

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



FOURTH SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 31, 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 31 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00	Anita Cacioppo
10:00	Cefina Capritto/
NOON	Antonina Voccaro
5:00PM	Frank Tomitz (anniv)
MON.	FEBRUARY 1 - WEEKDAY
7:00	Purgatorial Society
9:00	Mark Porcaro (anniv)
TUE.	FEBRUARY 2 - THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
7:00	Gerard W. Michels
9:00	Jack Byrne
WED.	FEBRUARY 3 - STS. BLAISE AND ANSGAR
7:00	Mary Finis
9:00	Arthur Woods
THU.	FEBRUARY 4 - WEEKDAY
7:00	Davide Colalella
9:00	Anthony DeSiervi
FRI.	FEBRUARY 5 - ST. AGATHA
7:00	Charlotte Wintergerst (anniv)
9:00	Henry & Elizabeth Rader
SAT.	FEBRUARY 6 - ST. PAUL MIKI
9:00	collective: Deceased Priests of the Brooklyn and Rockville Centre Dioceses/Mary Narky/Andy Loguel/Bill and Lee DiGiovanna/Souls in Purgatory/
9:30	Holy Hour
5:00PM	Marie & Ernest DeSabato
SUN.	FEBRUARY 7 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00	People of the Parish
10:00	Scout Sunday: George Bley, Ed Taite, Arthur Rogers/Sanfrancisco DiPaola/Alessio Atria/SanFilippo, Giuseppe, Vincenza, Antonio, Vito, Antonio/Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/Geraldine Ciaccio/Vincenza, Mariano e Salvatore Palmeri/John & Alice Shortall/ Michael Gunning/
NOON	Norma & Abel Auditore
5:00PM	Carl Dokter/Joan Leonard



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD FEBRUARY 2

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, 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, 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:

***Davide Colalella, Genevieve Cahill
May they rest in Christ's Peace!***

MEMORIALS

WINE & HOST THIS WEEK

are offered in memory of Guido & Anna Carosi.

TABERNACLE LAMP THIS WEEK

is lit in memory of Walter R. Martin.



***Blessing of throats will
take place on Saturday,
1/30 and Sunday, 1/31 at
all Masses, in a group,
and on Wednesday,
February 3, the feast of
St. Blaise, in group, at
the 7:00 & 9:00am Mass***

TODAY'S READINGS

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20
Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9
1 Cor 7:32-35
Mk 1:21-28

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 11:32-40
Ps 31:20-24
Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4
Ps 24:7-10
Heb 2:14-18
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15
Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a
Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24
Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9-11
Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Heb 13:1-8
Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc
Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5-6
Mk 6:30-34

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7
Ps 147:1-2, 3-6
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23
Mk 1:29-39

From the Pastor's Desk:

“So Far, and Yet So Close”

If you're a Boomer like me, you might remember the *Four Seasons* song with the line, “So close, so close, and yet so far!” (Give yourself a pat on the back, if you still can remember and sing the rest of it!) Our God can be said to be the reverse of that idea, for, as distant as He is, living beyond the limitations of time and space, He has chosen to be ever so close to us in the Person of Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of the Father, Who, in turn, has given us the Sacraments as a means of maintaining an intimate relationship between God and His Church.

Now, that can be a comforting idea, but it also can be a troubling one, as we see in today's first reading. The God of their ancestors was rather overwhelming and terrifying for the Israelites during the Exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land. They wanted and needed an intermediary, whom God provided by choosing Moses as His prophet (spokesman) to guide His people to freedom and newness of life.

The idea of God's closeness to us can be disconcerting. We might prefer to keep a “safe distance” between us, as we look more for piety and religion than for a demanding relationship with the living God. Nevertheless, for us, as disciples of Christ, our belief in His proximity in Work and in Sacrament, especially in His Real Presence in the Most Blessed Sacrament, should be a comfort and a joy that strengthens us and helps us to live the life of our calling, following Him more faithfully each day into the fullness of life in the Father's Kingdom.

One of the saddest things about the COVID restrictions has been the separation of Catholics from the reception of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist. We are a tactile people, for whom watching a Mass on TV or live-stream and making an act of spiritual communion truly is not an adequate substitute for assisting at Mass in person and receiving Him, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. We also can't confess to a TV screen or to a computer, and neither of those can anoint the sick.

Our God does not appear to us in frightening lightning and thunder, a column of fire or a great cloud as He did during the Exodus that we should shy away from Him in fear and trembling. He has sent us not just another prophet as He promised through Moses, but His only-begotten Son, the one Who faithfully witnesses to the fullness of truth of the Father's love for us, His adopted children. It is Christ Jesus Who has freed us from sin and death and Who guides us through the deserts of life into the perfect safety and joy of Heaven, the true and eternal Promised Land.

We will hold our monthly holy next Saturday after the 9:00 am Mass, complete with Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, and some time for communal prayer and quiet, personal reflection. Come and adore the Lord! Draw near to Him Who is not a million miles away from us, but Who is in our midst. Speak to Him from your heart, and there listen to Him speak ever so quietly to you. Astonishing things can happen in our own time when we place ourselves in the hands of a loving God Who acts with power and authority.

~ *Fr. Armato*

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The **2020 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign has come to a close. Thanks to the **198 families who have pledged \$77,638 we hit 97.0% 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!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

We will hold a holy hour of Eucharistic Adoration consisting of Exposition and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, litany, scriptural reading, and time for quiet, personal prayer from 9:30 until 10:30AM on the first Saturday of each month.

The next holy hour is February 6, 2021.

Come and spend some quality time with the Lord!

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 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. We are in need of cooking oil, mayo, coffee and bottled juice. As always, 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

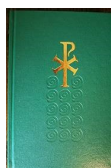
A memorial Mass with music is celebrated each month for the repose of the souls of those who were buried from our church during the preceding month.

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.

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.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

for tax purposes
WILL BE AVAILABLE
ONLY UPON REQUEST

Please call the Rectory, 718-326-1911
AFTER FEBRUARY 1
if you would like a statement mailed to you.

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.

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.



2021 YEAR OF RENEWAL

Faith is growing each day in classrooms throughout *St. Margaret Catholic Academy*. Our school is centered through our love of Christ and the strength of our faith. We are blessed with teachers who guide our students on their path to fully knowing and loving Jesus and families who are committed to providing this opportunity for their children.

Whether in-person or virtually, our students are continuously learning to walk in Jesus' path by celebrating Feast Days, preparing for the Sacraments, learning to read and discuss Scripture, and coming to understand the tenets of the Church.

We are thankful for our connection to St. Margaret Parish where we can participate in the Eucharist and engage with Fr. Armato, Fr. Joseph and Msgr. Thelen. We love our class visits from Fr. Joseph who helps us further explore our faith. We also were visited by Deacon DeBiase, one of our board members who blessed us at the beginning of the school year.

Join us for a virtual tour at
smcatours@gmail.com

WE HAVE A SEAT
WAITING FOR YOU!!!

Scholarships available at
www.futuresineducation.org

Check out our website www.smac.org

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.