirms the victory of life, despite the darkness of Calvary... He alone makes the impossible possible!"

May the Light of the Risen Christ illumine our path to holiness on earth and our path to eternal life and happiness with God in Heaven.

Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord,

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL

EASTER PRESENTATION

Featuring
Lay Franciscan, Catholic
Recording Artist & Retreat Master

AL BARBARINO

Al will be singing and speaking
at all Masses on a very
special Easter Reflection:

**THE JOY OF EASTER &
THE RESURRECTION...
THE ESSENCE OF OUR FAITH!**

APRIL 18TH & 19TH, 2026
ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND
81 COLLEGE ROAD, SELDEN, NY 11784

Al Barbarino's Recordings will be available.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASSES

Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2026 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.
Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue
Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle
Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 9, 2026

Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.
The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre
Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski
Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 16, 2026

Register online at drcv-faith.org

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at lrobustelli@drcv.org

RETRouvaille

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? Marriage heading in the wrong direction?

Retrouvaille is a practical program for married couples facing difficult challenges. It is not a marriage retreat, or counseling. You will not be asked to share the personal details of your story.

Retrouvaille is different; it's a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect, and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage.

Couples of all faiths are welcome to attend. Retrouvaille is a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities world-wide.

Their next weekend is
April 24-26, 2026

The Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington
(516) 405-0323 | HelpOurMarriage.org | Register by 4/17

New York Blood Center

Blood Drive

Callari Memorial Blood Drive

Roll up your sleeve in memory of someone special.

Selden Fire Department
Sponsored by Legislator Nick Caracappa
Tuesday, April 28th
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

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

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

Faith Formation

Vacation Bible School

Rainforest Falls: Experiencing the Nature of God

July 6-10 | 9:15AM—12:30PM

Ages 4 years to entering 6th grade Fee: \$50 per child

Volunteers Needed! Adults & Students grade 7 and up. High Schoolers welcome.

Registration is now open! Limited to first 100 children.



Any questions, contact Jackie Mirenda at 732-3131 x131 or jmirenda@saintmargaret.com

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



- ◇ April 12 — Levels 6 & 7
- ◇ April 19 — Levels 3, 4, & 5
- ◇ April 26 — Levels 1 & 2
- ◇ May 3 — Levels 6 & 7
- ◇ May 10 — Levels 3, 4, & 5

Save the Date

May Crowning

Sunday, May 10th—11:00AM following the 10:00 Mass

Annual Communion Breakfast

Sunday, May 17th—11:00AM following the 10:00 Mass

Adult Confirmation Celebration

Pentecost Sunday, May 24th—10:00AM

Reception to Follow in Auditorium



MOLLOY UNIVERSITY
SPRING OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, April 19th — 1:00PM

Campus tours begin at 12:00PM

Register at

molloy.edu/openhouse26



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 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:



- ◇ Canned Peas
- ◇ Canned Chicken
- ◇ Peanut Butter/Jelly
- ◇ Beef Stew/Chili
- ◇ Oatmeal
- ◇ Pasta Sides
- ◇ Egg Noodles
- ◇ Shampoo

SENIOR FAIR

FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH



11:00AM - 1:00PM

MCPCL-SELDEN



FEATURING

- HEAP, SNAP & SOCIAL SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS
- MEDICARE ENROLLMENT ASSISTANCE
- FINANCIAL EDUCATION
- SENIOR HOUSING ORGANIZATIONS
- & MANY MORE!

- *Dean Murray, New York State Senator
- *Doug Smith, New York State Assembly
- *Rebecca Kassay, New York State Assembly
- *Nick Caracappa, Suffolk County Legislator
- *Leslie Kennedy, Suffolk County Legislator
- *Neil Manzella, Brookhaven Town Council

*John Kennedy, Suffolk County Comptroller
Please let us know if you require assistance due to a disability.
Middle Country Public Library
Selden Building

575 Middle Country Rd., Selden, NY 11784 (631) 585-9393 www.mcpllibrary.org

