

MAGGIE'S CROSS



From Our Rector

Peace is possible!

If you were able to be with us in worship on April 27, you heard a wonderful sermon preached by Reverend Sarah on the 20th chapter of the Gospel of John. If you were not with us, I do hope that you will take some time and listen to her sermon on our parish YouTube channel. In part, Reverend Sarah focused on God's peace that was given to the disciples through the gift of the Holy Spirit. What struck me was her encouragement to not wait for life circumstances to change to find peace, but to embrace the peace already within us, even if we are experiencing times of uncertainty or chaos.

The gift of the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples while they were paralyzed with fear. Jesus was dead, the women of the Way were telling strange stories of having seen Jesus, and the doors to the room where they were staying were locked for fear of the religious leaders and the Roman authorities. The natural next expectation would be for the Roman government to come and execute the disciples and put an end once and for all to this rabble who had followed Jesus.

In the midst of all this, Jesus appears to His disciples, breathes on them, and says "Peace be with you." What follows is the disciples going into the world, proclaiming that Jesus had been raised from the dead, and teaching and healing in His name. Most importantly, the dangers surrounding them did not change and had not gone away. The religious leaders were still hunting them, and the Roman authorities still wanted them silent. What had changed were the disciples! The peace they had received from Jesus was greater than the trials of the world. They knew that belonging to Jesus in this life, and in the next, broke the power of fear and death itself. They had received the peace of the Holy Spirit, and that Spirit now lived in them in a very real and powerful way.

That same Spirit, beloved, resides in you. At your baptism, the Holy Spirit was freely gifted to you in order that you might truly be at peace. In a time in which our world is experiencing countless trials and so many people are anxious or afraid, I'd like to remind you that the peace of God, through His Spirit, has already been granted to you. When you feel anxiety or worry approaching, take a moment, slow down for a bit, pray to our Lord, and remember the peace that is within you. Jesus is always there, waiting to comfort you, especially during your most anxious

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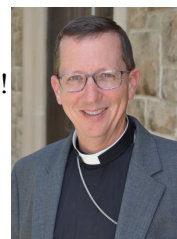
moments. He longs for you to be at peace, and even when it sometimes can seem so distant, the peace of God really is possible!

But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (Jn 14: 26-27)

May the Peace of the Lord always be with you!

Fr. Todd+

dill@saintmargarets.net





EXTRA GIVING 2025

*If you are able and feel so moved,
join the effort to give more 5/4-5/11.*

[CLICK HERE](#)

VESTRY CALL FOR “Extra Giving”

*The vestry humbly asks everyone to consider
making a one-time or additional monthly
payment for 2025.*

WHY? The operating costs for StM have increased over time and have actually required us to budget for an operating deficit for the last few years. [This is not an uncommon practice for churches.] We have been able to absorb the costs with our cash reserves and with the help of a large, unexpected gift at the end of 2023.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT? Under the leadership and service of our clergy and staff, the blessings of financial giving enable Saint Margaret’s to *Love Jesus, Love Our Neighbor, and Bless the World*. [Click here](#) to see a current Ministry Map of ways we are actively working on this mission.

HOW MUCH? The budget deficit for 2025 is \$60,500. If everyone who pledged could contribute \$25 per month or \$300 additional for 2025, we would break even and be able to end 2025 meeting our budget. For those who choose to give and are not pledgers, an additional gift in any amount will help.

Please consider a contribution even greater than this suggestion if your circumstances permit.

HOW DOES IT WORK? Extra Giving will not change your 2025 pledge but is a new amount paid in addition to your initial pledge/plate giving. *Over pledge funds received will be added to your pledge statement.*

The **GIVING tab on our website is also available for participating in this Extra Giving Campaign. Simply **use the drop down menu** and select the “2025 Extra Giving” option.*

If your preferred way to give extra is to write a check, you may place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church.

Please write “2025 extra giving” on the memo line for our records..



April Showers Bring May...

April showers bring may flowers. This is a saying that I grew up with. It's a saying that has been around for a long time. This season as I see the world, as I feel the feels, as I try to be the person God is calling me to be as husband, father, priest, as I ponder what may come, I take great comfort in April showers (Lent) bringing May flowers (Resurrection).



Resurrection is here! Alleluia. Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed; 50 days of Resurrection. As I was driving into the church one day early in this season, something struck me. It wasn't something new. It wasn't something life changing. Might we consider this? We begin to see Christmas in our world around the beginning of November. Around the world, if cultures and countries do not celebrate Thanksgiving, it starts much sooner. Then on December 26th it all goes away. Christmas in the church gets 12 days on the church calendar. Easter in our world gets a single day, one whole day, and its mostly about eggs and baskets and bunnies. Then, after 24 hours, it all goes away. Easter gets 50 days on our church calendar. **50 days!**

Some would call us crazy to celebrate Easter for 50 days, but doesn't our Easter look a little different than the world's Easter? Our Easter is about resurrection. Our Easter is about Jesus showing up to unexpected people-the disciples, his followers, Thomas, etc. Our Easter is about conquering death. Our Easter is about the greatest miracle to ever happen.

In a world such as ours currently is, in a world where we might be thought of a crazy or weird, don't you think if we focused on the Resurrection, on Easter for the next 50 days we would see the world in a different way? Don't you think we would find ourselves, our minds, our moods, in more hope-filled places?

50 days of Easter, what a wonderful thought. What a wonderful celebration. Will you celebrate with me? You know a party is always better with more people.

Alleluia. Christ is Risen!

BY REV. FATHER MATT ADDINGTON

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR

Father Matt is in the office M-Th
and can be reached at:
addington@saintmargarets.net



Music

BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

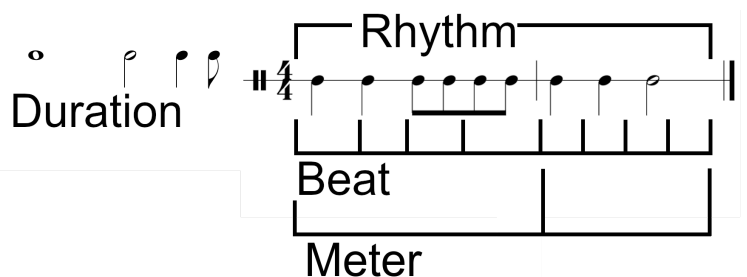
Rhythm & Rite



When discussing music with those without formal training, I'm often surprised to find that rhythm—not harmony or melody—is the biggest stumbling block. To me, this is the most intuitive aspect of music, probably a side-effect of a childhood diet of Sousa marches. Still, attention to how sound can be structured over time can deepen not only our engagement with music but also our awareness of the patterns embedded in our worship.

At a base level, we are talking about duration: how long or short a musical sound lasts. The relative durations of successive sounds creates a rhythm. As we listen to this rhythm, we will likely discern that sounds tend to happen after a predictable period of time, typically a little less than a second. This predictability is the beat of the music.

Yet this continuous pulse of beats renders music no more enjoyable than a regularly dripping faucet. An effective rhythm makes us feel patterns of either two or three (or four or more) beats. This slower regularity is called meter, which gives us a larger sense of predictability – this is what “time signatures” and “measures” refer to in musical notation.



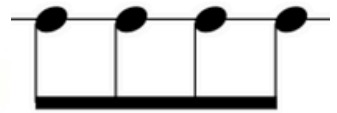
The weaker “upbeats” prepare us for the stronger “downbeats”, driving the music forward and giving meaning and context to the sounds.

Zooming further out, we encounter hypermeter, larger patterns of meter. We started with the duration of individual sounds and discerning beats and meter; we are now simply paying attention to the duration and structure of a musical phrase. Finally, the broadest level of analysis is form, which deals with how phrases combine to make an entire piece of music, revealing the true genius of a skilled composer. As an aside, I wonder if we can identify yet larger structures in a well-organized concert, the career of a musician, or even humanity's whole music-making endeavor?

With our graduate training in music theory complete, now let us consider our experience of worship. “The Lord be with you,” we hear. But we feel something must come after it: “And with thy spirit.” A lone statement was but an awkward greeting, until suddenly the response made it an understandable rhythmic unit. This larger unit does not stand on its own; it is followed by the Collect of the Day, beginning the day's worship. This can form an “upbeat” into the Lessons, making up the Liturgy of the Word. Together with the Liturgy of the Eucharist, this forms a two-fold “meter” for each liturgy. Vaguely pleasant religious sentiments and discreet musical works find a noble meaning when heard in this rhythmic context.

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Rhythm & Rite continued



Still, as liturgical Christians, our Sunday liturgy does not stand on its own. There is a hypermeter connecting the pattern of Word and Sacrament through a year. Our whole cycle begins with the four weeks of Advent, a preparatory “upbeat” into the twelve days of Christmas. Rather than an instant in time, Easter joy resounds for fifty days, followed by a long Whitsuntide as we relax before repeating the cycle in December. Living into this rhythm requires our attention and presence as deeply as a performer reading a score!

Reflecting my musings on the largest musical patterns, surely these elements of the liturgy and feasts of the year gain meanings for us through our lives. And isn't our participation in the Liturgy continuing the “music” started by the Holy Apostles themselves?

As we zoomed out, we did not leave behind those smaller units, but rather gave them meaning. In the same way, perceiving the broader patterns of our liturgy can reveal meaning in each verse of a hymn and each repeated prayer. And just as the music of a skilled performer is found not in the miniscule details of notes but in the larger musical patterns, our prayer together reveals riches when perceived according to our place in the song.

join us!

Music at St. Margaret's Presents:
James Masanotti



Join us Friday, May 16, at 6:30pm as we hear Nashville-area violinist James Masanotti in concert.

Mr. Masanotti will present a diverse concert of masterworks from the romantic and modern repertoire, featuring Schubert, Respighi, and Gershwin.

A suggested \$20 donation will be accepted and a light reception will follow.



Youth Spotlight

pfeifer@saintmargarets.net

BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

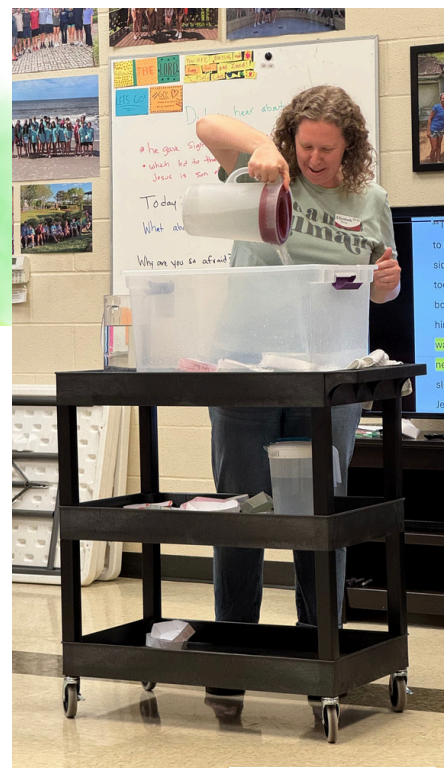
Most years, April is full of Easter celebrations at youth group. But, this year, Easter was one of the latest dates it could be and that impacted the programs and discussions at our meetings. Instead of hearing about Jesus appearing to his disciples that first Easter morning, EYC spent our April meetings continuing our Lenten series of “Did you hear about Jesus?” We continued our discussions from March, and we heard about Jesus calming a storm and offering mercy to an adulterous woman. On Palm Sunday, the chatter around “did you hear about Jesus” reached a fever pitch as Jesus triumphantly arrived in Jerusalem.

We built boats and put them through a “storm” (aka a pitcher of water), we did chalk art, we participated in a Holy Week scavenger hunt, we played ultimate frisbee and field games, and more. With a late Easter, we fully embraced the season of Lent and its challenge for us to grow closer to God.

With a late Easter, EYC’s final gatherings for this school year are also quickly approaching! **EYC’s final gathering for the school year is May 4th from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm at the church and Graduate Recognition will be on June 1st at the 10:30am service.**

We want to thank our volunteers who since August have given many, many hours spending time with us on Sunday evenings along with retreats. Youth ministry wouldn’t happen without you.

A special thanks to: Sue Jaquish, Julie Jenkins, Mark Shaffer, and Sharon Sullivan for their weekly commitment to being a presence at EYC and supporting the youth of St. Margaret’s in their walk with Christ.



Look for more information on our summer programming in June. Parents of rising 6th graders are invited to join our EYC text updates! Stay up-to-date with youth group gatherings by signing up for our EYC text updates: text stmyouth1 to 94033 and reply “yes” if prompted with an opt-in text message.



**“Thanks to all who
financially support our parish -
your dollars support nights like this.”**

-Elizabeth Pfeifer



*End of Spring Break Youth Group Outing:
48 kids came out for fellowship, fun & ice cream in Blakeney on 4/27.*



Children's Ministry

BY JAMIE PETER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

Spring is here, bringing fresh blooms, warmer days, and new beginnings! Just as the season changes around us, it's a great time to grow in faith, joy, and connection.

Easter is more than just a day—it's a season of celebration! On April 27th, we hosted our annual Easter Egg Hunt on our beautiful church grounds. It was a joyful morning as several children and their families came together to enjoy the hunt and take part in a fun Easter craft afterward. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this event such a success—your time, energy, and love created a memorable experience for everyone who attended.

Sunday School for children ages 4 through 5th grade will be taking a break for the summer and will resume in the fall. We're so grateful to everyone who participated—it's been a fantastic year filled with fun, fellowship, and growing in God's love. A heartfelt thank-you goes out to our dedicated Sunday School teachers, whose time, energy, and love have made a lasting impact on the children and our church community.



A heartfelt thank-you goes out to our dedicated Sunday School teachers:

Catherine Chintala

Carolyn Dunand

Jennifer Ensley

Laura Gregorovic

Tara McLellan

Crystal Sepulveda

Michelle Stephens

Kim Trawick

Sarah Whalen

and Christine Wilkins

Vacation Bible School is full!

Thank you for the amazing response! We're thrilled about this summer and can't wait to begin preparing for what promises to be an incredible journey as we learn to trust Jesus in a wild world.

Want to volunteer? We are still looking for adult and youth volunteers to help us make it an amazing week as we trek into the wilderness at **True North VBS June 16-19, 2025.**



Please contact Jamie at childrensministry@saintmargarets.net so you can be contacted closer to VBS with more information.

Wishing you and your family a joyful and successful end to the school year!



Parish Connection

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION

connection@saintmargarets.net

Name tag update

You may have noticed that the nametag board is gone! In order to make it more convenient to get your nametag when you come to church, the nametags are now on the Welcome Center desk in the narthex. Just find yours in the box, slip it in the holder and clip it on.



If you'd like to order the smaller, magnetic nametags, the cost is \$16 each and you can order on this link:

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

Lunch Circles continue to meet monthly.

Interested in joining a circle? Email Traci for more information



Welcome new members:

Walter & Diana Jarrett

Save the date:

August 9th Ladies Tea at St. Margaret's

Want to join the "Tea Committee?"

Our annual StM Ladies Tea is scheduled for Saturday, August 9th. We are working to form a committee to help Mary Rushing and Maureen Barclay with the program, food, activity, promotion and prizes. Many hands make light work! If you are interested in helping us put on another fabulous event for the women in our parish and our community, please contact Traci Scott to learn more at connection@saintmargarets.net

JOIN US

Sunday, 5/4 is our monthly parish breakfast. Please join us in the Parish Hall from 9:15-10:15. ***This will be our last breakfast until September as we take a break for summer.***



Outreach

connection@saintmargarets.net

Spring Clean Your Pantry!

Junior Girl Scout Troop 387 (led by parishioner Tara McLellan, daughter Geneva is a scout) is working on a Bronze Award project to benefit Common Heart. They will create 100+ "Kid Kits" with healthy snacks and kid-friendly meal options for children whose families come to the food pantry. The scouts came up with an idea to ask people to do a "spring clean" pantry clean out for unopened and unexpired snack items like granola bars, applesauce, fruit cups, breakfast bars, fruit snacks, and microwavable pasta bowls. Drop items in the collection bin outside the restrooms.

For more information, contact Tara at tara.mclellan@gmail.com. Thank you for supporting Common Heart and girl-led activities!

Monthly meal prep & delivery day needs your help!



Saturday, May 17th at St. Margaret's. We still need help with cooking, baking desserts, buying groceries (reimbursable) and delivering meals in Waxhaw. Sign up below if you can help or email Traci with any questions.

DELIVERY at 11am: <https://bit.ly/CKFdelivery>

MEAL PREP, BAKING, GROCERIES: <https://bit.ly/CKFmeals>

Blood Drive at St. Margaret's, Sunday May 4, 9am-1pm

OneBlood will be on-site at St. Margaret's with 2 buses: one for traditional blood donations and the other for platelets. Platelets are critical for the treatment of cancer as some of you may have experienced if your lives have been impacted by this disease. Platelet donations take about 90 minutes. You can donate platelets every 7 days and donate whole blood every two months.

Please schedule your appointment to donate whole blood or platelets by using this link: <https://bit.ly/BloodMay2025> Questions, contact Jeremy Ervin at jereseth@yahoo.com

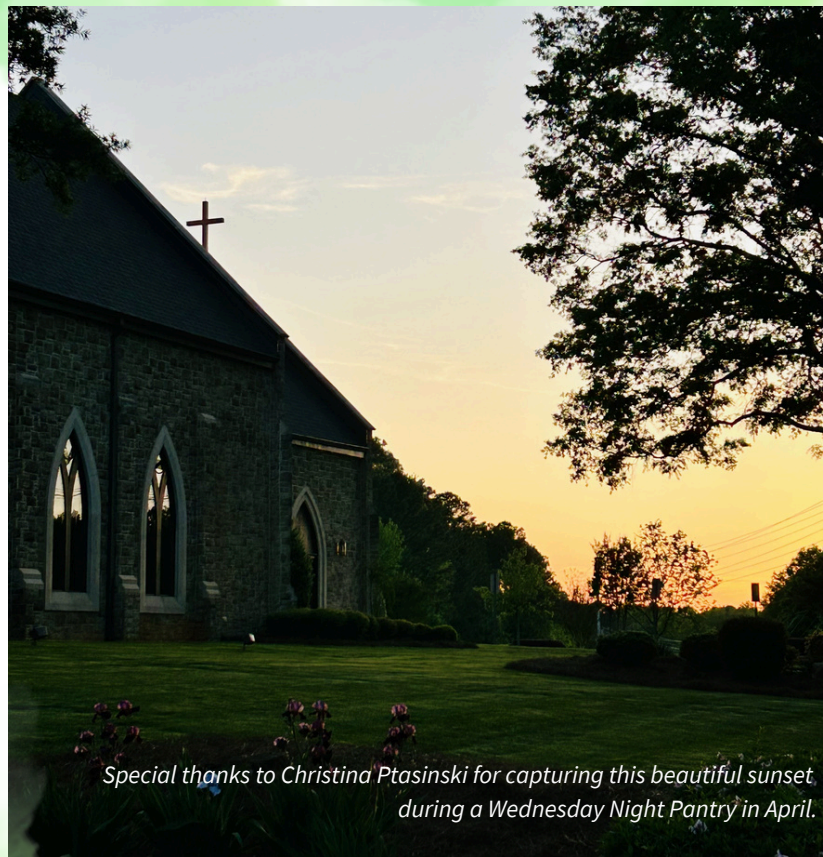
Shelter meal Tuesday, May 27 at 1:00pm

We'll be preparing a meal at St. Margaret's that will be served at the Shelter in Monroe that evening. Volunteers are needed to help cook the meal at church. We also need some dessert bakers and one person to shop for groceries (reimbursable).

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/2024Shelter>



To view Common Heart's volunteer opportunities, including the Wednesday night pantry at StM, click here: <https://bit.ly/stmpantry>



Special thanks to Christina Ptasinski for capturing this beautiful sunset during a Wednesday Night Pantry in April.



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

Rector

The Reverend Fr. Todd R. Dill+
dill@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector

The Reverend Fr. Matt Addington+
addington@saintmargarets.net

Priest Associate

The Reverend Sarah Hollar+
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Deacon

The Rev. Ludwig Wallner

Organist & Director of Music
Gavin D. Craig

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Executive Assistant to the Rector

Joanie Cameron

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Assistant to the Rector for Youth Ministries

Elizabeth Pfeifer

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Dana Platé

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Assistant to the Rector for Finance & Accounting

Kathy Marakoff

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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

2025 Vestry

Emily Nelson, *Senior Warden*
Tom Washington, *Junior Warden*

Philip Huff

Bill MacMinn

Jenny Marlier

Amy Pharr

Josh Ward

Kathleen Culpeper

Karen Paar

David Feldser, *Treasurer*

May Calendar

- 5/4 Monthly Parish Breakfast, 9:15-10:15am
- 5/4 Blessing of the Brains (both services)
- 5/4 Blood Drive
- 5/10 DOK meeting, 9:30am
- 5/16 Music at Saint Margaret's Concert Series, 6:30pm
- 5/16-18 EYC Beach Retreat
- 5/17 Community Kitchen Fellowship
- 5/17 Knots of Love monthly meeting, 10:00am
- 5/20 Vestry Business Meeting, 7:00pm
- 5/22 Men's Group, 6:30 pm
- 5/26 Church Office Closed 
- 5/27 Shelter Cook & Serve Day
- 6/1 Graduate Recognition, 10:30 service

*First Monday of the month: *Prayer time in the nave with Father Todd, 10:00 am*

*Wednesday Evenings: *Food Pantry, 6:00 pm & Compline on FB live at 9:00 pm*



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



REMINDER: Wednesday Evening Compline with Father Todd, 9pm on Facebook



The ladies Lenten Bible Study met on the Whole Foods patio in Waverly for their last gathering.

