

# The Spire

## Mark Your Calendar

February 26  
Newcomers Dinner

February 28  
Pancake Supper

March 1  
Ash Wednesday  
Soup Luncheon

March 5  
Shenandoah Run  
Concert

March 19  
Lenten Evensong

March 26  
NYC Jazz Concert

April 9  
Palm Sunday

April 13  
Maundy Thursday

April 14  
Good Friday  
Children's Stations  
of the Cross

April 15  
Easter Vigil

April 16  
Easter Services  
Egg Hunt

April 23  
Celtic Mass

May 13  
Piano Concert



## Lent/Easter 2017 — Volume XII, Issue II

### Seeking Our Seekers

By the Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector, [peter@st-margarets.org](mailto:peter@st-margarets.org)

When I applied to become Rector of St. Margaret's Church, I remember being impressed with a particular Sunday adult education offering called "Heretics." What church would name a group like that? One of the people on the search committee, Gibby Edson, explained that the group wanted a forum in which an intellectual pursuit of faith could be taken on, a place in which no question was forbidden.

The idea still resonates with me. I believe St. Margaret's has a unique place in the world. We are likely one of the most educated churches around, if you're counting post-graduate degrees. It seems you can't throw a dime in the air without hitting someone who has either been published or who is teaching, or who has taught at very high levels. As educated as we are, we understand that matters of faith are not simply matters of emotion or gut feeling. They can be studied logically, and answers, fleeting as they may be, can be found.

Charles Rector has led the Heretics group for many years, and I can think of no one better. His wisdom and wit have bonded his classmates well. This month, with the help of Spencer Johnson, I am re-branding the Heretics in the same location and time slot, as the *Seekers*. We will study two books initially, and I hope to achieve something of the same spirit: a place where questions are not left unasked, where easy answers are viewed with suspicion, and where our faith can be blended with reason and logic.

Please join us as we embark on Sunday mornings in the conference room. We will be studying *What Did Jesus Say?*, a collection of short essays by prominent current religious thinkers. We will also be talking about *Did God Kill Jesus?* by Tony Jones, throughout the season of Lent. Both books are available on Amazon.com.



# Missions

## A Welcoming Heart

By the Rev. Jane Milliken Hague,  
Associate Rector  
jane@st-margarets.org

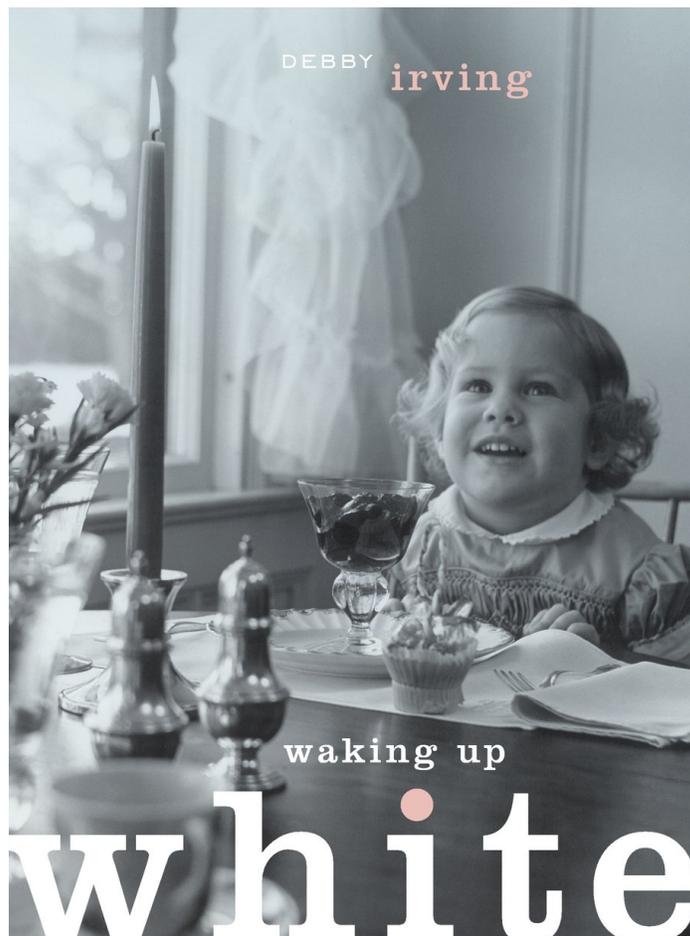


If St. Margaret's is about "Transforming Our Lives in Christ," creating a welcoming heart is about our church and us. We are now offering a book study on "Waking Up White" by Debby Irving.

She writes, "Racism crushes spirits, incites divisiveness, and justifies the estrangement of entire groups of individuals who, like all humans, come into the world full of goodness, with boundless capacity to learn and grow. Unless adults understand racism, they will, as I did, unknowingly teach it to their children."

We start on Monday evenings at 6:45pm-8:00pm. (Join in our Fellowship meal at 6 p.m. if you wish.) The effort is co-lead by Valery Weekley, Maggie Beth Arruda and Ernie Tucker. Join us and explore because, "No one alive today created this mess, but everyone alive today has the power to work on undoing it."

**Monday Night Book Study**  
**6:45 p.m. — Fellowship Dinner at 6 p.m.**  
**Books available at coffeeshour & Mondays - \$15**



AND FINDING MYSELF IN THE STORY OF RACE



Annapolis  
Relay for Life  
April 22-23  
AA County Fairgrounds

- Join our Team Dragonslayers!
- Sponsor a team member
- Provide us a name to pray for on the walk
- Purchase a luminaria for the night walk

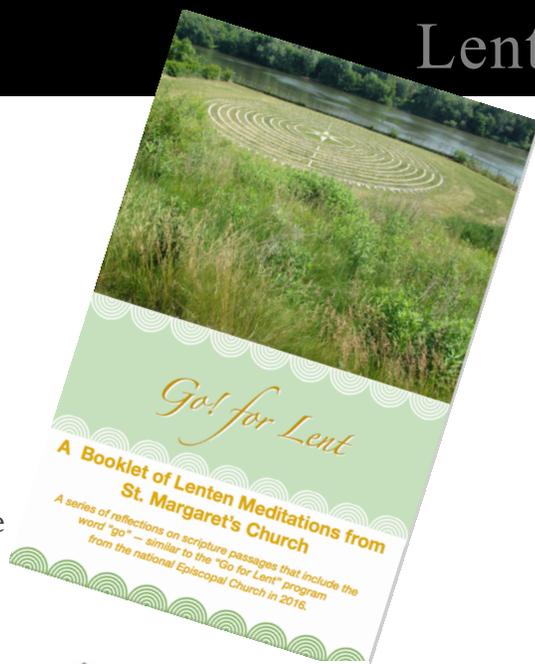
Look for a Relay table during coffeeshour!

*Benefitting the American Cancer Society*



## Lenten Meditations from St. Margaret's Church

Pick up a copy of our new St. Margaret's Lenten meditations booklet in the church narthex or administrative office starting Sunday, Feb. 26. The theme of the booklet is "Go for Lent" based on the national Episcopal Church's meditations theme last year. Each daily verse focuses on a different bible verse with the word "go" in it. The Rev. Peter Mayer believed that the many uses and meanings of "go" throughout scripture provide rich sources of reflection for this Lenten season. A mixture of longtime and new parishioners, men and women, youth to seniors provide a diverse and meaningful guide to the Lenten season.



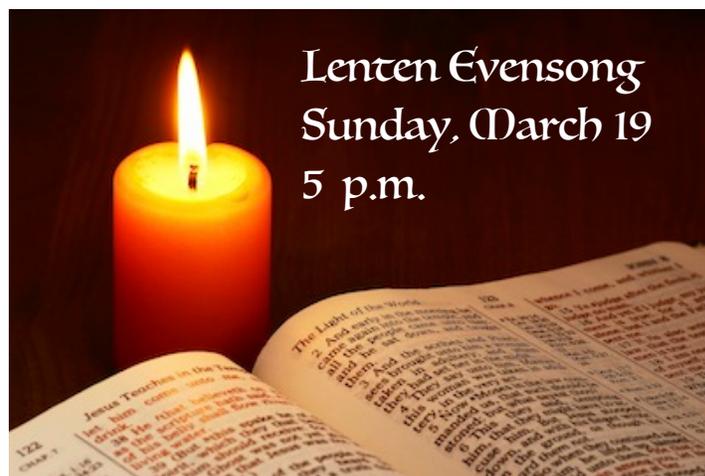
after the noon Ash Wednesday service  
 March 1 in the Parish Hall  
 sponsored by the St. Margaret's Guild  
 All are welcome!

## Evening Compline in Lent



*a service of quietness and reflection  
 before rest at the end of the day*

Wednesdays in Lent — 7 p.m.  
 March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5



Take time to pause and reflect on your Lenten spiritual journey, as the St. Margaret's choirs lead a traditional Anglican service of music from many eras and styles – anthems, canticles, hymns, psalms – with scriptures, prayers, and contemplative organ music.

# Music

By James R. Fitzpatrick,  
Director of Music  
james@st-margarets.org

Some days the words just flow out of me like water from a pitcher. This week, I've struggled finding the right words to write for this article. I know I have things to share like the fact that our adult choirs are going to sing Vivaldi's "Gloria" with a full orchestra under the direction of Dr. William Powell at Lincoln Center on Memorial Day, May 29th at 7:00 p.m. And I need to list all of the Holy Week services and mention that we will have brass players on both Palm and Easter Sundays. Then there are the concerts and special services. But, to be honest, my heart is not in it today.

I am still struggling to accept what I learned at a recent presentation by World Relief regarding its work with families emigrating from other countries and the challenges immigrants find when they settle here in America.

My heart is aching knowing that World Relief has been told to budget for and plan to resettle 100 families in the area this year. Now they have been told they will only be funded for resettling 15 families this year. With such a reduction, staff will have to be reduced, vendors will see their incomes reduced. Volunteers will still be needed, but no one can accurately say how they will be deployed. We learned about what life is like for refugees and how long it takes them to be vetted and how little say they have over which country will become their new home. I am reminded of the Israelite children lamenting by the waters of Babylon, "How shall we sing our songs in a new land?" Please give a prayer for all of those homeless, tempest-tossed who yearn to breathe free. And become involved in the vital ministry of welcoming these newcomers to the United States.

Now that I've gotten THAT off my chest, I want to celebrate our Combined Choir's accomplishment being invited to sing with the Distinguished Concerts in New York series at Lincoln Center. We will join with another choir and professional singers in singing the Vivaldi. It promises to be glorious indeed and if you are in NYC during Memorial Day weekend, plan on joining us at Lincoln Center. For tickets, call 212-707-8566, ext. 307 to see if there are discount codes available. Then call Lincoln Center at 212 721 6500 or visit online at [www.LincolnCenter.org](http://www.LincolnCenter.org) to secure your seats.

There is a list of Holy Week services listed elsewhere in this issue of the Spire, so make a point of joining us for ALL of Holy Week, including Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and one of the Easter services. Every so often it is good to be disciplined enough to go through the Triduum with an open heart and deep prayer.

## St. Margaret's Tube & Wire Choir now recruiting new members for church services

### March 26, 2017



Ages 8 - 18

All Instruments Welcome!

violin-viola-cello-bass (the "wires")

clarinet-flute-trumpet and other band instruments (the "tubes")

If you've been playing for six months or longer, this ensemble is for you.

We will be preparing two pieces to play for services on Sunday, March 26.

Rehearsals will be held Tuesday evenings and Saturday morning/early afternoon, beginning February 28. Participants may choose the days that fit their schedule. Saturday time will be determined based on responses.

Please be able to commit to three rehearsals in addition to a rehearsal on Saturday, March 25 (time to be determined).

Music will be selected and arranged based on instrumentation and abilities of the players.

This is a great opportunity to share your talents, meet new friends and make some music!

For more information, contact Laurie Meeder (Wire Choir Director)

email: [laurie.meeder@gmail.com](mailto:laurie.meeder@gmail.com)

text/phone: 603-651-8505



*St. Margaret's  
Concert Series presents*

## **Shenandoah Run**

Sunday, March 5 — 7:30 p.m.

Individual Tickets \$20  
cash or check at the door or  
credit card at [st-margarets.org](http://st-margarets.org)

This irresistible group of musicians sing music from around the world, they pick guitars and dobros and banjos with the best of them, and always delight their audiences. The last time they came to St. Margaret's they sold out the house. Make sure you have tickets for this one!

## **NY Jazz at St. Margaret's**

Sunday, March 26 — 4 p.m.

Guitarist Tony Romano and Russian Sax Player Lenny Sendersky return for an evening of exciting jazz. This is a pay at the door concert and not part of the concert series, but no jazz lover will want to miss this. Suggested donation is \$20, but pay what you can.



CELTIC MASS  
WITH THE  
THIRD SUNDAY  
BAND

SUNDAY,  
APRIL 23  
9:00 & 11:15  
SERVICES

KILTS  
OPTIONAL!

**25** Coffeehouse  
February  
STARTS AT 6:30PM



*Third Sunday Band  
w/ special guests*  
**LIVE CONCERT & OPEN MIC**  
IN THE PARISH HALL

## Upcoming Events



### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

**Tuesday, Feb. 28**

4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Parish Hall

sponsored by The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Tickets for sale

\$6 for adults - \$3 for children at the door

Tickets in advance (between services)

\$5 for adults - \$2 for children

### NEWCOMERS DINNER



Sunday,  
Feb. 26  
5 p.m.  
Parish Hall

All newcomers to St. Margaret's are welcome to attend a dinner in your honor. You will hear from St. Margaret's leaders and learn about how you/your family can best fit in the parish.

Childcare can be provided.

Please RSVP to

Jane Piche, Newcomers Committee Chair  
star2d2@aol.com or 410-349-0961

## LEGACY Lessons

Conversations and Guidance in the Fellowship Hall  
10:20-11 a.m.

Funeral Planning

March 12

End of Life Legal Issues

March 19

St. Margaret's Church . Annapolis Maryland

Remembrance . Reflection . Celebration

1692-2017 . 325 years

Mark your calendars for October 20-22! St. Margaret's will be celebrating our 325th anniversary with a number of special events.

A preliminary schedule includes a service of remembrance on Friday evening, a social evening on Saturday with music featuring our Third Sunday Band and some surprise acts, worship services on Sunday morning with a special reception, and an afternoon choral evensong followed by a reception.

We will be inviting former clergy and staff as well as families associated with the parish throughout our long history. If you have any names you would like to be included, please share at the email address below.

We need volunteers to help with the planning of these events. Please contact Barbara Breedon at [bkbreedon@comcast.net](mailto:bkbreedon@comcast.net) if you would like to be involved.

### Church Volunteers



### Easter Mailing

Holy Folders Needed

March 21 - 10 a.m.

All are welcome to the church office to assist with the mailing of St. Margaret's annual Easter letter. Refreshments and great fellowship promised!



# Holy Week Events

## 2017

Parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend these services.

- April 9 Palm Sunday—Meet in the Parish Hall and process to the sanctuary at 9 & 11:15 a.m.
- April 10-12 Holy Weekday— Services at noon
- April 10-12 Evening Compline—Quiet reflective service at 7 p.m.
- April 13 Maundy Thursday—Service/Stripping of the Altar at 7 p.m.
- April 14 Good Friday—NEW: Children’s Stations of the Cross at 10 a.m. (See next page)
- April 14 Good Friday—Services at noon and 7 p.m.
- April 15 Easter Vigil—Service begins at 8 pm.—Meet in the columbarium to process to church  
Bring bells to ring!
- April 16 Easter Services at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m.
- April 16 Easter Egg Hunt at 10:20 — Meet in the Fellowship Hall



### 18th Way of the Cross at Manresa April 14 — Gather at 11:40 a.m.

The community is invited to attend this ecumenical service walking the Stations of the Cross overlooking the Severn River at Atria Manresa, 85 Manresa Drive. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes. The service will be held rain or shine.

For more information, call Jim Knorr at 410-757-4549.



# Formation

## Stations of the Cross for Children

Good Friday—April 14—10 a.m.

Led by Jenelle Mejia and Jeff Conover

Typically, the Stations of the Cross has been aimed at the more mature audience. It is a somber yet moving experience. However, when adapted in a way that creates a hands-on and experiential experience that is understandable to children, it can be meaningful for them as well. An important part of Holy Week is remembering the sad part of the story. Sadness is holy, just as joy is holy. Without one we could never understand the other. Join us as we journey through an interactive stations of the cross liturgy that will be meaningful to families with children. Adults are asked to stay with their children and participate. For planning purposes, it would be helpful to know if you will participate. Please email [Jenelle@st-margarets.org](mailto:Jenelle@st-margarets.org) and let us know or if you have any questions.



## Alleluia Egg Hunt—Easter Morning

10:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall



It's once again time to find our "Alleluias!" We will have packed them away for Lent and we need all our friends age 5th grade and below to help us find them! Join us as we celebrate our Easter egg hunt in a meaningful way. We will begin with a short introduction and skit and then head to the playground to complete our Alleluia egg puzzles. Goody bags will be available to all children (allergy and candy-free upon request).

Adult and youth help is needed. Also peanut free individually packed candy and small toy donations are needed. You can drop off your donations at Jenelle's office on Sundays or in the church office during the week. Please contact [Jenelle@st-margarets.org](mailto:Jenelle@st-margarets.org) for more information.

# Faith & Fellowship

For a full schedule of activities, go to [st-margarets.org](http://st-margarets.org).  
Click on Parish Life tab,  
and then the Faith & Fellowship Mondays tab.  
There will be no Faith & Fellowship on April 10 & 17.



A HUGE thank you to all of the parishioners who donated food and time to make bagged lunches for our winter relief guests. Children also wrote notes of love and comfort to add to the lunches as well as for posting throughout the Formation Building that week.

## Youth Information

Thank you to all the parents, parishioners and students who have participated in or supported our combined efforts with Asbury Broadneck United Methodist Church. In March we plan to host a viewing of the movie "13th." More details to come.



**April 23**—The youth group will prepare and serve dinner at the Light House.

### Happening #10

*March 31 - April 2 (9th-12th)*

*Friday at 7:00 PM through Sunday at 3:00 PM*

*Cost: \$85 Deadline March 16th*

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. This retreat is similar to New Beginnings for middle schoolers and Cursillo for adults. Happening #10 is being held at [Claggett Center](#) in Adamstown, MD.

### New Beginnings #4

*April 28-30, 2016 (6th-8th)*

*Friday at 7:00 PM through Sunday at 3:00 PM*

*Cost: \$55 Deadline April 12th.*

Our annual retreat for middle school youth (Grade 6-8) 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.

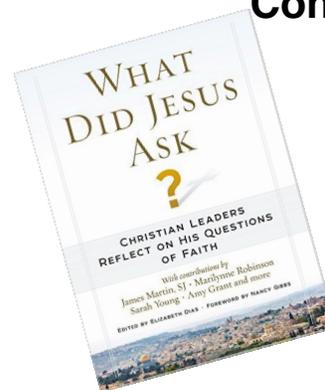
# ADULT *Faith* FORMATION

**Now Forming—  
“The Seekers”  
Sunday Book Study  
10:20 a.m.  
Conference Room**

**Through March 19**

### What Did Jesus Ask?

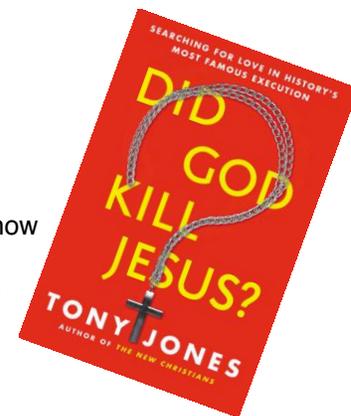
Christian leaders offer modern meditations on the questions Jesus asks in the bible.



**Starting March 26**

### Did God Kill Jesus?

An intriguing biblical and historical journey revealing how the message of love was subverted and how it can be restored.



**Led by the Rev. Peter Mayer  
and Spencer Johnson**

Purchase your own books and join us!

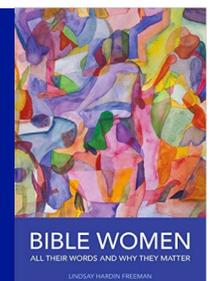
## BIBLE WOMEN: A CONTINUING STUDY @ ST. MARGARET'S

This year, we continue to offer a study on all the women of the bible who spoke. From Eve to the Mother Mary, and Rebecca through Delilah, we have learned about determined, strong, brave, and beautiful women. Study sessions are offered:

\*Thursday mornings at 9:15 in the formation building (childcare provided);

\*Online on a special Facebook group page (see on our website).

It's never too late to join us! Get started today!



# Formation



St. Margaret's Day School has an exciting spring planned! We have several celebrations ahead, including our Dr. Seuss Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, and Spirit Day events.

Parishioner Bob Baltz from the DNR brought in several of the rescued birds and animals he works with, teaching the children about the value of conservation and the dangers that littering can pose to the environment. Thanks to Bob for his support of our green school initiatives!

The students are currently studying their space module in the STEM (Science Technology, Engineering & Math) program, learning about the planets and space exploration. They have created a model of the solar system in the school hallway that features astronauts, stars, asteroids, and rocket ships.

We will be closed for a teacher workday on March 10. Spring portraits will be taken on April 4 and 5, and we will lead into spring break with our St. Jude Trike-a-Thon fundraiser on April 7.

Summer camp registration is now available online, as are summer camp counselor applications. Our summer camps are open to children ages 2-9, and focus on a different theme every two weeks, including space, pirates, and engineering. See the summer camp page on our website for more information.

Our spring silent auction theme is "Hollywood Glamour," and it will be held May 6. Tickets are now available on our website on the fees and donations page. Tickets for parents of SMDS students are \$50, and guest tickets are \$25.



Kudos to our Kindergarten class who provided bags of food donations in celebration of their recent 100th day of school!

St. Margaret's Day School  
**LIGHTS,**  
**CAMERA,**  
**AUCTION!**  
*A night of red carpet glamour.*

Saturday, May 6 - 6 to 10 p.m.

St. Margaret's Church Parish Hall

Tickets \$50 – Guests \$25

Available for purchase @

[www.stmargaretsdayschool.org](http://www.stmargaretsdayschool.org)

Auction donations needed

Contact: Erica Lynn, [esnyder9379@aol.com](mailto:esnyder9379@aol.com)

## Be a Bay-wise homeowner — A Gardner's Year

By Gail Morton

**JANUARY:** Decide on the look you want in your garden, peruse gardening catalogues and check out the internet for best options for your property size and conditions.

**FEBRUARY:** Plan new beds and maintenance of existing beds- what to add, what to take out. Start green houseplants. Decide which plants seed quickly and which would be better to start from roots or plugs.

**MARCH:** Weed, turn soil and prepare beds. Check out Anne Arundel County options for free compost material. Move germinated seeds in the greenhouse to plug containers.

**APRIL:** Remove weeds and begin early planting. Plant densely to reduce weeding later. 10x20 or 5 x 40 (200 sf.) = 160 plants. Can be divided out later if too many. Remember native plants will bring native species. Non-Natives only make you work more, use chemical supplements and provide little habitat for local creatures. Move plugs in the greenhouse to quart containers.

**MAY:** Plant new beds, fill in gaps in existing beds and move quart plants in greenhouse to gallon containers and plant those ready to go outside.

**JUNE/JULY:** Move remaining summer greenhouse plants into their garden spaces. Be sure to keep water to all new plantings. Weed, trim and enjoy the spring harvest and the returning pollinators and creatures making your yard their home.

**AUGUST:** Keep that water coming. If you are on a salt filter well water system, try to use water from your rain barrels. Attaching soaker hoses keeps the soil moist with little extra help from you but August is often very dry and may need hand watering as well. Divide plants for fall.

**SEPTEMBER:** Keep watering any newly divided plants and permit fall flowering, bushes with berries and plants that change to fall color to become the garden focus.

**OCTOBER:** Begin collecting seeds and lightly trim back dead and dying summer plants. Don't trim and rake too thoroughly. Those pollinators you have nurtured all spring and summer need somewhere to winter over if you want them back next year. Mulch the falling leaves and use as winter compost.

**NOVEMBER:** Continue collecting fall maturing seeds. Once thoroughly dry, store in zip lock bags spread between layers of tissue paper with just a touch of distilled water. Keep in refrigerator 40 degrees for three months. If you prefer, seed in trays, cover with tissue or burlap and leave outside for the winter covered with some winter mulch. When you bring them inside in February they will germinate fine.

**DECEMBER:** Keep the Christmas poinsettia watered and well lit. It makes a lovely transplant into your yard in spring. For the amaryllis, remove the flower stems, leaving the foliage. Place in sunny location and feed with liquid fertilizer. In Sept dig up the bulb, top the foliage and store dry between 55 to 60 degrees. Replant next December in fresh growing medium and enjoy again next year.



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[www.st-margarets.org](http://www.st-margarets.org)

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Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Sundays at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m.

Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

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