

# MAGGIE'S CROSS



## From the Rector

BY FATHER TODD R. DILL+

*For My Yoke is Easy, and My Burden is Light*

Cruz de Hierro, or the Iron Cross, is the highest point on the Camino Frances route of the Camino de Santiago in Spain. I have journeyed to this summit twice; once in 2015 on my solo expedition, and once with Reg in 2016 when we walked a 200-mile section together. The last five miles approaching this Cross is a continual ascent, but curiously is not particularly difficult to trek. What is most powerful about this spot is the Cross itself and what surrounds it. Thousands of rocks are laid by pilgrims each year at the

base of this Cross. These stones have been carried by pilgrims for hundreds of miles and symbolize a particular burden or struggle that one carries with them in their life. Once at the foot of the Cross, and having carried this rock and prayed for relief for hundreds of miles, the pilgrim then leaves their burden and moves on, refreshed and with a lighter burden.

Lent is a season gifted to us by the Church that allows us to focus on those things that burden our souls and keep us from a full and transformed relationship with Jesus. People think I'm crazy when I say this, but Lent is my favorite season of the Church year. I love the intentional quiet time that I spend in deep contemplation, naming those struggles in my life that weigh me down and keep me from the new life that our Lord has offered me. Through worship, prayer, self-denial and the contemplation of Holy Scripture, it is a season that allows me to get real with myself and with God about those things I do that I shouldn't, and about those things I don't do that I should. And the wonderful truth I experience in these Lenten disciplines is the mercy of Jesus that always awaits me. Centering on Jesus, and being

honest with Him, always opens the door to refreshment, renewal, and God relieving the burdens which so often encumber me. As Jesus promises us in Matthew:

*Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.*

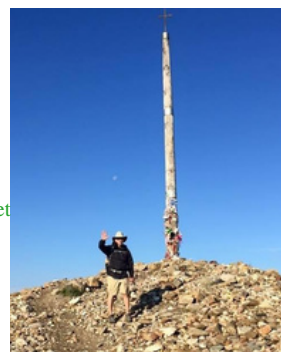
Would you like to be more at peace in your life? Is there a particular sin you grapple with that weighs down your soul? Friends, I tell you Jesus is waiting for you at this very moment to change your life. This Lent, take your burdens to Him, and if you journey the Lenten path to get to Him, you will find true peace and amazing refreshment. For the yoke of Jesus is easy, and His burden is light, and He wants to share that with you today.

May the Peace of our Lord be with you during this holy Season of Lent.

Your priest,

*-Fr. Todd+*

[dill@saintmargarets.net](mailto:dill@saintmargarets.net)





# LENTEN QUIET DAY is March 18

*\*Deadline to register is Friday, 3/10.*

## **Good News from the Wilderness:**

### *A day of discovery, reflection and devotion*

In response to the Church's invitation to observe a holy Lent, St. Margaret's Chapter of Daughters of the King will host a Quiet Day, Saturday, March 18th from 9:00 - 2:30.

The theme is the four times Jesus went apart to discern, to pray, to wrestle, to seek God's comforting presence, to quiet fears and doubts, and to prepare to move into a new chapter of life and mission.

***The Rev. Sarah Hollar will lead a reflection on each one of Jesus' wilderness experiences. Participants will have time and space on campus to explore wilderness times in their own life and how God met them there and brought them through.***

The day is designed for silence and solitude, a time apart from worldly demands, a time to rest with the stirrings of the Spirit and to follow the example of Jesus. Both the opening gathering time and lunch will be opened for conversation and fellowship.

**All members and friends are invited.**

Please **CLICK HERE** to register and reserve your lunch option.



# Notes from our Director of Music & Organist

BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

music@saintmargarets.net



## Choral Evensong for St. Joseph

*Sunday, March 19th at 4pm*

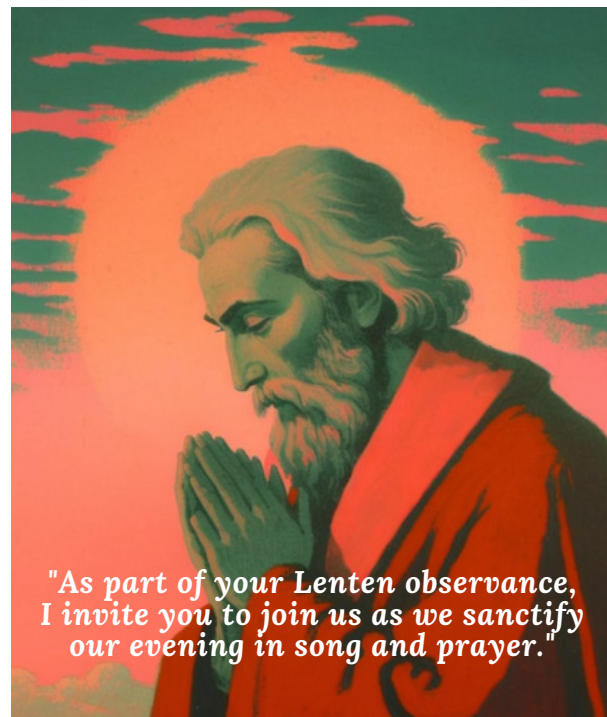
Our invitation to a holy Lent charges us, among other things, to observe the season through prayer and the reading of, and meditating upon, God's holy Word. On the evening of Sunday, March 19, we have a special opportunity to fulfill that charge as a community. At four o'clock, the Adult Choir will offer a beautiful service of Choral Evensong, a treasured part of our Anglican tradition. As part of your Lenten observance, I invite you to join us as we sanctify our evening in song and prayer.

The Church has historically had two liturgies which comprise its public prayer: The Holy Eucharist and the Daily Office. These days, the Holy Eucharist is our customary liturgy for Sunday mornings, but the Daily Office has sadly become rarer. The Daily Office ("office" in the sense of a duty) is a schedule of prayers said throughout each day. The ancient Office prescribed eight liturgies said at intervals of three hours; in the English Reformation, this was simplified to Morning Prayer (sometimes called Mattins) and Evening Prayer (Evensong). These changes combined the older liturgies and expanded the use of scripture in them, with the aim of making their usage more widely accessible to laity and parish churches.

Evensong is a fusion of Vespers, traditionally said before dinner, and Compline, prayers before bed. The general structure is simple: the liturgy begins with a selection of Psalms and continues with readings. The readings are usually more substantial than those used for the Eucharist and draw from more of scripture than the Eucharistic lectionary. Each reading is followed by a scriptural canticle; first the Song of Mary from Vespers, to celebrate God's faithfulness throughout the day, and then the Song of Simeon from Compline, through which we pray to God for a peaceful rest. Then the liturgy concludes with a set of prayers and responses in which we pray for the world and ourselves.

As the Daily Office became the dominant form of worship in the English church, its celebration became marked, particularly in large churches and cathedrals, by greater beauty and splendor.

Composers wrote numerous choral settings of the responses, the inclusion of an anthem became de rigueur, and the canticles after the readings were written with increasing drama and beauty into some of the most celebrated works of the whole English repertoire. Today, the celebration of Choral Evensong is an opportunity to step out of the stress and distraction of everyday life and to focus on prayer, scripture, and an encounter with God through beauty. Articles in Christianity Today and the Telegraph have noted, in the past decade, the increasing popularity of Choral Evensong among diverse university students in the UK. Students of varied faith backgrounds, or none, flock to chapels to take a pause in their week and experience something out of the ordinary. In my experience, Evensong attracts this kind of seeker in a way that nothing else can. So join us in setting aside some time the evening of March 19 to hear God's word, enjoy some beautiful music, and pray with us as we continue on in our Lenten journey.

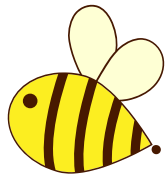




# Youth Spotlight

**BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER**

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY



pfeifer@saintmargarets.net

**EYC is excited about our spring schedule, and we invite all 6th-12th graders (and their friends) to join us from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm.** EYC will meet every Sunday for the month of March (March 5, 12, 19, and 26) and we would love to have your student join us. Has been it a few months (or maybe years?) since your student has been to youth group? They are always welcome, please reach out to Elizabeth with any questions. When coming to youth group, please enter using the double back doors (near the playground).

February was a short but mighty month! Even with missing a Sunday meeting for the Super Bowl, our youth group managed to wrap up our Epiphany series in which we spent several weeks wondering what the stories of Jesus were revealing to us. Using quick dry clay, we made a symbol that stood out to us from one of the five stories we read. We also spent two weeks talking about the church season of Lent. We made prayer bottles (filled with glitter, so much glitter!) to help us spend time with God each day and reflect on what we felt and encountered. We also made our own bread after discussing Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. There's nothing quite like a tangible, likely a little messy, activity to allow for a lasting impression and memory of what has been studied and discussed at youth group.

**All middle school students are invited to a NC Diocesan Event Fri-Sat, March 24 & 25.**

This event, called Genesis, is hosted by the Diocese of North Carolina for students throughout the Piedmont region. This overnight event will be hosted at Holy Comforter in Burlington, NC. Students will play games, worship together, spend time in small groups for a variety of activities, and more. The cost is \$85.

**Contact Elizabeth for registration info.**

*Elizabeth will drive students to/from this event; we will meet at the church at 5:30pm on Friday and return around 6pm on Saturday.*

## STM EYC MARCH SCHEDULE

**EYC WILL MEET EVERY SUNDAY IN MARCH**

March 5, 12, 19, & 26  
5:00-6:30 with dinner 6:30-7:00pm  
All 6th-12th graders welcome!

*Join Us!*

Instagram: stm youthg  
text updates: text  
stm youth1 to 43506







# Children's Ministry

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

**BY JAMIE PETERS**

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



*What a true blessing our Children's Ministry is here at Saint Margaret's!  
As we welcome March, we continue to serve God with all our hearts.*

**Club 4-5** had their second meeting of the year on February 12th where we enjoyed fun and fellowship along with a pizza lunch. In anticipation of the Lenten season, students were able to make their own Prayer Bottles for home. The bottles include several symbols inside like a cross, palm leaves, reflective glitter, and shells that invite students to connect and draw closer to God during the season of Lent.

**Sunday School classes continue** from 9:30 to 10:15am. In February we started off by having fun at the Children's Craft Table at the Parish Breakfast making mosaic cross necklaces. We wrapped up our Love God unit and discussed "What is Lent?" to prepare for the upcoming season. Students contributed their own Lenten prayers to our Prayer Wall and we invite everyone to do so as well. The Prayer Wall will be up during Lent for you to come by, write down your Lenten prayers, and add them to the crosses. Our students also took a Service Sunday field trip with our Executive Verger, Janet Mills to "Behind the Altar" where they learned about serving at God's altar through the various roles and rituals.

As we enter March, we will continue to discuss Lent. Mark your calendars for a few upcoming dates in Children's Ministry, and keep a lookout for emails with additional details:

- March 5: Children's Craft Table at the Parish Breakfast from 9:30-10:15am
- March 12, April 2, & April 30: Club 4-5 from 11:45am-1:00pm
- April 9th: Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30am
- June 19th-22nd: Vacation Bible School



**Registration is open for VBS so sign up today!** We will explore what it means to shine Jesus' light in everyday life and have an amazing week of fun and fellowship through games, activities, crafts, and music. VBS is June 19-22 (9am-Noon) and is open to students 4 years of age (as of 8/31/2023) to rising 5th grade.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO REGISTER\*\*](#)

**Questions or if you are interested in volunteering, contact Jamie at [childrensministry@saintmargarets.net](mailto:childrensministry@saintmargarets.net).**

*Blessings,  
Jamie*





# Parish Connection

**BY TRACI SCOTT**

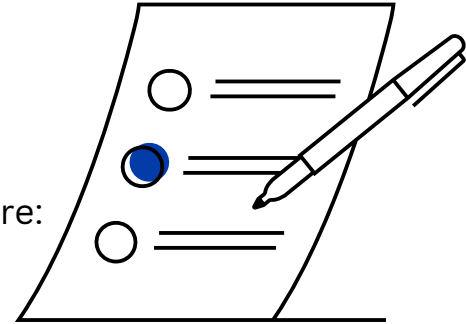
ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION  
[connection@saintmargarets.net](mailto:connection@saintmargarets.net)



## Have you completed a member profile form for us?

If you haven't submitted one of these forms, please access it here:

<https://stm.breezechms.com/form/NewMembershipProfile>



*This helps us maintain accurate records of who is an active member of St. Margaret's and what ministries you may be interested in.*

*We appreciate your help in this ongoing effort to keep our parish records up to date.*

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## MOVIE SERIES CONTINUES

### **March 10: Just Mercy**

Only 3 movies remaining! This series is designed to open the eyes of our hearts to people whose abilities, age, ethnicity, class and social status may differ from our own. We'll meet in the Youth Room from 9am-12pm. Questions, contact Kathy Couture at [kcouture28105@gmail.com](mailto:kcouture28105@gmail.com)

RSVP here for the movie(s) you plan to attend: [CLICK HERE](#)

Schedule of movies: [CLICK HERE](#)

## **REMINDER:**

### **MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**

for ALL AGES in lieu of Sunday School:

**Sunday, March 5**

**9:30- 10:15**

\*Join us in the parish hall for fellowship AND biscuits, scrambled eggs, sausage gravy, fruit, coffee, cereal & the parish favorite...bacon!



*Welcome new member:*

- Dan Garrett

## Interested?

*Interested in officially joining St. Margaret's to be included in our parish records?*

*Please contact Traci for details at [connection@saintmargarets.net](mailto:connection@saintmargarets.net)*

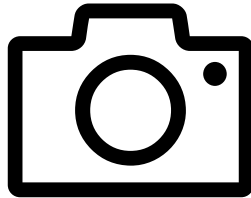




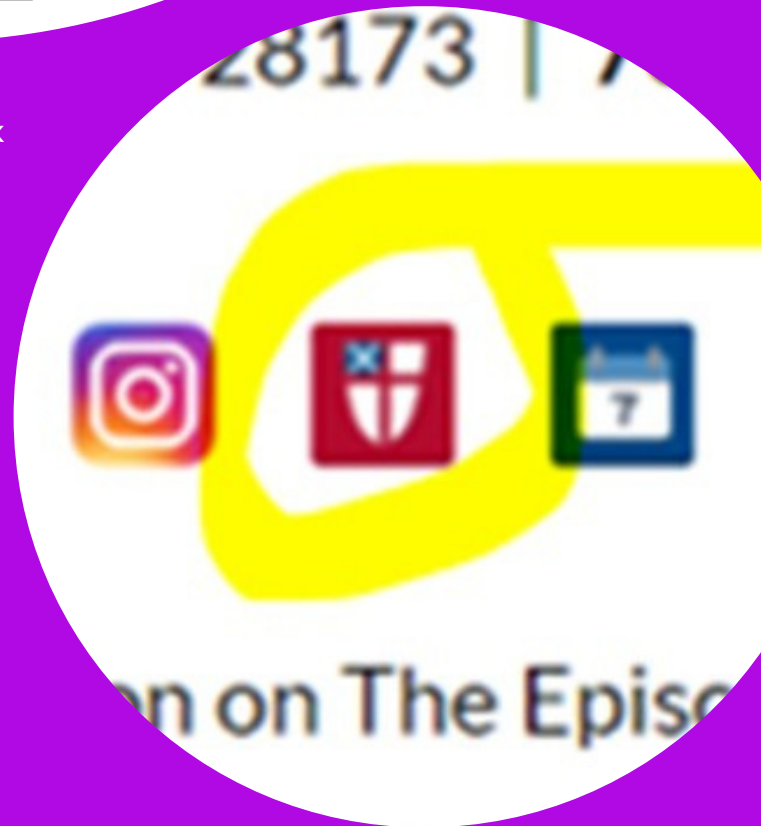
# WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS UPLOADED!

**Make sure we have your profile picture on StM Connect!**  
**Our clergy and staff rely on these pictures to help put faces with names.**

You can also use STM CONNECT as a member directory to look up a fellow parishioner's email address or phone number.

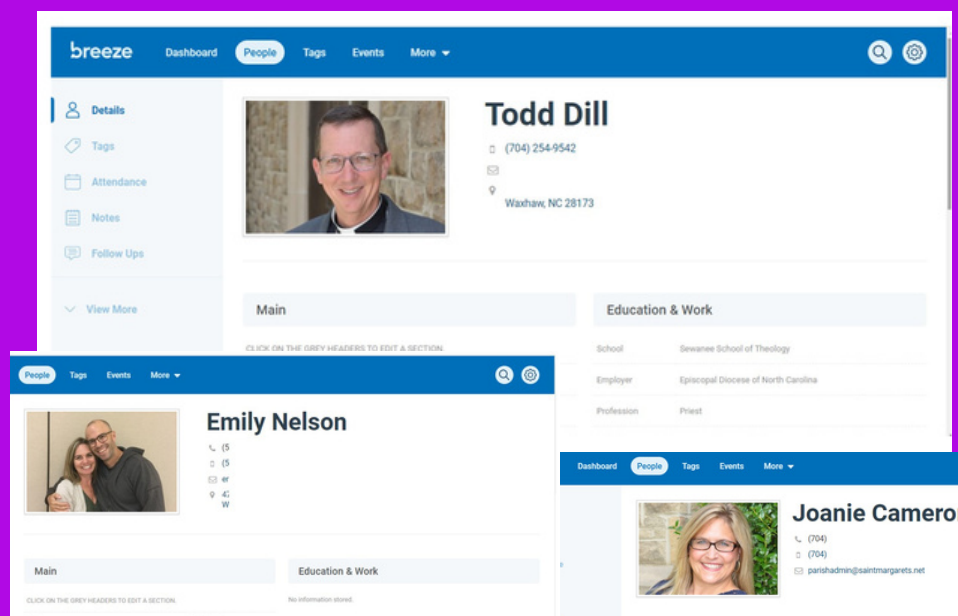


1. Go to [www.saintmargarets.net](http://www.saintmargarets.net) and click **StM Connect** on the top banner OR look at the bottom of the homepage and CLICK the EPISCOPAL SHIELD icon to create an account or to look at your profile.
2. You will then go to StM Connect, which is our online database aka: Breeze. Create an account there.
3. Once you have an account, look through the fields and find PEOPLE. Do a search and type in name and profile will appear. Click box to add photo. Just follow instructions and SAVE.



**Need assistance adding your photo into your profile?**

Contact Traci Scott at:  
[connection@saintmargarets.net](mailto:connection@saintmargarets.net)





### MONTHLY MEAL DELIVERY *Special FRIDAY edition!*

Our monthly food delivery ministry, Community Kitchen Fellowship, will be making and delivering a hot meal on FRIDAY, March 17th.

We need more drivers to deliver the meals to homes in the Waxhaw area at 12:00pm. You'll be done in about 1 hour.

Great opportunity for the children and youth of our parish to help since it's a Union County teacher work day!

If you can help on Friday, March 17th, please sign up here to please click below links:

to: [DELIVER](#) and/or to [COOK or BAKE](#)



### GO TEAM StM:

St. Margaret's will be supporting the **Common Heart Hunger Walk** in Indian Trail on Sunday, March 5th. Our team of walkers that have signed up to walk together will raise awareness and money for our neighbors in need.

Please keep them in your prayers for a safe and successful day of outreach activities.

*Interested in participating or helping this cause?*

Register or donate here:

[stmargarets.commonhearthungerwalk.org](http://stmargarets.commonhearthungerwalk.org)



### Shelter meal on Tuesday, March 28th

Volunteers are needed to help cook our next meal at 1pm in the St. Margaret's kitchen. Another group will serve it at the Community Shelter in Monroe at 5:30pm.

**Sign-up by clicking here** to help with cooking, baking, serving or grocery shopping:

**Questions?** please contact Karen Schaphorst at [karen@schaphorst.com](mailto:karen@schaphorst.com) or Traci at [connection@saintmargarets.net](mailto:connection@saintmargarets.net)





LADIES TEA  
FEB 11, 2023



TEA TIME



Thank  
you!

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE ECW VALENTINES TEA IN FEBRUARY.  
A FAITH FILLED FELLOWSHIP EVENT FOR ALL AGES.





Our church office is open M-Th from 9:00-4:00  
& 9:00-12:00 noon on Friday.

#### Rector

**The Reverend r. Todd R. Dill+**  
dill@saintmargarets.net

Priest Associate

**The Reverend Sarah Hollar+**  
hollar@saintmargarets.net

Priest Associate

**The Reverend Fr. Jay Mills+**  
mills@saintmargarets.net

Deacon

**The Rev. Ludwig Wallner**

Organist & Director of Music

**Gavin D. Craig**  
music@saintmargarets.net

Executive Assistant to the Rector

**Joanie Cameron**  
parishadmin@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Youth Ministries

**Elizabeth Pfeifer**  
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Assistant to the Rector for Preschool Ministries

**Dana Platé**  
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Assistant to the Rector for Finance & Accounting

**Kathy Marakoff**  
finance@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Children's Ministry

**Jamie Peters**  
childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Outreach  
& Parish Connection

**Traci Scott**  
connection@saintmargarets.net

## March Calendar

- 3/1 Dinner Church for Lent, 1 of 4, 5:30pm in the Parish Hall
- 3/5 Monthly Fellowship Breakfast, 9:30 - 10:15 am
- 3/5 Common Heart Hunger Walk in Indian Trail, 2pm
- 3/6 Father Todd's Monthly Monday Prayer Group, 9:30 am
- 3/8 Dinner Church for Lent, 2 of 4, 5:30pm in the Parish Hall
- 3/9 VBS Committee Meeting, 9:30 am
- 3/9 Father Todd's Monthly Thursday Prayer Group, 1:30 pm
- 3/10 ECW Movie Day, 9:00 am
- 3/11 Kairos Training, 8:30 am in the Parish Hall
- 3/12 Club 4-5, 11:45am - 1pm
- 3/18 Lenten Quiet Day, 9am - 2:30 pm
- 3/19 Evensong, 4pm
- 3/21 Vestry Business Meeting, 7pm
- 3/28 Shelter Meal, cook & serve day

**Thank you to all who joined us for  
pancakes on Shrove Tuesday!**



The Costa Rica mission team is so appreciative of the immense support we received from the parish; **we raised \$1200 for our trip!**

We loved flipping pancakes for everyone, and we hope you enjoyed sharing a meal with your church family.



 [CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel](#) **SERMONS** in library!

### 2023 Vestry

Kathyann Dugan  
Hugh Laughlin  
Simon Haaroff  
Paula Holbein  
Colin Miles  
Charlie Winsman  
Josh Ward  
Emily Nelson  
Tom Washington  
David Feldser, *Treasurer*