

# ***ST. MARGARET ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH***

*66-05 79th Place, Middle Village, New York 11379*

**~ MASS BELLS ~**

## **PASTOR**

**Rev. ROBERT J. ARMATO**

## **PAROCHIAL VICARS**

**REV. MSGR. ROBERT J. THELEN**  
**REV. JOSEPH PALACKAL, CMI**

## **IN RESIDENCE**

**REV. MICHAEL UDOH**

## **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

**Sr. Bridget Olwell, OSU**  
*bridgetosu7@gmail.com*

## **ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC ACADEMY**

**718-326-0922**  
**Victoria Richardson, Principal**  
*stmargprincipal@gmail.com*

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**718-326-0922**  
**Ms. Victoria LoBosco**  
**Mrs. Karen Gonzales**  
**Coordinators**  
*stmargaretre@gmail.com*

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

**718-326-1911**  
**Don Competello, Director**  
**Diane Competello, Asst. Director**  
*DnDSingit@aol.com*

## **LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTERS**

**Kathryn Burger    Hazel Scanlon**  
**Jeanne Perry      Sue Karcher**  
**Mary Anne Todzia**

## **GIFT SHOP**

**Sue Karcher, Coordinator**  
*parishcalendar@aol.com*

## **CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICES:**

**Mary Pascale, Receptionist**  
**Phone: 718-326-1911**

**Fax: 718-326-1883**  
**E-mail: [stmargaretmv@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretmv@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.stmargaretmv.com](http://www.stmargaretmv.com)**

**Schedule/Calendar:**  
*parishcalendar@aol.com*



**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY**

**IN**

**ORDINARY TIME**

**AUGUST 23, 2020**

## **PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

*We, the St. Margaret Parish Community, are a Catholic Parish of diverse ages, gifts and backgrounds. We dedicate ourselves to our personal relationship with Jesus and to growing as a community of faith.*

*We endeavor to serve the community through education, and service and social ministries, and commit ourselves to the nurturing of the spiritual life by celebrating the Sacraments, by enriching our life of prayer and by deepening our understanding of the Scriptures. We strive to reach out and respond to the changing needs of our community.*

## **MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>SUN.</b>	<b>AUGUST 23 - TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
7:30	Mary Hawd
9:00	Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Antonio Caleca Michael, Saverio e Luigi Bosco/Rosalie Lombardo/Geraldine Ciaccio/ Maria Stephens
10:30	Martin Wintergerst (ANNI)
NOON	Marie Hamill
5:00PM	
<b>MON.</b>	<b>AUGUST 24 - ST. BARTHOLOMEW</b>
7:00	Intention of Kathleen Kiernan
9:00	Chester & Eleanor Kapica
<b>TUE.</b>	<b>AUGUST 25 - ST. LOUIS AND ST. JOSEPH CALASANZ</b>
7:00	Harvey Karcher (ANNI)
9:00	Colette E. Weiner
<b>WED.</b>	<b>AUGUST 26 - WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Geraldine Ciaccio
9:00	Josephine Matzelle
<b>THU.</b>	<b>AUGUST 27 - ST. MONICA</b>
7:00	Frank Coccaro
9:00	Julia & Allen McConville
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>AUGUST 28 - ST. AUGUSTINE</b>
7:00	Geraldine Ciaccio
9:00	Maureen O'Shea
<b>SAT.</b>	<b>AUGUST 29 - THE PASSION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST</b>
9:00	<b>Collective:</b> Angie Ferzola/ Steve Pirtz
5:00PM	
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>AUGUST 30 - TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
7:30	Adolph Roemmelt
9:00	Geraldine Ciaccio/Anna Carosi
10:30	People of the Parish
NOON	Marion Veneziano (ANNI)
5:00PM	Mary B. O'Shea



***THE PASSION  
OF  
SAINT JOHN  
THE BAPTIST  
AUGUST 29***

## **PARISH INFORMATION**

### **Rectory Office Hours**

**Monday - Friday - 9am to Noon  
and 1pm to 5pm  
Saturday - by appointment  
Sunday - closed**

**CONFESSIONS** - Saturday, 4-4:45pm at the school door in the parking lot.

**NOVENA** to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Mondays after the 9am Mass. **SUSPENDED**

**THE ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY** devotion are prayed every morning in the church at 8:30am. **SUSPENDED**

**BAPTISMS** take place every Sunday as needed. Please call the rectory for an appointment and to register your child.

**WEDDINGS MUST** be scheduled at least six months in advance by appointment with a priest or a deacon. Please call the rectory office. For marriage preparation information visit [www.pre-cana.org](http://www.pre-cana.org).

**THE ENGLISH CHOIR** rehearses on Tuesday, at 7 pm in the Church. Tenors and baritones needed! **SUSPENDED**

**IL CORO ITALIANO** pratica ogni Domenica prima della Messa Italiana. **SUSPENDED**

**THE YOUTH CHOIR** rehearses on Monday, from 6-7 pm in the Church. For more info, [DnDsingit@aol.com](mailto:DnDsingit@aol.com) **SUSPENDED**

**BOY SCOUT TROOP #119** meets on Tuesdays from 7:15-9 pm in the Parish Hall. New members are welcome, age 10 1/2 & up. Call Mr. Krzewski, 718-894-4099. **SUSPENDED**

**CUB PACK #119** meets on Mondays from 7-8:30 pm in the Parish Hall. New members welcome, age 6 to 10-1/2. Call Mr. Krzewski, 718-894-4099. **SUSPENDED**

**SENIOR CITIZENS** meet every Wednesday at 12 Noon in the Parish Center. **SUSPENDED**

# PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Connie Faccibene, Linda Frazier, Cari Ann Falk-LoBello, Glen Falk, Ronald Frazier, Robert Sabini, Lee Falk, Scott White, McKinley Kelleher, Sean Harrison, Justin James Quirke, Elizabeth Ott, Mary Harrison, John Murphy, Anne McGinnis, Julio Pelaez, Maritza Gutierrez, Graciela Mora, Cindy Mulore, Salvatore Tuttolomondo, Gloria Mojica, Gloria Pemaj, Allen McConville, Jack Marchindondo, The Scaturro Family, Louis Pittelli, Marion Caracciola, Giovanni Campo, Edward Stoltzenberg, Louis Pittelli, James Graff, Carol Arevalo, Immaculate Marge D'Elia, Jim O'Friscoll, Mary Rigovich, Matteo Sabini, Bob Biolsi, The Mojica Family, Msgr. Leonard Badia, Matthew Zender, Cathie Greulich, Joseph & Mary Augustine, Anthony Pittelli, Josephine Hartnett, Karen Schaefer, Jill Archbold, Fr. Paul Weirichs CP, Hannah Lehman, Daniel Wilson, John Austin Bryzgoria, Dave Kazmier, John Nogiewich, Tim Rooney, Frank Ciccone, Cindy (Peli) Heege, Dr. Ajay Lodha, Dr. Vincent P. Rappa, Charlie Krzewski, Helga Zender, Deacon John DeBiase, Tom Haubert,

***The names will remain for 3 months, please call 718-326-1911 and ask for continued prayers.***

## Prayer Requests

**Pray for vocations to the Priesthood  
and Religious Life.**

**Pray for first responders and  
medical personnel.**

**Please pray for our men and women from our  
Parish serving in the defense of our country:**

**Lt. Col. Thomas Frohnhoefer  
Sgt. Robert A. Domenici**



***WE RECALL OUR  
BELOVED DECEASED***

***Especially:***

***Maria L. Arias, Anne Maley,  
Joseph R. Sylvester, Sr.***

***May they rest in Christ's Peace!***



***SAINT  
AUGUSTINE  
AUGUST 28***

## RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Rectory office hours have resumed (see schedule on page 2 of this bulletin).

Only ONE person at a time will be admitted into the rectory. All others must remain outside and observe social distancing of six (6) feet between people on the sidewalk.

## TODAY'S READINGS

***Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time***

Is 22:19-23  
Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8  
Rom 11:33-36  
Mt 16:13-20

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14  
Ps 145:10-13, 17-18  
Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17  
Ps 96:10-13  
Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18  
Ps 128:1-2, 4-5  
Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9  
Ps 145:2-7  
Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25  
Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11  
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31  
Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21  
Mk 6:17-29

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9  
Ps 63:2, 3-6, 8-9  
Rom 12:1-2  
Mt 16:21-27

## ***From the Pastor's Desk:***

### ***“Who do YOU say I am?”***

There are interesting twists in today's Gospel as we find Jesus with His closest disciples in a sort of oasis in the northern part of Galilee, a place to rest and regroup and to discuss matters away from the hustle and bustle of crowds. He begins by asking them who the people think the Son of Man (a title for the Messiah) is. The Twelve give stock answers based on what they've heard from the crowds. Then He asks them point blank, “But you, who do YOU say that I am?”

Did you notice the shift from third person to second and first? It's more than a grammatical change. It's a matter of drawing in the Twelve for a commitment. No longer can they simply go by popular opinion and opinion polls. No more sitting on the fence. They have to make a choice, a declaration of their own, a statement of faith, and that will require a tremendous commitment on their part.

Simon sticks his neck out and gives the correct answer: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!” He says this not because he's a genius or made an in-depth study of Scripture or because he's reflected on the question for some time. The Holy Spirit of the Father has moved him to this insight of faith. In return, Christ bestows two gifts on Simon: a new name and a new position. He is renamed Peter (*Petros* in Greek, *Cephas* in Aramaic), “the Rock”, and is given custody of the “keys to the Kingdom of Heaven”, to bind or to loose as he sees fit.

Peter's declaration is the base, the foundation of the Church's belief. We do not follow just one more prophet among others or even the last and greatest of them. We follow the Incarnate Word, God Himself, Who has come from the Father for the forgiveness of sins and the reconciliation of mankind with God, and Who even now bestows on His Church the “keys”, i.e., the authority to forgive sins, which today's priest, as a successor to St. Peter and the other Apostles, does in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, guided by the Holy Spirit.

The question that Christ posed to His closest disciples is the same question that He poses to each and every one of us today: “Who do YOU say that I am?” How do we answer such a question? Our response cannot be simply an empty statement about something that we've picked up from study, or have heard from our elders or in some homily. Our response is to be given not only with the assent of the mind but also, and most especially, by the way that we live our lives as people of faith.

Thus, we cannot call ourselves Christians and acknowledge Him as “the Christ, the Son of the living God”, and then act knowingly as if He never existed, or in open contradiction to His teachings and those of the Church that continues His mission and serves in His Name, figuring perhaps, that we always could go to confession for absolution. Yes, the mercy and justice of God are beyond measure of human comprehension, but that would be the sin of presumption.

Discipleship in Christ is not a buffet from which we get to choose whatever meets our personal tastes and fancies, leaving the less appealing parts of the Gospel behind. It's all or nothing at all. Bottom line: If you cannot accept and do not live according to the teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church, you'll have to call yourself something else, because the title “Catholic” has been taken.

In these difficult and trying times, we need to remember that all people are called to a life of holiness, to act with justice, to stand up for the truth, to respect the sacred and intrinsic dignity of every human life as having been created in the image and likeness of God, regardless of how the world may ignore Him or try to shut Him out from the human conversation. Christ promises in today's Gospel that even the gates of hell cannot hold out against His Church.

So, live boldly! Live by the grace of God as a Christian, and thereby proclaim to the glory of God the Father that *Jesus Christ is Lord!*

~ ***Fr. Armato***

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The **2020 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign continues toward our goal of **\$80,015**. So far, **123 families have pledged \$46,857 (58.6%)**, still below where we were this time last year.

With about 650 families registered in the Parish, this comes to an *average donation of \$125 per family*. Even in these difficult times, it's certainly not a burden if we ALL pitch in between now and Christmas.

First come your own family needs, then those of the Parish. Finally, please consider your ACA responses so that we may continue to serve the needs of our Parish and our Diocese.

Make your ACA pledges at the following website, if you have not received a donation request by mail:

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

## PARISH FINANCES

Thanks to all of you who have sent in or dropped off your contributions at Mass or at the Rectory offices, or who have used weekly or monthly e-giving!

To use *Faith Direct* for e-giving go to the icon on our website and follow the instructions to sign up, or you can go straight to the ***Faith Direct* website** and enter our parish code **NY299**. You can change or drop out later on, as you wish.

A special word of thanks to parishioners who have donated so generously towards the HVAC projects and what would have been regularly scheduled "second collections".

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

We usually have a visiting missionary speak to us during the summer months and take up a special collection to aid the missions. We also have been requested by Bishop DeMarzio to assist the Christian community in Lebanon this September.

Since the ushers are not allowed to take up collections, please put your contributions in the Poor boxes located at each of the entrances to the church. Thanks for helping your brothers and sisters in need!

## THE ST. VINCENT dePAUL FOOD PANTRY



is located in the Convent  
66-25 79th Place

The Pantry is open every  
**WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY**  
**from 10:00am to 12:00Noon**

**PLEASE OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING  
AS YOU WAIT**

Please bring your contributions of food, especially non-perishables, and place them in the bin located by the center entrance to the main vestibule in church. You can also contribute grocery store gift cards, dropping them off at the rectory.

Thank you for your generosity!

## CHURCH OPEN HOURS

**The church will be open only for the celebration of Masses and baptisms. It will be closed at all other times to enable us to clean and sanitize the facilities.**

***Please observe these rules for your safety and that of others:***

Do NOT enter the church, if you are sick. Anyone entering the church MUST wear a facemask or covering. "Social distancing" MUST be observed at all times.

Sit only in the areas that are marked with a taped cross.

The lavatories are locked.

Do NOT leave **anything** in the pews or at the entrances, including prayer cards or brochures.

## RCIA NEWS

Our pandemic-deferred **celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation** will take place at the 12:00 Noon Mass on Sunday, September 13, for those who were scheduled to be initiated this past spring.

Please contact Sr. Bridget at the Rectory as soon as possible, if you are over 18 years old and still have not received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, First Reconciliation, or First Communion, to register for RCIA formation sessions beginning this fall with celebration of the Sacraments taking place next spring.

## MASSES & MEMORIALS

We have many Mass and memorial openings through the rest of the year. Please contact the Rectory offices to arrange for a *remembrance of your intentions*.

The **2021 Mass book** will not be opened until sometime in late September, after we have completed this year's book of Mass and memorial intentions.

### BAPTISMS

The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism has resumed on a weekly basis. **Please make an appointment at the Rectory to register as soon as possible.** We schedule on a first-come-first-served basis.

Only one child will be baptized at a time, at each of two sessions (1:30 and 2:30pm) each Sunday during the month of August. No more than 25 guests are permitted.

## WAKES & FUNERALS

We are conducting wake services (*subject to priests' availability for particular wake times*) and celebrating funeral Masses with music, again with the usual restrictions on occupancy of the funeral home and the church. ALL participants at funeral Masses MUST wear a facemask or covering and observe "social distancing" at all times.

*Arrangements should be made with the Rectory via a licensed funeral director.*

### SACRAMENTS RESCHEDULED

Dates for the postponed Spring 2020 celebrations of Confirmation and First Communion for Academy and Religious Education Program children are as follows:

#### CONFIRMATION

Saturday, 9/19, 1:00 & 2:30pm

Saturday, 9/26, 1:00 & 2:30pm

#### FIRST COMMUNION

Saturday, 10/3, 1:00pm

Saturday, 10/17, 1:00 & 2:30pm

Saturday, 10/24, 1:00pm

Parents will be notified about the exact celebration assigned to their child.

### RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Registration for religious education of public school children is now open. Classes will be on-line at least until January. For information/registration, please e-mail [stmargaretre@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretre@gmail.com)

## HVAC UPDATE

Work on replacing the boilers for the Parish Center is almost done. The work, which was interrupted by the pandemic lock-down, should be completed before Labor Day.

**Two of the existing AC units have been brought back into service, enabling us to celebrate Mass more comfortably. Thank you for your patience and generous support!**

## MONTHLY MEMORIAL MASS



A memorial Mass with music is celebrated each month for the repose of the souls of those who were buried from our church during the preceding month.

Families who wish to have an annual or "month's mind" Mass offered for a loved one can join in the monthly celebration. Contact the Rectory, **718-326-1911**, to make the arrangements.

The next memorial Mass will be celebrated at 11:45am Saturday, September 12.

## THE ST. VINCENT dePAUL CLOTHING PICK-UP

will be held on Sunday, August 30. The truck will be on 79th Place from 8:30am to 12:30pm for your items.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR  
ITEMS AT THE RECTORY DOOR**

## GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Please complete your *Generations of Faith* campaign pledges as soon as possible, if you have not done so already, so that the funds will be available to us for payment of the HVAC projects. We still have over \$160,000 in unpaid pledges. **Every dollar received now goes directly into our account**, since we have met our goal.

Thanks for your generosity!