

# ***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*



**BAPTISM  
OF THE  
LORD  
JANUARY 10, 2021**

## **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>JANUARY 10 - BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>
8:00	Thomas Mazza
10:00	Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Daniele Bussa/
<b>NOON</b>	Jeffrey Matusiak
<b>5:00PM</b>	The Hanover Family
<b>MON.</b>	<b>JANUARY 11 - WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Agatha Palumbo
9:00	Augusta Mundy (birth)
<b>TUE.</b>	<b>JANUARY 12 - WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Norma & Abel Auditore
9:00	Frank Tomitz (birth)
<b>WED.</b>	<b>JANUARY 13 - ST. HILARY</b>
7:00	Welfare of Robert Kiernan
9:00	Luigi & Filomena DeSimone
<b>THU.</b>	<b>JANUARY 14 - WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	James J. O'Neil
9:00	John Bohan
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>JANUARY 15 - WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Pasquale Campagnuolo
9:00	Arthur Woods
<b>SAT.</b>	<b>JANUARY 16 - WEEKDAY</b>
9:00	<b>collective:</b> Frances Kelly (anniv)
5:00PM	John J. Forte (anniv)
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>JANUARY 17 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>
8:00	Marie Sparacio
10:00	Rosaria Vitale/
<b>NOON</b>	Theodore Mundy, Jr. (anniv)
<b>5:00PM</b>	People of the Parish



## **BAPTISM OF THE LORD JANUARY 10**

## PARISH INFORMATION

### Rectory Office Hours

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

**CONFESSIONS** - Saturday, 4:00-4:45pm in the church.

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

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

**BAPTISMS** take place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, at 1:30pm and 2:30pm. Please call the rectory for an appointment and to register your child. No more than two children will be baptized at each session, with a maximum of 25 guests per family.

**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 Wednesday, at 7 pm in the Church. Tenors and baritones needed!

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

**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, McKinley Kelleher, Sean Harrison, Justin James Quirke, Elizabeth Ott, Mary Harrison, Gloria Pemaj, Allen McConville, Jack Marchindiondo, The Scaturro Family, Louis Pittelli, Louis Pittelli, James Graff, Immaculate Marge D'Elia, Jim O'Friscoll, Mary Rigovich, Matteo Sabini, Bob Biolsi, The Mojica Family, Msgr. Leonard Badia, Matthew Zender, Anthony Pittelli, Josephine Hartnett, Karen Schaefer, Jill Archbold, Fr. Paul Weirichs CP, Hannah Lehman, John Austin Bryzgornia, Dave Kazmier, John Nogiewich, Tim Rooney, Frank Ciccone, Cindy (Peli) Heege, Charlie Krzewski, Helga Zender, Deacon John DeBiase, Tom Haubert, John Miller, Cathie Greulich, Sr. Mary James Fox, Edward Pandolfo, Paul Colangelo, Carmen Gonzalez, Edward Stoltzenberg, Santos Santiago, William & Patricia Scharach, Marco Colalella, Fr. William Farrugia, Bernard Russo, Genevieve (Jean) Cahill,

*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: Harry A. Pickett,  
Cefinia Ceparitto*

*May they rest in Christ's Peace!*

## MEMORIALS

### WINE & HOST THIS WEEK

*are offered in memory of Arthur Woods  
at the request of The St. Vincent dePaul Society.*

### ALTAR CANDLES THIS WEEK

*are offered in memory of Giuseppa Cucuzza  
at the request of Sal Cucuzza & Family.*

### TABERNACLE LAMP THIS WEEK

*is lit in memory of Gandolfa Ilarda  
at the request of The Cucuzza Family.*



**SAINT  
HILARY  
JANUARY 13**

## TODAY'S READINGS

### *Baptism of the Lord*

Is 55:1-11  
Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6  
1 Jn 5:1-9  
Mk 1:7-11

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 1:1-6  
Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6, 7c, 9  
Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12  
Ps 8:2ab, 5-9  
Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18  
Ps 105:1-4, 6-9  
Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14  
Ps 95:6-7c, 8-11  
Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11  
Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-7, 8  
Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16  
Ps 19:8-10, 15  
Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19  
Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10  
1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20  
Jn 1:35-42

*From the Pastor's Desk:*

***“Witnessing to the Beloved”***

Although some of us will leave our creches up until February 2 (the feast of the Presentation of the Lord), today's feast of His Baptism brings our liturgical observance of the Christmas Season to a close. (One might argue that the secularists did that by December 26, when the Christmas carols had stopped playing on the radio and the boxes of [St.] “Valentine's Day” candy already had appeared in the drugstores.) It is a confusing feast, to say the least, but it also is the one to which we have been building for the last few weeks.

It is confusing in that the baptism performed by St. John the Baptist was not the Sacrament that we receive, the first of three in our ritual initiation into the Church. John's was a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Although He had no need for this baptism, being without any sin at all, Jesus gave us an example of our definite need to turn away from sin and to commit ourselves to beginning a new life that is centered on our relationship with God. This must be more than the superficial New Year's resolutions that don't make it out of January. We are called to a sincere commitment to daily conversion of self and to live a life of holiness.

There is more to the event, though. Throughout the Christmas Season, we have encountered various scenes of witnessing to the presence of the promised Messiah in the Person of the Child Jesus: the infant John leaping in the womb of his mother as the pregnant Virgin Mary approaches, the angels and shepherds in the fields and at the manger, the elderly Simeon and Anna in the Temple, and finally the Gentile Magi.

Today, God Himself testifies that this is not just another prophet. There can be no mistaking just who this soaking wet adult person is, for now, as Jesus rises from the waters of the Jordan, He is anointed, sealed with the Holy Spirit Who descends upon Him, and the Father confirms His divine identity like a mighty roll of thunder: “You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.”

All well and good, but where does this leave us? This definitive testimony by God removes the arbitrariness of our decision whether or not to accept Jesus as the Christ and to follow Him without reservation. He is not just one more philosopher whose ideas or ethics we may choose to follow or to reject, as suits our own desires. Neither is He just another holy figure among those of human history.

Jesus Christ has come into the world as Savior for its redemption in loving and humble obedience to the will of God the Father. He is the fulfillment of the promises that God had made from the fall of man in the Garden of Eden; He is the Way that leads to the Kingdom of God and is its very embodiment; He is the Truth of the Father's boundless love for us; He is the Life that has no end, the life into which He brings us through the Sacraments that He has given to the Church.

As always, it is God Who initiates; we are called to respond to Him in faith and in love. St. John (the Evangelist) is clear on that in today's Epistle reading. We love God the Father by acknowledging Jesus as His only-begotten Son and by putting His teachings, His commandments, into effect in our lives. One can do immense things with love as the motivation and source of strength, things that we would not attempt or even dream of doing otherwise.

We live in very troubled times, which very likely are going to rattle our faith and our commitment to Christ in the days ahead as they get more difficult for us in an increasingly anti-Christian world. Nevertheless, we should take heart in the fact that like Christ, Who has conquered the world, we, too, will conquer because we are united to Him. As St. Paul reminded the Christians of ancient Rome, we have died with Christ in the waters of our baptism and have risen to newness of life in Him Who dies no more, for death has no power over Him. It is this realization that should give us the strength to bear witness to Him by our words and our deeds.

~ *Fr. Armato*

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The **2020 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign continues toward our goal of **\$80,015**. So far, **194 families have pledged \$75,923 (94.9%)**. We have **\$4,092 to go**.

With about 650 families registered in the Parish, it 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.

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.

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

## YOUNG SINGERS WANTED

We now have music at all weekend Masses. In order to enhance the celebration at the Sunday 5:00 Mass, we have formed a group of young people to sing contemporary as well as traditional hymns.

If you're interested and in your late teens to twenty-something, please contact our Director of Music, Don Competello, after any of the Masses in the next few weeks.

## CHURCH OPEN HOURS

The church will be open only for Masses and baptisms, and closed at all other times to enable us to clean and sanitize.

***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.

While Mass attendance is increasing little by little, we still have a long way to go to get back to normal. In the meanwhile, please remember that families or couples are allowed to sit together, but individuals still must observe social distance in church.

## 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**

Thank you for your generous donations to the food pantry. At this time we are asking for **grocery store gift cards**, which can be placed in the rectory office mail slot.

Again, we thank you for your continued 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, February 13, 2021.**

## NEW HYMNALS

The hardbound hymnal combined with the full three-year cycle of Scripture readings has replaced the annual missalette, and are in the pews. This will save us time, work, and money in the long run, since it will last for over seven years with proper care.



The new books can be memorialized for \$25 per intention, as we've done with the missalettes. ***Use the forms provided in the church. Forms and your donation can be returned to the Rectory or in the collection basket.***



## **ST. MARGARET BLOOD DRIVE AT THE SHOPS AT ATLAS PARK**

St. Margaret Parish has sponsored many successful Blood Donation Drives in the past. Since all non-academic uses of parish buildings are suspended, we will not be able to host our scheduled January 2021 Blood Drive.

The New York Blood Center has arranged to conduct our January Blood Drive at The Shops at Atlas Park. The drive will be held there next Sunday, January 17, 2021 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. All blood donations that day will be credited to our parish.

Please consider making a donation that day since donations are desperately needed during this difficult time.

To schedule an appointment, call **800-933-2566**. Appointments are strongly encouraged, and walk-ins will only be accommodated if social distancing can be maintained. Thank you for your continued support of our Blood Drives!

## **FORMED IS HERE!**

**FORMED**, produced by the Augustine Institute, has come to St. Margaret's and is available without charge to all parishioners. All that is needed to visit the website is Internet access and an e-mail account. Simply go to **formed.org**, enter our Parish name, and then follow the prompts.

**FORMED** is an on-line resource for adult and youth faith formation, prayer, sacramental preparation, and so much more.

This week's offerings include articles for adults and children on baptism as well as making Scripture prayer and study a regular part of your life.

## **BAPTISMS**

The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated only at 1:30pm on the first and third Sundays of each month (except April) with up to four children baptized per session.

No more than twenty-five (25) family members and friends per child may attend, so that we can maintain social distancing.

## **PARISH FINANCES**

Thanks to all of you who continue to support *your* parish as best as possible during these difficult times, whether through e-giving or in-pew offerings!

Still, we are projecting an *operating loss of over \$300,000* for the current fiscal year. We are at the point where we cannot pay our bills without dipping into what remains of rapidly thinning reserves.

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 your decision later on, as you wish.

A financial report for 2019-20 actual and a projection for 2020-21 will be provided to the Parish in February.

## **VOLUNTEER TECHY WANTED**

We need the assistance of someone who is tech savvy to help with developing the website and our e-mail database. Please contact Fr. Armato, if you are interested.

## **THANK YOU FROM THE ST. VINCENT dePAUL SOCIETY**

To: Our parishioners, Academy parents and faculty, and anonymous givers at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

To: Kathy Henn, a parishioner who baked 35 pumpkin breads for Thanksgiving dinners and 35 bags of homemade cookies for Christmas dinners for our clients.

To: Assemblyman Brian Barnwell, whose office delivered a large amount of food at Thanksgiving.

To: Councilman Bob Holden, who secured a grant from the City for our pantry, facilitated by Eileen Reilly from Maspeth Town Hall, which resulted in hams, cookies, and other special items for Christmas dinners in our community.

We thank you all for your generosity and care in providing special holiday fare for our neighbors.

Wishing you a healthy, safe and blessed 2021!