

DATE	LITURGICAL SCHEDULE	MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday April 25th <i>Feast of St. Mark</i>	8:00 AM Mass No Vigil Mass	Pro Populo
Sunday April 26th <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	10:00 AM Mass	Pro Populo
Monday April 27th <i>Monday of the Third Week of Easter</i>	No Mass today	
Tuesday April 28th <i>Tuesday of the Third Week of Easter</i>	4:00 PM Mass	Friends of the Suffering Souls Requested by the Valuja Family
Wednesday April 29th <i>Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena</i>	8:00 AM Mass	Mr. & Mrs. Jameson Requested by Joe Lawrence
Thursday April 30th <i>Thursday of the Third Week of Easter</i>	8:00 AM Mass	Benefactors of St. Joseph Academy Requested by Sr. Ruth
Friday May 1st <i>Memorial of Saint Joseph the Worker</i>	8:00 AM Mass No First Friday Mass	Diane & Fred Goddard Requested by Jim and JoAnn Toner
Saturday May 2nd <i>Memorial of Saint Athanasius</i>	8:00 AM Mass No Vigil Mass	†Mary Sanders Requested by John Sequeira
Sunday May 3rd <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	10:00 AM Mass	Pro Populo

To request a Mass intention, please visit the parish office during normal business hours.

ST. MARGARET
of SCOTLAND

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Third Sunday of Easter
April 26th, 2020 anno Domini

MASS SCHEDULE	MISSION STATEMENT
Sunday Liturgy: 4:00 PM (Vigil) 8:00 AM (seasonal) 10:00 AM	To grow in the love of the Lord, follow the teachings of the Church, & serve one another and the community.
Monday: No Mass Today	CLERGY & STAFF
Tuesday: 4:00 PM	
Wednesday-Saturday: 8:00 AM	
1st Friday of the Month: 6:00 PM	
Holy Day of Obligation: Check website	Rev. Christopher Bond Pastor
Snow Days: Check website	Rev. Mr. Miles Merwin Deacon (seasonal)
<i>Refer to back page for possible changes</i>	Mrs. Leslie McCausland Secretary
	Ms. Nicki Conroy Faith Formation
	Mrs. Bernice Smathers Choir Director
	Ms. Faith Garner Organist
CONFESSIONS: Saturday: 3:00-3:45 PM, Sunday: 9:00-9:45 AM, 1/2 hour before all Daily Masses, or by appointment	OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 AM—4:00 PM Friday—Monday: Closed
SACRAMENTS/FUNERALS: Contact office	

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STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

From Peter's sermon reported in Acts (our First Reading) to Peter's letter (our Second Reading) to the report in the Gospel of Luke of two disciples meeting Jesus while walking to Emmaus, the Resurrection of Christ is at the center of our readings today. As our Easter season continues we are asked to contemplate and appreciate what this means for us and to us. Peter gives a sermon in the First Reading, the key focus of which is the resurrected Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth. Peter says, "Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man, delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it."

This is why we celebrate Easter, and why that celebration continues today. For us this is history and this is personal witness by Peter and the other ten Apostles, all of whom experienced the resurrected Jesus firsthand. We can see that Peter, true to his dedication by Jesus, has become the spokesman for the Apostles ("Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed.").

When Peter uses the term "throes of death" note that phrase is sometimes translated as the "pain of death." The Greek word from which the phrase originates also means "the birth pains of death." One might say Jesus was freed from the womb to new life, just as we should expect and experience in terms of our own resurrection. That is what we hope for.

We benefit today from hearing from St. Peter twice — in his sermon from Acts, and from his letter in the Second Reading. Peter points out in his letter that our redemption is not based upon offering a ransom or paying someone with silver or gold (perishable things), but we have been redeemed through the Lord's precious blood.

Our belief in redemption is through Jesus. If we believe in Him and live as His disciple according to His direction, we have every reason to have hope. We will not and cannot be disappointed because Jesus substantiated our hope in His sacrifice for us.

There is so much we can glean and comment upon from the account of the two disciples meeting Jesus on the road to Emmaus, our Gospel Reading from St. Luke. This encounter with the Lord occurred later on Easter Sunday. The men had not personally been part of anything at the tomb or after that, but there was much discussion and debate most likely among the followers of Jesus. That is probably what they were talking about as they walked (the distance to Emmaus was about seven miles). Although Jesus asks them what they are discussing, He, of course, knows.

How interesting that Jesus spends part of the day with them and dines with them on the evening of what we celebrate as Easter Sunday. He reveals Himself to them through His Words and teachings. That is what He does for us as well. That is why we hear Scripture at every Liturgy and why we need to listen carefully when we hear it.

Jesus knew what was troubling these men, what was in their hearts, but He wanted to hear them express it. That is why we need to speak with the Lord in prayer; we need to reveal what is in our hearts. Jesus tells them that they are "slow of heart." He is saying the same thing to each of us. The problems with our faith and our belief are probably more in our hearts than in our heads. We may think that the major obstacles to our belief are in our minds, but they are actually in our hearts.

Stewardship is a conversion of mind and heart. We can hear and understand the stewardship message, but if we do not literally "take it to heart" and find conversion there, we cannot be the disciples to which Jesus has called us. What really convinces these men though is the "breaking of the bread." We should experience our "hearts burning within us" every time we approach and receive the Eucharist.

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ONLINE GIVING

Please support this parish! As always, you may do so by dropping cash or check (envelope or not) in the collection basket at Mass or in the box under the image of Divine Mercy as you come into the church. You may also mail your check to PO Box 1359, Maggie Valley, North Carolina. But, now you have even more options!

We are now setup to accept electronic payments! We accept all major credit/debit cards as well as ACH payments (Automated Clearing House) directly from your checking or savings account. Regardless of your form of payment, you will have the option to designate the fund or collection to which your donation will go. You can even contribute to multiple funds in one transaction. If you would like to setup a recurring contribution you can do that too. If you include your name and/or envelope number on the memo line your contribution will be recorded on our ledger as if you dropped an envelope in the basket. The process is simple and completely secure! Please visit our website; www.stmargaretofscotlandmv.org and click the "GIVE ONLINE" button to get started!

Additionally, you can initiate your online giving via text (standard text messaging rates apply). Simply text: **StMargaretofScotland \$\$\$** to **73256** (example: *StMargaretofScotland \$50*). You will be sent a link to complete your donation. All the same payment and fund options will be available to you. Thank you for your continued generosity!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

R. Allan, Chris Churchill, Denise Collins, Thomas Dexter, Elliot Dowdell, Norma Esbenshade, Pat Gerakaris, Dick Hamel, Maryellen & Ray Hoefler, Joe Hoefler, Jess, Ketchum, Ann Ketchum, Josh Ketchum, Kimberly Krisan, Matt Loetz, G. Lydia, R. Mas, Peter Mino, Robert Missana, S. Mullen, Michael Naydock, Joseph Orvos, Pat & Suzanne Palmiere, Pat & George Pastore, Mike R., Marie S., Sue Quick, Edward Smathers, Austin Strader, Tinley Jane Toner, Jim Toner, Pvt. Luke Turner, Olivia Triollo, Michael Welch, Bella Grace Yarrington, Bruce Yarrington, David Yarrington.

Names will remain on this list for one month unless notified otherwise.

OFFERINGS (MARCH 30th—APRIL 13th)

(Contributions since April 13th have yet to be processed)

Offertory	Preservation & Improvement	Seminarian Education	Votives
\$7,972	\$558	\$203	\$41

DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL 2020

Assessment/Goal	Amount Paid	Pledges Outstanding	Over (Under)
\$22,000	\$8,405	\$12,098	(\$1,497)

**Diocesan ledger does not always reflect recent contributions*