



141 N. Hickory Ave. • Bel Air, MD 21014

Parish Offices
410-838-6969, 410-879-2670
Fax: 410-879-2518
www.stmargaret.org

Pastor
Msgr. G. Michael Schlepner

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Francis Callahan

Associate Pastors
Rev. John P. Cunningham
Rev. C. Douglas Kenney

Hospital Chaplain - In Residence
Rev. Roque Lim

Assistant Pastor
Karen Saccenti

Deacons
John Chott, James DeCapite
Patrick J. Goles, Victor Petrosino
Martin Wolf

Business Manager
Mary Ellen Bates

Music Ministry
Pete Anderson

Outreach
Jane O'Hara

Adult Faith Formation
Marie Dekowski

Preschool and Elementary Faith Formation
Keri Geibler and Lisa Hack

Middle and High School Faith Formation
CeeCee Meholc

Youth and Young Adult Minister
Kristin Rupprecht

Saint Margaret School
Madeleine Hobik, Principal
410-879-1113

The Pastoral Council

- Mike Adams 410-459-7237
- Dick Belmonte 410-838-6329
- Ann Brecht-Castle 410-893-6162
- Bill Coward 410-893-1958
- Ken Dawson 410-836-8278
- Deborah Egerton 410-734-0211
- Tricia Landis 410-838-3376
- Terrence Lijewski 410-879-5872
- Karissa Pavelka 443-371-6618
- Sandy Peters 410-879-1833
- Lisa Sheehan 443-910-4939
- Paul Walczyk 443-540-7853

Mass Schedule

Daily: Saint Margaret Chapel Monday - Friday: 6:30 am and 8:30 am
Saturday: 8:30 am
Chapel is open for private prayer daily 6:30 am - 5:00 pm

Weekend: Saint Margaret Church
Saturday: 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am and 12:00 pm

Saint Mary Magdalen Mission
Reconciliation: Saint Margaret Church
Sunday: 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Saturday: 3:00 pm - 3:45 pm and immediately following the 5:30 pm Mass

Mass Intentions February 22 - March 2, 2014

Saturday	4:00 pm	John Daniel Ganz
	5:30 pm	William Matejka
Sunday	7:30 am	Michael Guercio
	9:00 am	Regina Slater
	10:30 am	Paul Shall
	12:00 pm	Rick Snyder
	9:30 am	Rita Rayner
	11:00 am	Special intention for parishioners
Monday	6:30 am	Souls of the family of Thomas D. Noeth, Sr.
	8:30 am	Mary Regina Adams
Tuesday	6:30 am	Angelina Fiori
	8:30 am	Frank Roscoe
Wednesday	6:30 am	Mrs. Andrea Murtaugh
	8:30 am	Edward Munding
	8:30 am	Zielonka Oswald
Thursday	6:30 am	Dorothy Feaga (sp. int.)
	8:30 am	Nancy Schuster Natoli
Friday	6:30 am	Pedro Crisostomo
	8:30 am	Bill Bates
Saturday	8:30 am	Doris M. Williamson
	4:00 pm	Marie Otremba
	5:30 pm	Helen Dzierwinski
Sunday	7:30 am	Fr. J. Alphonse Frederick
	9:00 am	Anastasia Young
	10:30 am	Frank Spalla
	12:00 pm	Regina Slater
	9:30 am Mission	Special intention for parishioners
	11:00 am Mission	Nancy Schuster Natoli

The Parish Office hours: Monday through Thursday - 9:00 am to 7:30 pm
Friday - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Nursery Service Available 

For children up to 3 years of age, nursery service is available in the Preschool building (next to the church) during the 9:00 and 10:30 am Masses and during the 4:00 pm Mass on Saturdays. This service is available at Saint Mary Magdalen during the 9:30 and 11:00 am Masses. Trained staff will care for your children while you attend Mass. This is a free service.

Readings for March 2, 2014

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time **Overcoming fear**

Reading I: Isaiah 49:14-15 Restoration of Zion
Reading II: 1 Corinthians 4:1-6 Christ judges his ministers
Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34 Dependence on God

Key Passage: Jesus said, "But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?" (Matthew 6:30)

Adult: What things do you worry about most frequently? How do you deal with your worry?
Child: What can help you worry less about something that might happen?

Visit our website at www.stmargaret.org



SAINT MARGARET PARISH

Seeking a world transformed and unified in Christ

Saint Margaret Church ■ Bulletin for the week of February 23, 2014 ■ Saint Mary Magdalen Mission

Welcome to Saint Margaret

Whether you are an active or inactive Catholic, struggling with Church teachings or at peace with her doctrines, firmly grounded in your spiritual life or seeking new paths, you are welcome at Saint Margaret.

Breaking News

Saint Margaret School Open House

Tuesday, February 25

9:30 am-1:00 pm

Elementary and Middle School

For more information, contact

Cecelia Pleiss, Admissions Director

at cpleiss@smsch.org or

410-838-1113, ext. 159

Project Rosary

Our next gathering will take place on **Friday, February 28** from 1:30 - 3:00 pm in the parish office conference room. All ages are invited to come learn how to make rosaries for mission-aries in Belize. No experience necessary!



Living Stations of the Cross

It is a tradition for our parish youth to present the living Stations of the Cross each year on Good Friday. We invite all middle and high school youth to be a part of this annual event. If you would like to participate, please come to our first rehearsal on **Sunday, March 16**, 2:00-3:30 p.m. in the church. Questions? Please contact Teresa Newberry at tnewberry27@gmail.com.



Welcome

Peyton Harper Sears



who was baptized on February 8 into the Saint Margaret parish community. May she continue to receive God's blessings and grace.



Welcome

Come grow with us!

We invite you and your family to a

New Parishioner Greet and Meet Open House

Saturday, March 1 from 5:00 to 7:30 pm in the Adult Education Center

If you are a new parishioner, someone worshipping with us for the first time or have visited before, we welcome you! If you are recently registered or could not come to our last greet and meet, or you are looking for a church home in this community and have questions about Saint Margaret, we invite you to consider joining us for this wonderful event.

Fr. Doug, ministry leaders, school representatives and other parish families will be on hand to talk with you and answer questions about our programs, activities and volunteer opportunities.

An international dinner will be served throughout the evening.

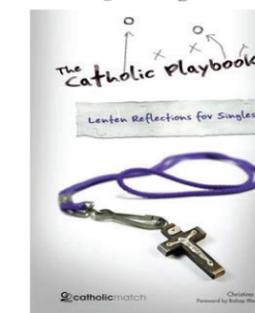
RSVP to the parish office 410-838-6969 or to Kathy Reilly at kreilly@stmargaret.org

Lenten Reflections for Singles

If you're tired of walking through the desert of single life alone, this book is for you! Join other single Catholics and journey through your most meaningful Lent ever. With 40 meditations written by and for single Catholics, you'll walk together every step of the way, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday. This book includes an insightful foreword by Bishop Kevin Rhoades, 40 beautiful prayers by Fr. Gary Caster and an inspiring epilogue by the USCCB's Theresa Notare. With honesty, humor and hope, these singles examine the trials and rewards of single life, all folded into the Lenten season. Their stories will alternately comfort and challenge you – whether you're yearning for marriage, discerning religious life or committing to single life. Prepare for a life-changing Lent!

This group will meet on Wednesdays during Lent. The first gathering will be held on March 5 at 6:30 pm in the Adult Education Center where we will distribute the books and reading guide. At 7:00 pm we will walk over to church for the distribution of ashes.

If you are interested please register with Marie Dekowski 410.879-2670, ext. 126 or mdekowski@stmargaret.org.



“Be Protectors of God’s Gift”

Many people have found help and support through the ministries made possible through the generosity of parishioners throughout our Archdiocese. If you have already completed your pledge card for the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal, we thank you for your support. If you did not receive a commitment card in the mail or have not had time to respond to it, please complete the commitment card and mail it or place it in the collection. Thank you for expanding how we care for others, especially those most in need.

Parish Tuition Assistance for Saint Margaret School

Saint Margaret Parish uses School and Student Services (SSS) to process applications for Tuition Assistance. On-line applications were due at sss.nais.org by Friday, February 21. All required documents must be sent or uploaded to SSS by March 14. Please go to the parish website at www.stmargaret.org and follow the School link on the About Us tab to see policies, deadlines, and requirements. You may also contact Mary Ellen Bates at the Parish Office with questions.



Inclement Weather Policy 2013-2014

If Harford County Schools are **closed or delayed** due to snow, ice, or inclement weather Monday-Friday, **6:30 am Mass is cancelled**. We will celebrate the 8:30 am Mass.

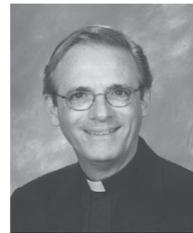
Check the parish website for updated information.

Also, if schools are closed due to snow, ice, or inclement weather, **ALL** parish meetings, functions and classes are **cancelled** that day and evening.

If there is snow or ice, or the prediction of snow or ice, during Adoration time on Tuesdays, **Adoration** will be suspended for that day.

This policy is now in effect to ensure the safety of parishioners and to allow for the proper cleaning of snow and ice from lots and sidewalks.

From Father Mike



Dear Friends,
This is my February column on the Mass. Last month I began looking at the Gospel. As I said then, the important thing to remember is that the Gospel is the high point of the Liturgy of the Word. Therefore, the ritual sets this off from the other Readings with some special marks of respect. We looked at some of these in January:

- **The Gospel Acclamation** (usually the Alleluia)
- **Standing** as opposed to sitting
- **The specific naming of an ordained deacon or priest** as the one who is to proclaim the gospel
- **The blessing** given to the deacon or that the priest asks for himself before reading the Gospel
- **A special Book of the Gospels** as distinct from the Lectionary which contains the other readings.

There are several additional marks of respect.

The first two readings are introduced with the simple words: “A reading from the Book [Letter] of...”

In contrast, the deacon or priest introduces the Gospel with the greeting **“The Lord be with you.”** All respond, **“And with your spirit.”** As explained in an earlier column, these expressions are not just a general extending of good wishes to one another. Instead, they convey the idea that we are engaged in a sacred action that is intended to touch our inner spirit. The deacon or priest, and then all who are present, express the desire that their inner spirit will be touched, nourished and enlightened by the proclamation of the Gospel that follows.

Then the deacon or priest continues with the introduction of the gospel: “A reading from the holy Gospel according to [Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John].” This statement announces the name of the evangelist from whom the passage for the day is taken. All respond: **“Glory to you, O Lord.”**

As the deacon or priest proclaims **“A reading from the holy Gospel...”**, he traces the **Sign of the Cross with his thumb on the book and then on his forehead, lips and breast.** It is part of our liturgical tradition that all who are present join the priest or deacon in this threefold Sign of the Cross. In doing this, we profess our belief in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus (forehead), our commitment to profess this by what we say (lips), and our intention to take within ourselves the message of the Gospel and to live out this message as the center of our lives (breast).

At the conclusion of the gospel, the deacon or priest speaks the simple acclamation: “The Gospel of the Lord.” This reminds us that we have just heard the Good News of Jesus. All respond **“Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.”** This response conveys the same thing as the response to the introduction of the gospel: **“Glory to you, O Lord.”** Both responses affirm our belief in the presence of Jesus Christ in his proclaimed Word. As the General Instruction of the Roman Missal says, **“When the Sacred Scriptures are read in the Church, God himself speaks to his people, and Christ, present in his own word, proclaims the Gospel.”**

Finally, the deacon or priest kisses the Book of the Gospels as one final act of reverence. He prays quietly: **“Through the words of the Gospel may our sins be wiped away.”** This is one of several times during the Mass when the priest or deacon says prayers in a low voice. These extra, almost inaudible prayers are to center their minds on the meaning of what they have just done, are doing or are about to do.

This series of monthly columns on the Mass began in June 2013. You may read all nine columns to date by going to the parish website at www.stmargaret.org, click on the Information tab and then Bulletins. These columns will be on that page. May the Lord’s peace be with you and your loved ones!

Father Mike

Community Notes

“Footloose: the Musical”

The John Carroll School presents “Footloose: The Musical” **February 28 ~ March 2.** Tickets are \$15. Visit www.johncarroll.org or 410 879-5053 for show times and tickets.

St. Anthony Bull Roast/Shrimp Feast

Sunday, March 2 from 2:00 - 6:00 pm at Columbus Gardens. Tickets \$36. Call the parish center at 410-488-0400.

Irish Food, Comedy and Music

Saturday, March 8, 6:30 - 10:30 pm. Prince of Peace Church in Edgewood. \$37 per person. For more information call 443-512-0995.

Fashion Show

The John Carroll School Parent Association presents its 7th Annual Fashion Show, “1964: That was Then, This is Now,” on Sunday, **March 9,** noon – 4:00 pm. Tickets are \$40. Call 410 879-5053.

“Beauty and the Beast”

Theatreworks... Live!, Inc. presents “Beauty and the Beast.” **Friday, February 28** at 7:00 pm and **Saturday, March 1,** at 3:00 pm and also again at 7:00 pm. Saint Margaret Parish Hall in the brick school building on the Hickory Ave. campus. Tickets: Adults \$10, Seniors \$8, Children under 12 - \$6.



Free Tax Preparation

Sponsored by the AARP Foundation and the Harford County Tax-Aide Program. **M-F, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm starting January 27** in Aberdean, Abingdon, Bel Air, Edgewood, Havre de Grace and Whiteford. Call 410-638-3425 to schedule an appointment.

Reminder: Bulletin Due Date

Information is due by 10:00 am on Monday for the following Sunday. If Monday is a holiday, items should be submitted the previous Friday. Please include name and contact information and fax to 410-879-2518 or e-mail kreilly@stmargaret.org



Parish Notes ...

Looking ahead...

Lenten Resources

Little Black Books encourage us to “Spend some quiet time with the Lord” through daily six-minute reflections. Keep one on your dinner table to start faith-filled conversations with our family. Feel free to use these books as gifts to family members and friends and encourage them to use the book as their companion for Lent. Little Black Books can be found in the pamphlet racks.

Disciples on the Journey is an inspirational Lenten resource for families and small groups that help us to deepen our personal relationship with Jesus and to live our lives as faithful witnesses to God’s Word. The booklets can be found in the pamphlet racks.

Between Sundays from “The Five Loaves” is an online ‘Visio Divina’ – a meditation on a visual interpretation of the Word of God. In using this weekly 5-7 minute resource we are inspired through thoughtful reflection and music to live the Word of God in our daily lives. Visit www.thefiveeloaves.com to sign up for your weekly email.

Lenten Suppers and Talks will begin on **Friday, March 7**, at 6:00 pm in the parish hall. Talks will begin at 6:45 pm. The topic of our talks this year will be on the inspiring messages of Pope Francis. Watch the bulletin weekly beginning the first Sunday in March for more information.

The Great Divorce by C.S. Lewis will be the topic of a six-hour spiritual journey on three consecutive **Mondays, March 24, 31 and April 7** from 7:00 - 9:00 pm in the Adult Education Center. Come take the mystical bus ride and meet the various characters who show how we let our self-righteousness lead us down the wrong paths; the Bishop, the Big Man and George McDonald. You may just change your life! This discussion will be presented by deacon Marty Wolf and is sponsored by the Mother Teresa Human Life Commission. An informational session to pick up the book will be on **March 11th** in the Adult Education Center at 7:00 pm. **Please register with Jane O’Hara by March 6**, at 410-838-6969 or johara@stmargaret.org.

Outreach Notes

Jane O’Hara
Outreach Coordinator
410-838-6969/410-879-2670, ext. 143
johara@stmargaret.org

First Friday Seniors

TF All Seniors are invited to come to our next First Friday event on **Friday, March 7**. Rosary will be at 10:45 am and Mass at 11:00 am in the church followed by a luncheon from Giovanni’s at 11:45 am in the parish hall. Entertainment will be provided by the Havre de Grace High School band. Come out and celebrate Saint Patrick’s Day early! Your callers should have been in contact with you this past week. If you are new to the parish and would like to join us, please contact the parish office.

2014 Maryland March for Life Annapolis, MD Monday, March 10. We are in the process of forming carpools. If you are interested in attending, or need more information please contact: Kathy Sangmeister 410-459-1649 or kathysang@aol.com. Plan to leave Bel Air at 3:00 pm. Anyone with a van or SUV willing to drive would be greatly appreciated.

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Tuesday in the chapel, this is an opportunity to pray in the presence of our Lord in a unique way. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar from 9:00 am until 6:00 pm when a 15 minute Benediction service is held. If you would like to join us or have any questions, please contact Gene Goeller at 410-838-0445. *Praying in quietude in our Lord’s presence is an awesome experience.*

Lenten Opportunity Parish Lenten Bus Trip to Emmitsburg will be held on **Saturday, March 22**. The bus will leave the Callahan Center at 7:30 am and return at 6:30 pm. The trip includes guided tour of The National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, lunch at the Historic Cozy Inn and a visit to the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes which will include time for prayerful reflection as we walk through the Stations of the Cross. The cost is \$50 per person. To reserve your seat please contact Marie Dekowski 410-879-2670, ext. 126 or mdekowski@stmargaret.org.

Health Ministry



Which of the following contain a high amount of salt (sodium): lunch meats? pizza? breads and rolls? If you guessed ‘all of them,’ you are correct. Because they often don’t taste salty, it may surprise you to learn that breads and rolls are actually one of the six saltiest foods! One slice of bread can have as much as 230 milligrams of sodium. That’s 15 percent of the recommended daily amount just from only one slice. (The American Heart Association recommends a daily sodium limit of 1,500 milligrams). For more information on hidden dietary salts or the benefits of reducing your salt intake, contact the Health Ministry Team by sending an email to saintmhealthministry@stmargaret.org.

Drug Take Back Day

Harford County is sponsoring its next take back day on **Tuesday, March 11** at the Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company located at 109 South Hickory Ave. You may take any outdated or unused medicine to them between 5:00 and 8:00 pm.

Substance Abuse Ministry

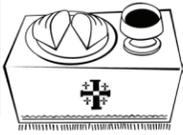
HEALING RECOVERY PREVENTION PEACE Are you or a loved one struggling with substance abuse issues? Please come to one of the weekly meetings in the Lower Meeting Room in the Elementary School on the Saint Margaret campus.

Mondays, 7:00 pm - Families Anonymous
Fridays, 7:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous
Saturdays, 7:30 pm - Women for Sobriety
Sundays, 6:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous
Sundays, 8:00 pm - Alcoholics Anonymous

The Francis Factor

Tuesday, March 18 at 7:00 pm at Loyola University Maryland’s Reitz Arena. The Archdiocese of Baltimore will host this event to mark the one-year anniversary of the election of Pope Francis. Cardinal Sean O’Malley, OFM Cap., Archbishop of Boston and member of Pope Francis’ advisory Council of Cardinals will share his thoughts and observations on Pope Francis and his amazing first year as leader of the Catholic Church. Tickets to the event must be requested through www.archbalt.org. The Francis Factor will also be streamed live.

Corner

Countdown to Lent –
1½ weeks

Venerable Pope Paul VI wrote that “through *corporal fasting* man regains strength, and the wound inflicted on the dignity of our nature by intemperance is cured by the medicine of a salutary abstinence.” However, the church “openly condemned ... any form of penitence which is purely external.” “Giving up” something just to say we are giving up something is pointless. Our fasting must have a purpose that orients us to God and reminds us of our obligation of service to our family, our church and our community.

Giving up eating between meals? Smoking? A second cocktail? Facebook? What are you doing with the time/money spent on the habit?

Fasting isn't just about giving up *things*. Fast from anger, pessimism, complaints about and discontent with what we're missing in life. Replace these emotions with patience, optimism, as well as appreciation and gratitude for the gifts we have received from God.

Fast from bitterness, self-concern and idle gossip. Instead, work toward forgiveness, compassion for others and purposeful, prayer-filled silence.

The self-discipline of fasting is not a uniquely Christian virtue. But self-discipline is required to follow Jesus, whose acceptance of the cross led from Good Friday to Easter Sunday – from His death to our salvation.



Marriage Moments

“Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing.” (Albert Schweitzer)
Is there a trait that you would like to foster in your spouse or child? How can you model that behavior this week in your own life?



Adult Faith Notes

Marie Dekowski
Adult Faith Formation
410-879-2670, ext. 126
mdekowski@stmargaret.org

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
and Burning of the Ashes

Tuesday, March 4 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

Menu includes pancakes, sausage, donuts, fruit cups and beverages. This annual supper is sponsored by Saint Margaret Boy Scout Troop 564. Free-will donations will be accepted.

Ashes, Ashes

The “branding” with ashes as a sign of public penance has been an official part of the church's custom since 1091 A.D.

But what is the source of the ashes for Ash Wednesday?

They come from the palm branches blessed last year on Palm Sunday. So ... you are invited to bring the palms that have been in your homes since last year (and the year before and the year before that) to church on the weekend of **March 2** and place them in the baskets at the entrances of the church and mission. We will then burn them Tuesday, March 4 on Shrove Tuesday. You are all invited to participate.

Lenten Suppers and Talks will begin on **Friday, March 7**, at 6:00 pm in the parish hall. Talks will begin at 6:45 pm. The topic of our talks this year will be on the inspiring messages of Pope Francis. Watch the bulletin each week beginning the first Sunday in March for more information.

Little Rock Scripture Study

The Minor Prophets will be the topic of discussion for the next Scripture study beginning **Wednesday, March 12**, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Adult Education Center. A prophet speaks for God. He brings the word of God to the people of God and calls the people to respond. Come join us in studying the prophets and their importance to our lives today. If you are new to the group, please register by contacting Marie Dekowski 410-879-2670, extension 126 or mdekowski@stmargaret.org.



LRSS

Youth Ministry

Kristin Rupprecht
Youth and Young Adult Minister
410-879-2670, ext 166
krupperecht@stmargaret.org

High School & College
Youth Ministry ~ FiRE House

Dinner & Faith on FiRE – Every Tuesday 6:00-7:00 pm. We will meet at FiRE House for dinner and faith sharing. We will focus on the

readings for the upcoming weekend and discuss any current events happening in the Catholic Church, with a special focus on Pope Francis. All high school and college students are welcome!

High School Hangout Nights

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Come join us - movies, games, fun!

College and Young Adult Ministry

Join us **Wednesday nights, 7:00 - 9:00 pm** at FiRE House (329 Wright Street). Social, spiritual and service events. Bring a friend!

Final Confirmation Class

Sunday, February 23. Candidates should meet in the Callahan Center at **6:15 pm**.

Class will end at 9:00 pm.

Appalachia & Baltimore Work Camp

Once again this year, we will participate in the Appalachia work camp experience in Preston County, West Virginia.



The work camp is open to all current high school students. Dates are **June 22-28**. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Kristin in the parish office or send an email krupperecht@stmargaret.org. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up soon! We would also like to offer a Baltimore work camp this year, and we are in need of two adults to accompany the group for the week. Baltimore work camp also runs **June 22-28**. If you are able to go with our group, please contact Kristin Rupprecht.

We Need Your Help!

Sign up with eScrip to help us raise funds for our youth ministry events such as work camp, conferences and leadership training. You can sign up online – eScrip works with merchant partners to contribute to our group each time you shop at no cost to you! Please go to escrip.com, click on “sign-up”, follow the instructions to register your grocery cards and existing credit/debit cards. You can select up to three organizations to support. Our group name is St. Margaret's Youth Ministry. Thank you in advance for your help!



Education Notes ...

Faith Formation

410-879-2670/410-838-6969

Preschool and Elementary

Keri Geibler, kgeibler@stmargaret.org

Lisa Hack, lhack@stmargaret.org

Middle and High School

CeeCee Meholic

cmeholic@stmargaret.org

Classes This Week...

Sunday Classes:

February 23 and March 2



Elementary Wednesday Classes:

February 26

Middle/High School Programs:

The Large Group will be held this week on February 25 and 26. **The topic will be on Catholic Social Teaching.**

Make-Up Class: A make-up class has been scheduled for **Tuesday, March 4.**



Scripture of the month: Matthew 22:37 “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”

Saint Margaret School

www.smsch.org

Elementary Campus 410-879-1113

Middle School Campus 410-877-9660



Important Dates For February

Feb. 24 Band; MS Tutor Club 3:00-3:50 pm

Feb. 25 Hot lunch

Open House on both campuses
9:30 am - 1:00 pm

Feb. 26 Mass

Feb. 27 Hot Lunch

News from the Admissions Office
Open Registration

Saint Margaret School will be accepting new applications for admission beginning February 3rd in the Elementary School lobby. Tell your friends and neighbors about Registration dates for next school year!

First Eucharist Retreat

On **Saturday, March 15** all students registered for First Eucharist will attend a morning retreat from 9:30 am - 12:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Keri Geibler at kgeibler@stmargaret.org

Saint Jude Shop

Coming to Saint Margaret Church

On **Saturday, March 15** the Saint Jude Shop from Philadelphia, PA will set up in the baptistery from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. The items will be available before and after the Saturday Masses. They will have a variety of religious articles and First Communion accessories and attire. Visit www.stjudeshop.com to see their selection.

K-5 Home Study Large Group

Our next Large Group Session for K-5 Home Study students and their parents will be held on Monday, February 24 at 7:00 pm in the Callahan Center. We will be learning about the Rosary with a very special activity planned.

Ash Wednesday is March 5

All Elementary Wednesday Faith Formation classes will attend the Ash Wednesday Service/Mass that coordinates with their scheduled class time. For example, all students who attend the 4:45 pm class will report to the church and sit with their class for the Ash Wednesday Prayer Service at 5:00 pm. All students who attend the 6:45 pm classes will report to the church and sit with their class for the 7:00 pm Mass. All parents will sit in the pews behind the students. Students will be dismissed from their pews directly following the service.



Applying for Tuition Assistance

Currently: Tuition Assistance information is available on the parish website at www.stmargaret.org. Click on the About Us tab, and then click on School.

By February 21: Complete the *Parents' Financial Statement* and the *Business/Farm Statement* online at sss.nais.org.

By March 14: Submit ALL required documents to SSS.

Refer to the checklist on the parish website.

The parish provides tuition assistance grants to eligible school families enrolled for the upcoming school year. Applications are reviewed in strict confidence by a committee using a blind process.

Who is eligible to apply?

Parents of enrolled Saint Margaret School students or parents of new students who have applied and been accepted may apply for a tuition grant. Applicants must be

registered parishioners who regularly attend church at Saint Margaret Parish and provide regular support at an appropriate level using offertory envelopes or electronic means. Active parishioner status is checked as part of the tuition assistance application process and several times during the year. Please refer to the Tuition Assistance Policies for additional information.

How does a family apply?

All applications are submitted online at sss.nais.org by completing a *Parents' Financial Statement* and providing all required documentation. Both the custodial and non-custodial parent should submit the *Parent's Financial Statement*. There is an additional online form for those who own a business or farm.

Questions about the process may be directed to Mary Ellen Bates, Parish Business Manager, at 410-838-6969 ext. 115.