

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

Website: www.stmargaretmv.com

Schedule/Calendar:
parishcalendar@aol.com



SECOND SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 17, 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

SUN.	JANUARY 17 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00	Marie Sparacio
10:00	Rosaria Vitale/Giuseppe Valenza/Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/Geraldine Ciaccio/Vincenza, Mariano e Salvatore Palmeri/
NOON	Theodore Munday, Jr. (anniv)
5:00PM	People of the Parish
MON.	JANUARY 18 - DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
9:00	Thomas McQuaide
TUE.	JANUARY 19 - WEEKDAY
7:00	Maria Campagnuolo
9:00	In appreciation from the Bohan Family
WED.	JANUARY 20 - STS. FABIAN AND SEBASTIAN
7:00	Rose Goffredo
9:00	Cathleen Joyce
THU.	JANUARY 21 - ST. AGNES
7:00	Welfare of Barry Monahan
9:00	Ida, Fannie & Josephine Spadafora
FRI.	JANUARY 22 - DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN
7:00	Catherine & Arthur Rogers
9:00	Fred Basedow
SAT.	JANUARY 23 - STS. MARIANNE COPE AND VINCENT
9:00	collective: Deceased Deacons of the Brooklyn and Rockville Centre Dioceses/ John J. Forte (anniv)
5:00PM	
SUN.	JANUARY 24 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00	Rosanna Maurer
10:00	Anthony Lopresti/Angela Scaturro/Rosaria Vitale/Luigi, Michael e Saverio Bosco/ Giuseppe Catalano/
NOON	People of the Parish
5:00PM	Jacob M. & Miriam J. Weiner Family

JANUARY 22



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.

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 **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 Marchindondo, The Scaturro Family, 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, Karen Schaefer, Jill Archbold, Fr. Paul Weirichs CP, Hannah Lehman, John Austin Bryzgoria, 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, Gerard Frohnhoefer,

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:

Mary Elizabeth Kissi,

May they rest in Christ's Peace!



**THE RECTORY
WILL BE
CLOSED
ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 18
IN OBSERVANCE
OF
DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING,
JR. DAY
MASS IS AT
9:00AM ONLY**

TODAY'S READINGS

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 5:1-10
Ps 110:1-4
Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20
Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c
Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17
Ps 110:1-4
Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25-8:6
Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17
Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13
Ps 85:8, 10-14
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14
Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10
Ps 25:4-9
1 Cor 7:29-31
Mk 1:14-20

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Come and See!”

“You can observe a lot just by looking.” That comment, or words to that effect, has been attributed to Yogi Berra. Jesus’ response of “Come and see” to the two disciples of John the Baptist (Andrew and, presumably, John, the son of Zebedee) in today’s Gospel passage, is more than an invitation to them to come and observe how He’s fixed up His place.

St. John the Baptist appeared in the tradition of the Old Testament prophets, especially Elijah, the great prophet whose return was to signal the coming of the Messiah. John taught the people, calling them to recommit themselves to being faithful to the Covenant, to repent of their sins, and to be baptized as a sign of their conversion of heart and intention to reform their lives going forward.

In the scene just before today’s Gospel passage, John used a term with which the people would be familiar from Temple worship. As Jesus passed by, John commented about the “Lamb of God”. Now, being convinced that the Lamb is Jesus, he looks in the direction of Jesus, Who is passing by again, and, in the presence of his two disciples, makes the reference more directly and definitively. The two disciples are intrigued and take off after Jesus.

Bear in mind that the Baptist was active in the wilderness, a frequent venue in the Old Testament for an encounter with God. Aside from the land right along the Jordan River, where he’d been baptizing, the land is barren and mainly devoid of plant life. There are no hotels, motels, B&Bs or trailer parks. If people stayed for more than the day, they stayed in tents that they had set up themselves.

The question that John’s disciples posed to Jesus, then, which we read as “Where are you staying?” is better rendered as, “Where have you pitched your tent?” Again, we have Old Testament overtones, for God had “pitched His tent” with His people during the Exodus and early days in the Promised Land, abiding with them in intimate relationship. It also is a throwback to the words of St. John the Evangelist in the preamble to his Gospel account that, “the Word became flesh and dwelt [literally, pitched His tent] among us.” Like God during the centuries after Moses, the long-awaited Messiah now was in the midst of His people. The two disciples heard simply, “Come and see”; now they boldly take up the invite.

The details of what was said around the campfire that evening as the two stayed and ate with Jesus and listened to what He had to say are not recorded. What is recorded, though, is that the encounter was enough to energize them to switch masters, to follow Jesus, and to spread the word of what they had experienced.

Jesus’ invitation to the Baptist’s two disciples is the same invitation that He extends to each of us today: Come and see! We use the expression as the theme of formal retreats during which young men try to discern whether or not God is calling them to serve His Church as priests. It also is put to each one of us as we go about our daily activities, as an invitation to spend some quality time with the Lord in prayer and to discern His presence in our lives. In fact, every time we enter a church and kneel before the Blessed Sacrament or sit quietly in prayer is an opportunity to “come and see”.

Let us be mindful of Christ’s invitation and also keep in mind that, like His first two disciples, we are called to share the fruit of our prayers and reflections with those around us. As Andrew went to share his discovery with his brother Simon, so you and I are supposed to share our encounters of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world, by living as His faithful disciples. By doing so, we will tell others, “Come and see!”

May God bless you along your journey of faith! Come and see what Christ has done for you already and what He will continue to do for you!

~ *Fr. Armato*

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The **2020 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign has come to a close. Thanks to the **198 families who pledged \$77,445, we hit 96.8% of our goal of \$80,015.**

While we didn't attain our goal this year, we exceeded the 2019 pledges by \$4,813. This is remarkable, given the difference in conditions between 2019 and 2020. God bless all of you who responded!

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

for tax purposes will
ONLY BE AVAILABLE
UPON REQUEST

Please call the Rectory, 718-326-1911

AFTER FEBRUARY 1

if you would like a statement mailed to you.

ASK FATHER

We will resume small groups for discussion and prayer once the closures are over. Meanwhile, if you have a question about the Faith, Scripture, liturgy, etc., jot it down and submit it via the collection basket or mail it to the Rectory. We will try to address the questions each week here in the *Mass Bells*.

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. 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.

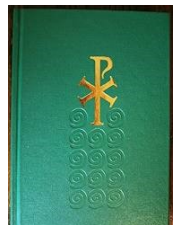
Families who wish to have an annual or “month’s mind” Mass offered for a loved one can join in the monthly celebration.

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

Our new hardbound hymnal with the full three-year cycle of Scripture readings can be memorialized for \$25 per intention, as we’ve done with the missalettes.



Please use the request forms available in the church vestibule and at the Rectory for your intentions.

SEX ABUSE REPORTING

Call 1-800-342-3720 or 1-888-634-4499 toll free to report possible cases of sexual abuse involving children or adults.

**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.

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.

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.

VOLUNTEER TECHIE WANTED

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

MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

The lectionaries used for Mass each day have become frayed over the years and need to be replaced. Also, a set of liturgical books is needed for the rectory chapel. Please contact Mary at the Rectory, if you would like to donate one or more of these books in memory or honor of someone:

Church Lectionary - \$150 per volume (3)

Chapel Lectionary - \$100 per volume (2)

Chapel Missal - \$100 (1)

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.

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.