



THE HOLY HOTMAIL



Tuesday, October 10th, 2018
Volume III, Edition 3

BETTER KNOW A SAINT!

MARGARET OF ANTIOCH

This is our own, eponymous saint! (Yeah, yeah – look it up!)



Nothing certain is known of her, but according to her untrustworthy legend, she was the daughter of a pagan priest at Antioch in Pisidia. Also known as Marina, she was converted to Christianity, whereupon she was driven from home by her father. She became a shepherdess and when she spurned the advances of Olybrius, the prefect, who was infatuated with her beauty, he charged her with being a Christian. He had her tortured and then imprisoned, and while she was in prison she had an encounter with the devil in the form of a dragon. According to the legend, he swallowed her, but the cross she carried in her hand so irritated his throat that he was forced to disgorge her (she is patroness of childbirth). The

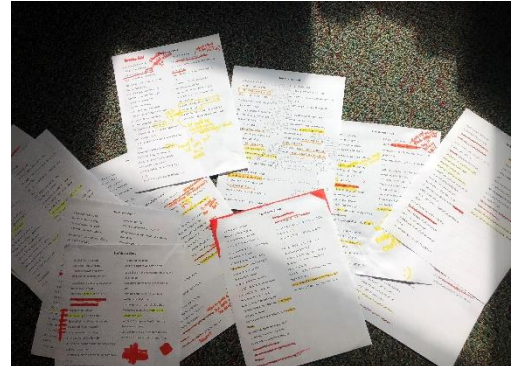
next day, attempts were made to execute her by fire and then by drowning, but she was miraculously saved and converted thousands of spectators witnessing her ordeal-all of whom were promptly executed. Finally, she was beheaded. That she existed and was martyred are probably true; all else is probably fictitious embroidery and added to her story, which was immensely popular in the Middle Ages, spreading from the East all over Western Europe. She is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers, and hers was one of the voices heard by Joan of Arc. Her feast day is July 20th.

THE YOUTH-LED SERVICE – AN UPDATE

There is lots to do, and we have been diving in! We are taking a three-pronged approach to exploring the question, “What is Church?”

First, there is Sunday School. Between the excellent curriculum for the middle-schoolers, and the more free-form seminar of the high-schoolers, we are getting a good grounding in what it means to be a Christian and an Episcopalian.

Second, youth group is where we focus more on what we will be doing at our service on May 12th. To that end, we have been having lots of discussions encompassing everything from common church architectural terms to a dissection of the Nicene Creed. And we have lots more ahead of us. Soon, we will be bringing in the Rev Peter and the Rev. Patti to help us untangle some questions and doubts. We will be actively engaging with the different Sunday morning ministries to discover the nuts and bolts of a service, and why people feel called to serve as they do.



Our marked-up copies of the Nicene Creed

Third is a serendipitous Girl Scout Gold Award project. A young parishioner of St. Andrew by the Bay has designed a project that entails youth from various churches on the Broadneck peninsula attending services at each other’s church (and temple). Next month we will get together for a Saturday mass and a potluck to discuss what we have observed from our visits, and what we think about it all. We are getting a good feel for how different denominations worship, and that helps us explore our own worship practices. This Friday evening, we will also participate in a Shabbat at Temple Beth Shalom in Arnold.

The intent is to help the Youth formulate their own answers to “What is Church?” Even more importantly, they will have the language and the context to think about this question for the rest of their lives. As they grow and mature, they will always have the tools they need to help them decide what Church means to them, and to help them be intentional in their worship. The answers they come up with will be unique, tailored to meet their individual needs, but they will all hopefully share a common understanding of how “Church” and worship can help keep us in touch with the love God has for each of us. It is an exciting journey!

AN URGENT APPEAL TO ALL ADULTS!

As a congregation, we are blessed with a wonderful problem. We have youth that are asking for **MORE** church, **MORE** youth group, **MORE** chances to become involved. Do you realize how blessed we are to have this problem? Job well done, parents! You got them here, and now they **WANT** to be here.

The challenge is now to **KEEP** them here.

This year is a very ambitious one for St. Margaret's youth. Everything we are doing this year is all aimed at May 12th. Why? Because the youth are going to completely plan and lead the 9 am service on that Mother's Day. There are tons of moving parts over the next year that need to come together to make this happen. We will be interacting with many of the church's ministries, we are going to be visiting other churches, and we will be doing a lot of thinking and discussing about what we do as the Episcopal Church, and why. All of this is layered on top of the regular Monday night meetings.

Additionally, I have had several youths tell me that their schedules this year preclude their coming on Monday nights, and they are asking for some way to participate. And beyond that, I was approached by several youths from other churches this summer complaining that their congregations were too small to permit a full-blown youth group and asked if they could join ours! I don't know about you, but when I have kids asking for more church, I can only respond with **YES**. So, I am going to try adding in a Sunday afternoon every month or so.

We have a chance to participate in two mission trips this summer, and each will require some sort of fundraising. Nightwatch is in less than two months. There will be the Warm Tree again this year. Light House dinners and Winter Relief meals. And on and on. There is so much available for our kids this year it is almost mind-boggling. The Holy Hotmail came out this past week, and it ran to 8 pages of information and calendar items. I already have additions to make.

To make all of this happen for our youth, I need your help. We have safety rules that dictate the ratio of adults to youth, so *nothing* can happen if it is just me showing up. As important as those rules are, I think it is equally important for our youth, our congregation, and ourselves that there is a large and diverse group of adults making the youth community broader and deeper.

What do I specifically need?

- I need at least one person each Monday night we have Faith & Fellowship. If you come for dinner beforehand, it is a two-hour commitment.
- I need probably two adults to help with the additional Sunday afternoon Youth Group (no more than once per month, for about three hours). Let's discuss this if you are interested. I have several thoughts.
- I need a chaperone (or two) who can come on Nightwatch (9-10 November) in NYC (I pay all chaperone expenses!)
- There are two Mondays in March (11-18) when I cannot be here, so I need two people for those two nights. I'll have everything planned and ready to go!

There are other things that crop up over the course of the year, but the list above is the **bare minimum** that I need to make our program work.

I am asking that you prayerfully consider your involvement with our youth. Can you commit to one Monday night a month? Would you like to come on Nightwatch? Can I call you when I have "volunteer emergency"? I know how busy everyone is. I know how tiring everyday life can be. I want to make this as easy for you as it is rewarding. Please contact me to discuss how you can be

part of this wonderful ministry. **AND**, please feel free to pass this on to someone else you feel would want to be part of things.

PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP ARRANGED FOR THE SUMMER!



This summer we will be traveling to our sister diocese of Puerto Rico! There we will work with Wonder Voyage to take on jobs that no one else wants to do. The hurricanes this past summer have done unthinkable damage to the island and the lives of our brothers and sisters there. An important part of mission is to arrive with an open heart

ready to learn about the culture, make new friends, and to spend time in community with the folks who live there. Our true mission is to do just that, as well as, giving help wherever we can. As an

organization, Wonder Voyage focuses on three main ideas during each trip; spiritual (Wonder), cultural immersion (Voyage), and service (Mission). Spiritually, each participant is encouraged to take their own journey and to meet God face to face throughout the trip. As part of the cultural immersion

aspect, participants will love their neighbor through their lifestyles. The mission God and for our neighbors partner with people already grassroots level and assisting need accomplished, including to do.



understand and learn how to learning more about them and component is to show love for through service. Their goal is to working in the field at a them in whatever tasks they the jobs that no one else wants

STAY TUNED – MORE TO FOLLOW!

THE HOLY HOTMAIL CALENDAR

(a.k.a. The thing that makes this newsletter so ridiculously long!)

The year is early, and there are still plenty of things that we need to add. Ex. – when do we serve at the Light House? Preparing Monday night Faith & Fellowship meals? Helping at the annual bazaar, etc.?

As we decide on these things, I will add them to the calendar.

Date:

Event:

10/12

Attending Temple Beth Shalom, 7 – 9pm (Friday)

10/14

Episcopal YLP, St. Martins-in-the-Field, Severna Park, 1-4pm

10/15

Youth Group, Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm

10/21

Hosting the Gold Award Group, St. Margaret's, 11:15am – 12:30 pm

10/21

SUNDAY YOUTH GROUP! *St. Margaret's, 2 – 5 pm.*

This is an experiment. You've asked for an alternate time for YG to meet since not everyone can come on Monday nights. Well, let's give this one a try.

10/22

Youth Group, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

10/27-28

LOCK-IN! *St. Margaret's, 6 pm until the 9 am service.*

Based on your input, we will try holding Lock-ins on Saturday nights. I've got some ideas for this; we will discuss at our first YG meeting on the 17th of September. ***However, please note that we also have the following event...***

10/28

Attending Gloria Dei Lutheran, *11am – 12:20pm*

10/29

Youth Group, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

11/5

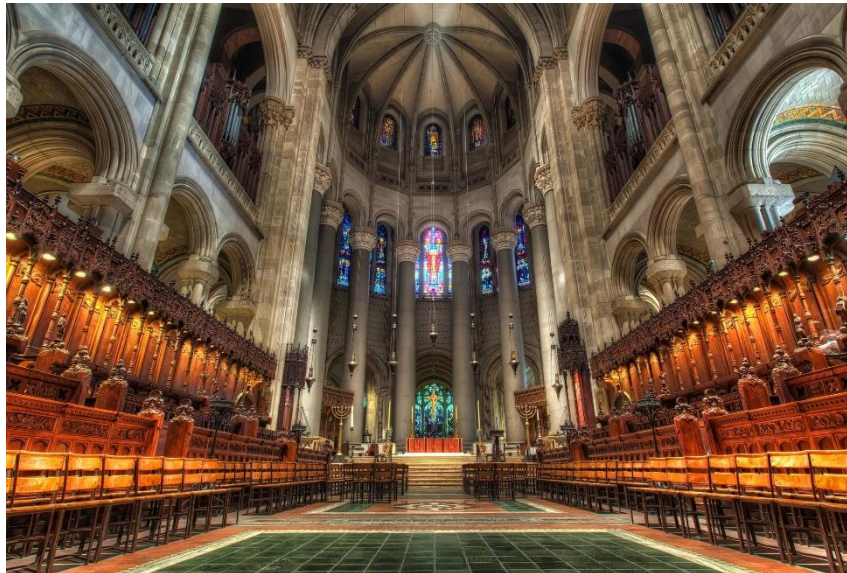
Youth Group, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

11/09-10

Nightwatch NYC: Pilgrimage to St. John the Divine

(grades 6-12) Bus provided, leaving Maryland Friday 12:00 PM- Saturday 5:00 PM, Cost: \$95 Deadline: October 24

Nightwatch is a Friday evening and overnight spiritual retreat for middle and high school age students, youth groups and their adult chaperones. We will have the opportunity to unplug from the distractions and stresses of daily life to





connect with God and one another in the sacred space of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

Nightwatch has created a safe, spirit-centered program of joyful fellowship,

contemplative contemporary spiritual direction, devotional singing, and lots of fun activities. And the next day we explore some of the sights of the Big Apple! **THIS IS NOT TO BE MISSED!**

11/10

Attending St. Andrew by the Bay (Saturday Mass), 5 – 6pm, followed by a potluck supper and discussion of what we have observed in visiting with the other churches. **NOTE:** *We have an unavoidable conflict here with Nightwatch. Hopefully those who cannot attend Nightwatch will represent!*

- 11/12** **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*
- 11/17** **Bishops' Unplugged: Fall**
(grades 6-12) Saturday 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM Cost: \$5, St. John's, Hagerstown
 Spend the afternoon with both bishops in fellowship and fun! Hosted in part by St. John's, Hagerstown. A revamp of our annual Bishops' Bash: we will gather for a few hours of music, Bible study, and time to talk with our bishops. We ask that all adult leaders join us for a special gift and prayers of thanks! Join us for this time to gather with youth from the region and have fun.
- 11/19** **NO Youth Group**
- 11/25** **Advent Wreath Making**
- 11/26** **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm* This week and next, we will be working on our annual "Warm Tree."
- 12/3** **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm* This week we will be finishing and setting up our annual "Warm Tree."
- 12/9** **Episcopal YLP**, *St. Martins-in-the-Field, Severna Park, 1-4pm*
- 12/10** **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*
- 12/17** **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm* OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY!
- 12/24** **NO Youth Group** 
- 12/31** **NO Youth Group** 
- 01/04** **Winter Relief Dinner**, *St. Phillips Episcopal Church, Bestgate Road, Annapolis, 6-8 pm*. We are going to help the congregation of St. Phillips and prepare a meal for their Winter Relief guests. We will plan this more as we get closer.
- 01/05** **Epiphany Pageant Rehearsal** *(more to follow)*
- 01/07** **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*
- 01/14** **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*
- 01/20-21** **Martin Luther King Jr. Lock-In**
(grades 6-12) Sunday 7:00 pm – Monday 3:00 pm, Cathedral of the Incarnation, Baltimore, Cost: Donation for food pantry or warming bags.
 This lock in celebrates the life and mission of Dr. MLK Jr.! We will have an evening focused on the sin of racism, how to continue our work to dismantle it, a film about overcoming racism, and discussion. There will also be time for fellowship and food. On Monday we take time to create posters, work on a service project, and march in the parade alongside [Memorial, Bolton Hill](#). Please join us as we take steps for the Jesus Movement!

01/21

NO Youth Group



01/23-25

FORMA, Indianapolis, IN. This is an annual conference I attend where I get fantastic ideas for our youth program!

01/28

Youth Group, Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm

02/03

Episcopal YLP, St. Martins-in-the-Field, Severna Park, 1-4pm

02/04

Youth Group, Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm

02/08-10

Happening #12

(grades 9-12) Arrive Friday at 7:00PM - Parent pick-up on Sunday 3:00PM

Cost: \$95 Deadline: January 24th

Happening is a national program designed, staffed, and run by Episcopal youth! This weekend will deepen your relationship with Jesus and connections with



those on similar spiritual journeys. Most of this weekend is kept a surprise for those attending so they can fully live into the moment and the community. General activities include large group talks, small group discussion, prayer through art, and games! This retreat is like New Beginnings for middle schoolers and Cursillo for adults. Happening is being held at Claggett Center in Adamstown, MD.

02/11

Youth Group, Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm

02/16-17

LOCK-IN! St. Margaret's, 6 pm until the 9 am service.

02/18

NO Youth Group



02/25

Youth Group, Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm

03/04

Youth Group, Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm

03/07-20

Jeff (and Alice) goes to Tanzania! Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Missions Commission, I have been given an incredible opportunity! That is two Mondays I will not be here. Volunteers – let's discuss.

03/09

Bishop Unplugged: Spring

(grades 6-12) Saturday 2:00PM - 5:00PM Cost: \$5 Location: St. Martin's-in-the-Field, Severna Park

Spend the afternoon with both bishops in fellowship and fun! Hosted in part by St. Martin's-In-The-Field. A revamp of our annual Bishop's Bash: we will gather for a few hours of music, Bible study, and time to talk with our bishop. We ask that all adult leaders join us for a special gift and prayers of thanks! Join us for this time to gather with youth from the region and have fun.

03/10

Episcopal YLP, St. Martins-in-the-Field, Severna Park, 1-4pm

03/11 **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

03/18 **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

03/25 **NO Youth Group** WINTER RELIEF

04/01 **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

04/08 **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

04/15 **NO Youth Group** SPRING BREAK!

04/21 **EASTER!**



04/22 **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

04/29 **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

05/03-05 **New Beginnings**

(grades 6-8) Arrive at Camp Wright Friday at 7:00PM - Parent pick up on Sunday at 3:00PM Cost: \$75 Deadline: April 18th

Our annual retreat for middle school youth is a fantastic weekend at Camp Wright in Stevensville, MD. Previous New Beginners that have reached high school are the designer team and staff for the weekend. This makes for a perfect sense of what it means to be a part of the community. A whole weekend dedicated to youth working through the transitions of middle school through talks, skits and small group. A place where they can find community in Christ and mentors in high school students. Campers are responsible for personal transportation to and from Camp Wright. Parents, family, and adult leaders are warmly invited to attend closing Eucharist at 2:00PM in the dining hall.



05/06 **Youth Group**, *Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm*

05/10-11 **Convention**

(Delegate: ages 16 to 22/ Page: grades 8-12) Friday at 8:00AM (absence provided) - Saturday 2:00PM Cost: \$35 Deadline: April 26th

This is a great opportunity for youth to come see how issues, policies, and structures are updated yearly within the Diocese! Youth delegates and alternates will represent their region and be able to voice their opinions and vote. Youth pages will assist during the convention in passing out ballots, assisting the Bishop, Canon to the Ordinary, and technical support. All youth are invited to a lock-in that Friday night where we will create community and have fun! Saturday morning there will be a breakfast with the Bishop, clergy, and lay members where youth will be able to ask questions and have a small group discussion. Come join us for a learning experience that can be counted as service hours.

- 05/12 **Youth-Led Worship Service**, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 9 am
- 05/13 **THE LAST Youth Group OF THE YEAR!!!!**, Education Building, Room D (Youth Room), 6:30 – 8 pm
- 06/14 **Our traditional End-of-the-School-Year LOCK-IN!** St. Margaret's, 6 pm until 8 am the next morning. You know there will be fun stuff. How do you know this? Because there always is!
- 07/24-30 **Puerto Rico Mission** July 24-30, 2019, Cost: \$1,250- fundraising ideas and scholarship assistance available. Primary deadline: November 23
This summer we will travel to our sister diocese of Puerto Rico! The hurricanes last fall have done unthinkable damage to the island and the lives of our brothers and sisters there. While there, we will work with [Wonder Voyage](#) to take on the jobs that no one else wants to do. With Wonder Voyage, we will partner up with organizations who have been working in the field since day one who know about what needs people have. This trip will be a combination of spirituality, cultural immersion, and showing love through service.

And now, as always, because you made it this far.....Happy Fall!

