

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
Victoria LoBosco
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



SIXTH SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 14, 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.	FEBRUARY 14 - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00	Anna Roemmelt
10:00	Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Daniele Bussa/ Rosario, Rosaria e Nunzio Taormina/ Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio/ Fire Lt. Kevin J. & William Pfeifer
NOON	Aida Baker
5:00PM	
MON.	FEBRUARY 15 - PRESIDENTS DAY
9:00	Deborah Lovett
TUE.	FEBRUARY 16 - WEEKDAY
7:00	Otto Reissig
9:00	Lottie & Stanley Andrzejewski
WED.	FEBRUARY 17 - ASH WEDNESDAY
	FAST AND ABSTINENCE
7:00	Guido & Anna Carosi
9:00	Clara & Felix Mastrogiovanni
NOON	Liturgy of the Word
7:30PM	People of the Parish
THU.	FEBRUARY 18 - THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00	John & Anna Rice
9:00	Roland Belay
FRI.	FEBRUARY 19 - FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY/ABSTINENCE
7:00	Ralph Kistner
9:00	Nancy Gardini
9:30	Stations of the Cross, English
SAT.	FEBRUARY 20 - SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY
9:00	collective: Samantha Barahona/Andres Acevedo/Nancy Penafiel/Oddolino Crisologo/Paul Milana, Sr.
5:00PM	Steven Dominic Belviso
SUN.	FEBRUARY 21 - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
8:00	William J. Roemmelt
10:00	Michelina Camporese,
NOON	Robert J. Schaefer
5:00PM	People of the Parish



**ASH
WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 17**

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, 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, Fr. William Farrugia, Bernard Russo, Gerard Frohnhoefer, John and Katie Bryzgoria, Eric Velasquez, Joseph Simon, Emma Green,

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:

John Anthony Cardi,

May they rest in Christ's Peace!

MEMORIALS

WINE & HOST THIS WEEK

are offered in memory of Marco Colalella.

TABERNACLE LAMP THIS WEEK

is lit in memory of Guido & Anna Carosi.

**THE RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15
IN OBSERVANCE OF PRESIDENTS DAY
MASS IS AT 9:00AM ONLY**

TODAY'S READINGS

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46
Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11
1 Cor 10:31—11:1
Mk 1:40-45

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25
Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21
Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10
Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10
Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18
Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-14, 17
2 Cor 5:20—6:2
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20
Ps 1:1-4, 6
Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a
Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19
Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14
Ps 86:1-6
Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15
Ps 25:4-9
1 Pt 3:18-22
Mk 1:12-15



From the Pastor's Desk:

“Unclean! Unclean!”

We've grown relatively accustomed over the last twelve months to quarantining the sick and demanding a certificate of negative testing for virus antibodies before we let people participate in activities like work or school or get on an airplane. Still, today's first reading and Gospel passage may strike us as being rather odd, almost like scenes from a Monty Python movie.

Despite the recent development and administration of vaccines, the mere thought of possibly contracting COVID-19 remains disturbingly fearsome for many people today. For people with little understanding of the nature of diseases and virtually no antibiotics with which to fight them, however, the possibility of anything that might start a pandemic must have been absolutely frightening and unnerving. Even in the late 1800's, people in Hawaii who suffered from leprosy were sent to die slowly and painfully at the isolated colony on the island of Molokai, where St. Damien de Veuster ministered to them for several years before dying of the same disease. Nevertheless, what we see presented in today's Scriptures is only the tip of the iceberg.

The ancients believed that what was visible on the outside of a person with leprosy was actually a sign of what their soul looked like as the result of sin: the more hideous one's appearance, the greater the corruption of the soul must be. The effects of sin were tangible and visible, a warning to avoid sin, the suspected cause. Such persons could not be allowed to corrupt the rest of the people around them, not only with the physical disease but also, and more especially, with their sinfulness. They had to be kept apart from the rest of society for more important reasons than our practices of social distancing and wearing masks accomplish.

Today we recognize the causes of many diseases and develop medicines and treatments. Even when something like the present virus arises, we apply practical means of fighting and containing it. Some diseases like polio and leprosy, have been dealt with almost to the point of eradication. Furthermore, we no longer think of sickness as being a sign of interior sinfulness.

At the same time, we still speak of sin's ugliness. Perhaps we might live differently if we could see the effect that sin has on our souls. We cannot ignore body parts decaying and falling off piece by piece, but we usually do not realize the gradual deterioration of our soul. Neither do we recognize the healing of the soul that takes place through the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and the Eucharist. If we did, perhaps we wouldn't sin so readily or be so indifferent in our approach to the Gifts that Christ has given to the Church.

Frequently in the Gospel according to St. Mark, like today, we come across the "Messianic secret": Jesus wishes to keep His healing action quiet, lest the people get the wrong idea about Him and come to Him for the wrong reasons. "Salus animarum suprema lex" (the health/salvation of souls in the supreme law) is the motto of the Diocese of Brooklyn. It expresses the great mission of Christ and His Church: the spiritual wellbeing of the individual, which goes beyond mere physical healing and the providing of social services.

The love and mercy that God shows us in Christ Jesus should be no secret to us. We can, and should, avail ourselves of them on a regular basis through regular, frequent confession and reception of Holy Communion. Our prayers and acts of charity and piety are more tools that help in the healing of our souls.

This week we will begin the holy season of Lent once again. It is a time of healing, renewal, and rededication to living the life of a disciple of Christ and child of God, and of ongoing reformation and conversion of heart. Let us use this time and these opportunities well, so that, although we enter Lent disfigured and sick of soul, we may emerge by Easter healed of our sins and renewed in body, mind, and spirit.

May God bless you as you begin this spiritual journey!

~ *Fr. Armato*

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The **2021 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign is about to begin. **Our goal for this year is \$76,014**, which comes to a fair share donation of about \$120 from each of our 650 families. Some can give more, some less, but everyone can give something.

Money raised by this campaign is used only to support programs for our elderly and youth, seminarians and retired priests, and other diocesan and local pastoral needs.

Funds received in excess over the goal by the end of the year come back to the parish for local needs.

Will you help to put us over to top this year? Please prayerfully consider making a pledge.

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 March 6.

Come and spend some quality time with the Lord!

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.

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

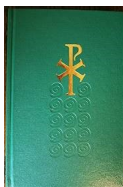
A memorial Mass with music is celebrated each month for the repose of the souls of those who were buried from our church during the preceding month.

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, March 13.

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 are responding to the stewardship initiative and 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
if you would like a statement mailed to you.

YOUNG SINGERS WANTED

We now have music at all weekend Masses. In order to enhance the celebration at the Sunday 5:00pm 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The **Stations of the Cross** (*Via Crucis*) will be celebrated during Lent in Italian every Tuesday morning at 9:30 and in English every Friday morning at 9:30. Come and walk with the Lord, praying along the way of His Passion!

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ashes will be imposed this Wednesday at Masses celebrated at 7:00 and 9:00 am and 7:30 pm, and at a Liturgy of the Word at 12:00 noon.

In accordance with universal Church guidelines, ashes will be sprinkled on the penitent's head instead of on the forehead in order to minimize interpersonal contact during the pandemic.

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. The app can be downloaded very easily to your computer or ROKU and also to your cell phone or iPad so that you can enjoy the presentations wherever you happen to be.

Sign up this week for **FORMED's Mardi Gras program**, which will be shown **this Tuesday at 7:00pm**

I said a Valentine prayer for you, and asked the Lord above, to fill your heart and bless your soul with the precious gift of love.

I asked Him for sincere love, the kind that's meant to stay, just like the generous love You give to those you touch each day.

I prayed for love from family and from every cherished friend, then I asked the Lord to give you His love, that knows no end.

