



# SAINT MARGARET OF SCOTLAND

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

DECEMBER 26, 2021

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH



## THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

### CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday 4:30 p.m. & Sunday 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Monday thru Friday at 6:30 a.m.

Holy Days and holidays as published in Sunday Bulletin

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**PASTOR:** Rev. John Rogers Vien  
314-776-0363 ext. 1006  
frjrvien@stmargaretstl.org

**RECTORY:** 3854 Flad Avenue,  
Saint Louis, MO 63110  
Office: 314-776-0363

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 am - 4 pm

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION:**  
Ruth Pera: ffc@stmargaretstl.org

**Staff Directory Available At:**  
[www.stmargaretstl.org/Staff](http://www.stmargaretstl.org/Staff)

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:**  
For emergency assistance call: 314-772-2219

**SCHOOL:** 3964 Castleman Ave  
Saint Louis, MO 63110  
Office: 314-776-7837

**PARISH/SCHOOL WEBSITE:**  
[www.stmargaretstl.org](http://www.stmargaretstl.org)

**PARISH EMAIL:** [parishoffice@stmargaretstl.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmargaretstl.org)

**FACEBOOK PAGE:**  
[www.facebook.com/SMOSstl](http://www.facebook.com/SMOSstl)

**BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE:**  
Monday, 2:00 p.m.  
E-mail submissions to:  
[communications@stmargaretstl.org](mailto:communications@stmargaretstl.org)



## TOGETHER IN BAPTISM

We welcome to the church the newly baptized **Nora Jo Wandro**, daughter and **Lucas Drew Wandro**, son of Cierra and Nathaniel Wandro. Please join us in congratulating these parents upon the baptism of their children. We pledge to them our continued prayerful support throughout the journey of Christian parenting.

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." (1 JOHN 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received – being children of God! As God's children, it's in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, every day! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.



## END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

At the close of the year many parishioners like to make special donations to the church as part of their tax strategy. Your "little something extra" at Christmas can help us keep pace with our parish budget that is trying to meet St. Margaret's expanding needs. When making your additional holiday contributions, note carefully that all checks dated up to "December 31" will be counted toward your 2021 contribution statement; whereas those marked "January 1" and thereafter will go toward your 2022 statement. Consider the WeShare electronic giving option found on our parish web site. It's the most convenient way to make your donations, and you can set up a regular giving plan. Thanks for your generosity!

## A NEW WEEK

Merry Christmas! I hope that you are enjoying these days with your family and friends and enjoying good visits, good food & drink, and good cheer! Many thanks to all the parishioners of St. Margaret who were so very kind to me at Christmastime; thanks for your Christmas cards, gifts, and cookies! I am most grateful for your kindness to me, not only at Christmas, but in these months since I have come to St. Margaret.



BY FR. JOHN VIEN

Today, the Sunday between Christmas and New Year, is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. As you know, Christmas does not end on December 25; that is the date that it begins! The Christmas Season lasts from Christmas Eve through the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. During these weeks, there are many great feasts, people, and events that we celebrate! These days are filled with joy – not just today’s feast of the Holy Family, but also the great days of the Holy Innocents; St. John; St. Sylvester; the Feast of Mary, Mother of God on January 1; the American Saints Elizabeth Ann Seton and John Neumann; the Holy Name of Jesus, and of course, next week, the great feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, when Christ is revealed to all the nations.

Christmas occurs at the darkest time of the year; the winter solstice has just passed, the day when the darkness is at its peak. Now our northern hemisphere of the earth turns toward the sun, and the days will become progressively longer and warmer. As much as I love Christmastime, I must say that I prefer the summertime with its light and warmth! But even now, at the start of wintertime, we have hope, because Christmastime is the beginning of that turning toward the light and the warmth; there is no turning back! So it is most appropriate, and very well planned out, that during this time we celebrate Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!

In the 4th century, St. Gregory of Nyssa wrote:

*Today the darkness begins to grow shorter and the light to lengthen, as the hours of night become fewer. Nor is it an accident that this change occurs on the solemn day when divine life is manifested! Rather, to those who are attentive, nature manifests itself through visible things to a new reality. I seem to hear her saying, “Realize as you observe these phenomena, that the invisible is being manifested to you through the visible.” You see, do you not, that night has reached its greatest length, and since it can advance no farther, comes to a halt and withdraws? Do you see that the beams of light are more intense and the sun higher than it has been? Realize that the true light is now here, and, through the rays of the gospel, is illuminating the whole earth!*

Jesus Christ, born today, said, “I am the Light of the World!” But Jesus also said to his disciples, and says to us, “You are the Light of the World!” Let us celebrate the Light during these days! During these weeks of Christmas, keep your Christmas lights burning brightly, celebrate with your family and friends, and most importantly, let your light shine so that others may see your good works and give glory to God!

\* \* \* \* \*

During this week between Christmas and New Year, the Parish Offices will be closed, to give our dedicated staff time to celebrate with their family and friends. If you have parish business, please take care of that after the New Year holiday. Speaking of the New Year, next Saturday, January 1, is the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, but this is not a holy day of obligation this year. Still, all are invited to celebrate Mary and welcome the New Year at Mass next Saturday at 9:00 a.m. There will be no afternoon Confessions or 4:30 p.m. Mass.

Happy New Year 2022!



## Big News for the Parish!

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to announce the creation of a new endowment to benefit St. Margaret of Scotland Parish through the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri. This fund has been established with my support and the advice and support of our Parish Finance Advisory Committee.



Archbishop Carlson created the Foundation and it has been further endorsed by Archbishop Rozanski. It is a separate 501(c)(3) organization from the Archdiocese of St. Louis and has been designated as the long-term financial and planned giving resource to the parishes, schools and ministries of the Archdiocese. After a mere 7 years in existence, the Foundation has more than 225 individual funds and more than \$68 million dollars under management.

The endowment will provide an annual distribution to the parish, which will be used for general support of the parish. The fund is perpetual and will provide on-going income to our parish for generations to come.

Additions to the fund can be made by anyone, at any time, and in any amount. Therefore, I encourage you to consider making gifts to the endowment through the Roman Catholic Foundation for birthdays, memorials, anniversaries, or any other special event. You can also make a planned gift, which will be added to the endowment after your lifetime!

To learn more about ways to assist with the long-term financial stability of St. Margaret of Scotland Parish or to learn more about the Foundation and the services they offer, please contact our planned giving partner at the Foundation, Michael Weisbrod, at 314.918.2893 or send him an email at [michael.weisbrod@rcfrstl.org](mailto:michael.weisbrod@rcfrstl.org).

Sincerely,

Fr. John Rogers Vein  
Pastor

## LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS



Beauvais Manor activity director and her associate were happy to receive many gifts the members of the Ladies Auxiliary provided for their residents annual Christmas party.

***Merry Christmas to All and Happy New Year  
from members of St. Margaret of Scotland Ladies Auxiliary***



## GROWING IN FAITH

*Merry Christmas, and Happy Feast of the Holy Family!*

When I think about the Church celebrating this feast on this day, several thoughts fly to mind:

- ✦ Of course it makes sense to celebrate this blessed family immediately after it was formed through the birth of Jesus.
- ✦ Of course it makes sense to celebrate families at Christmas - at what other time are we so grateful to have our families than at Christmas?
- ✦ What a funny time to celebrate families - at what other time are we most ready for our families to go back where they came from?!



BY RUTH PERA  
COORDINATOR OF  
FAITH FORMATION

But after smirking to myself, a more reflective thought rises to mind: What a perfect Feast for us to learn about who God, who this newborn Christ Child, truly is.

God is all-powerful. He could have saved the world in any myriad of ways, but He chose to do it by becoming one of us. Further, He could have become incarnate in the world in any way He wished (it might have been simpler to just come as an adult and get right to the saving part), but he entered as a newborn child. He entered our world as a member of a family, embedded in a specific, historical community.

I have known my whole life that our God is a Triune God - a God in three persons. But it wasn't until I was an adult that I learned that this truth teaches us about the attributes of God. Specifically, our God - one person in three - is a God made for relationship and community. And humans, being made in God's image and likeness, are also made for relationship and community. In fact, in the first moments of human existence during the creation of the world, God looks at the singular man He has made and says, "It is not good for [humans] to be alone." (Gen 2:18). For the most part, we are at our best when we are living and working in relationship with others.

And now I look at the Holy Family in a new way: God didn't come to the world as a single, adult human who just lived and acted on His own, because that's not who God is. He came as a child, raised by a family, integrated into a community which would provide support and relationship and background for His life here on Earth, because that is where God finds his fullest expression (if there can be a most full expression of a thing which can never be diminished...). That's also where humans find the fullest expression of our humanity. And Jesus, both fully human and fully divine, would undoubtedly be the same.



So today, I celebrate the newborn Christ Child. I celebrate our God who made us like Himself, meant to be loved and to love others. I celebrate the most Holy Family which Mary and Joseph made to nurture and raise our God Incarnate. And I celebrate the holiness, goodness, and dignity embedded in every family here on Earth, and the holiness, goodness, and dignity they create in each of us. Happy feast, everyone.



## MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, December 27**  
6:30 a.m. The Casey Family +  
**Tuesday, December 28**  
6:30 a.m. Guadalupe Garza +  
**Wednesday, December 29**  
6:30 a.m. David Ganser +  
**Thursday, December 30**  
6:30 a.m. Eugene & Rosalie Buckley +  
**Friday, December 31**  
6:30 a.m. John "Jack" Stirnemann +  
**Saturday, January 1**  
9:00 a.m. People of the Parish  
**Sunday, January 2**  
8:00 a.m. Ray & Marie Austermann +  
10:00 a.m. Buttice Family

*To mark a special occasion or to remember a beloved family member or friend, living or deceased, with a Mass intention please call the Parish Office at 314-776-0363. The bishops of Missouri ask the faithful to make a \$10 offering for each Mass if they are able.*

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

**Thursday, December 30**  
Eucharistic Adoration, 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Church  
**Sunday, January 2**  
Pray the Rosary, 7:30 a.m. - Church



## MINISTRY SCHEDULE - SUNDAY - JANUARY 2

	Saturday 4:30 p.m.	Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:00 a.m.
<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>		Daniel Chilenski Keira Kennedy Samuel LeBlanc	Mia Agniel Harrison Agniel Leo Hahn
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</b>		Elaine Pudlowski	Emily Kaplan
<b>LECTORS</b>		Tim Mulligan TBA	John Merideth Julie Bradshaw

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Masses**  
Friday, December 31 - 2021 - 6:30 a.m. (No evening Mass)  
Saturday, January 1 - 2022 - 9:00 a.m. (No confessions or 4:30 p.m. Mass)

**Epiphany of the Lord Masses**  
Sunday, January 2 - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NEWS

### WINTER OUTREACH 2021

Merry Christmas to all! And, our continued thanks for your generous support to our Winter Outreach fundraiser. It is a perfect time to give, and we have the perfect people with whom to share your gifts. You are helping warm the homes and hearts of many deserving neighbors! This fundraiser will go until December 31st, so there's still time. Please, take an envelope found in the pews, place your check or cash in it, and give it to Elves in back of church after Masses. WeShare is also available from the link on the St. Margaret's website. We wish all the best to you and your families for a most Blessed Christmas!



## Boy Scouts News

### E-RECYCLING

Are you receiving new electronic devices for Christmas? Do you have any old ones? What will you do with them? Don't throw them out!



Boy Scout Troop 110 will once again be holding an e-recycling event on Saturday, March 5, 2022.

### Did you know prayer requests are available through our parish website?

If you have a prayer intention for yourself, family member or someone you know and would like for the parish to keep you in their prayers, go to St. Margaret of Scotland parish website [www.stmargaretstl.org](http://www.stmargaretstl.org) under **Pray** and you may enter your request. If you are unable to do this please contact the Parish Office at 314-776-0363 and we will be happy to assist you with your prayer request.

## CUB SCOUT NEWS

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Cub Scout Pack 110 is looking for a volunteer to be our **Treasurer**. The position is largely light duty and very spare-time. Please take a moment to really consider the invitation. It can be a parent or relative, but we do need someone to fill this necessary role. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Boy Scouts Cubmaster Matty Kleinberg at [mattykleinberg@gmail.com](mailto:mattykleinberg@gmail.com)



*Overwhelmed by the images from the border? Unsure what a "dreamer" is or the difference between a refugee and an asylum seeker? Saddened at separation of families? Interested in learning more about immigration policies and our faith and how you can respond as a follower of Christ?*

**JUSTFAITH'S EXPLORING MIGRATION:** A Faith Journey is an eight-week small faith group session which will start Monday, January 3, 2022 by zoom from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. This eight-session, faith-filled program provides you with a chance to learn, pray, discuss, and to discover more about our Catholic teachings, our values, our God, and the millions of people who are on the move in every part of the world.

The suggested price of the program is \$20, but do not let cost stand in your way of joining us. Sign up on We Share located on the parish website. Details will be sent upon registration. For more information, please contact Julie Hesed at [momhesed@gmail.com](mailto:momhesed@gmail.com) (314-349-7788) or Astrid Homan at [astrid@frontier.net](mailto:astrid@frontier.net) (636 – 467-8036)



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