

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



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT FEBRUARY 21, 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 21 - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 8:00 William J. Roemmelt 10:00 Michelina Camporese NOON Robert J. Schaefer 5:00PM People of the Parish
MON.	FEBRUARY 22 - THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE 7:00 Joseph & Lena Mazzola 9:00 The Beck & Wiesner Families
TUE.	FEBRUARY 23 - ST. POLYCARP 7:00 Sr. Anne Werner, D.W. 9:00 Helen Stalzer 9:30 Stations of the Cross, Italian
WED.	FEBRUARY 24 - LENTEN WEEKDAY 7:00 Geraldine Ciaccio (anniv) 9:00 John O'Shea (anniv)
THU.	FEBRUARY 25 - LENTEN WEEKDAY 7:00 Walter R. Martin 9:00 Grace Ann Franzese
FRI.	FEBRUARY 26 - LENTEN WEEKDAY/ ABSTINENCE 7:00 Nicholas Cascio (birth) 9:00 Billy Heilman 9:30 Stations of the Cross, English
SAT.	FEBRUARY 27 - LENTEN WEEKDAY 9:00 collective: Stanislaw Krzewski/Roman Krzewski/ 5:00PM Robert Schaefer
SUN.	FEBRUARY 28 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 8:00 William J. Roemmelt 10:00 Josephine Vaccaro NOON People of the Parish 5:00PM Daniel Fitzgerald



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 & 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:

***Frances Coyle,
May they rest in Christ's Peace!***

MEMORIALS

WINE & HOST THIS WEEK

*are offered in memory of
William J. Collins and Family.*

TABERNACLE LAMP THIS WEEK

*is lit in memory of Joseph & Lena Mazzola
at the request of Ben Armato.*



***THE CHAIR OF
SAINT PETER,
THE APOSTLE
FEBRUARY 22***

TODAY'S READINGS

First Sunday of Lent

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4
Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6
Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11
Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10
Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25
Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8
Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28
Ps 130:1-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19
Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8
Mt 5:42-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19
Rom 8:31b-34
Mk 9:2-10

From the Pastor's Desk:

“(Don’t) Give up!”

It is the ancient custom of the Church on the first Sunday of Lent to read one of the accounts of Christ’s temptation by Satan in the wilderness, as recorded by Saints Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Of the three, St. Mark cuts to the chase with just a very brief comment about the diabolical attempt before getting to the heart of Christ’s mission: “This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel!”

According to St. Mark, these are the first words that Christ spoke as He set out to fulfill the Father’s will, eventually suffering “for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that He might lead you to God,” as St. Peter puts it in today’s second reading. That is the story of our salvation in a nutshell.

Chances are that we each have composed a list of things that we intend to give up for Lent and perhaps another of practices that we intend to take up. Chances also are that we will blow both lists by Holy Week, if we haven’t done so already, just a few days into the season. Perhaps we set our sights too high; we have the best of intentions, but we haven’t spent enough time taking a good, hard look at ourselves before setting out. The latter is an integral part of the practices of Lent, which are intended to lead us to reformation and reconciliation.

Other than considering “fasting” in the broadest of terms, the Bible doesn’t say anything about giving up cigarettes, or candy, or bread, or pasta, or the many other things that we usually put on our lists. While these are all good things for us to drop, what the Scriptures DO tell us to give up are the sins to which we cling. Yet, all too often we focus on the easier aspects of this season and miss its main point.

Lent is a time of both sorrow and joy. We ought to examine our lives so that we can recognize our areas of brokenness before the Lord and what needs to be changed so as to put our relationship with God back into proper order. You cannot answer Christ’s command to repent, if you don’t know what it is for which you need to repent. That happens all too often when people come to confession.

Instead, we should begin Lent with a good review of where we are. Then, having examined our lives in the light of the Gospel, we can ask God for the gift of true repentance, which becomes our main task for Lent. Accepting the Gospel also gives us the gift of hope in God’s mercy and forgiveness, for only a gracious, merciful, and forgiving God would suffer and die for our redemption in order to re-establish His Covenant with the human race. Moreover, that hope tells us that we are not entirely lost, but can be saved by the grace of God’s love.

The practice of fasting from things or habits, then, helps us to discipline our bodies and minds as we move forward in developing a proper relationship with God, avoiding sin and the near occasion of sin along the way.

The practice of almsgiving reminds us that, as we expect to be treated by God with compassion and dignity, so we must treat others in the same way. We are not worthy of God’s gifts, yet He bestows them upon us. Each person around us, regardless of his or her station or condition in society, has the same dignity as ourselves and should be treated similarly, with dignity and compassion.

Finally, the spiritual component of prayer is most essential to this season. It might be formal or informal, individual or communal, ritual or simple, spoken or silent. The practice of prayer is to enable us to speak to God AND to LISTEN to God speaking to us, so don’t do all the talking, and don’t get upset if He’s silent or just whispers when you want Him to speak up loudly and clearly. Keep listening. Come to Mass; pray the Rosary; spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament; meditate on the Scriptures.

Be flexible the Lent with what you will give up and what you will take on. Whatever you do, do not get discouraged; that’s just what Satan wants, as he tempts us with taking the easy way out or even giving up in frustration at the first sign of difficulty or failure. Constancy in prayer will help you to know what to give up and what not to give up, and to call upon God for help. Most especially, never give up on yourself; God never gives up on you.

May the good Lord bless you as you begin your spiritual journey this Lent!

~ *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. (\$77,848 were donated to the 2020 Campaign.) Some can give more, some less, but everyone can give something.

Money raised by this campaign is used 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 the top this year? Please prayerfully consider making a pledge.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

We 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.

More people may be coming to Mass during Lent. "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

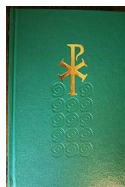
A memorial Mass with music is celebrated each month for the repose of the souls of those who were buried from our church during the preceding month.

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 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.

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.

Recent offerings include spiritual planning for Lent, studying the Gospel according to St. Matthew, daily Lenten reflections, and much more.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS

to St. Margaret Catholic Academy, students in the class of 2021 on receiving their rings this past week:

*EDWARD ANDERSEN, KRISTIAN ANDERSON,
MICHAEL BALDASSARRE, ROSALIA BONANNO,
FRANCESCO CALABRESE, DANIELLA CIULLA,
GIULIANA CONLAN, ARIANNA DELGADO,
STEVEN DIMOTHERIS, MICHAEL FRANCO,
ALYSSA FRICKE, HEAVEN GUZMAN,
LEAH HUI, JOHN MEENAN, PATRICK MOAKLEY,
JUSTIN MUNSON, ALEXANDER MUNTEAN,
SEAN MURRAY, NICOLO NOEL, XAVIER OSORIO,
LUKE ROEMMELT, MEGAN ROONEY,
KAYLA SANCHEZ, BRIAN SWIECH,
CHRISTOPHER VLAOVICH*

May your ring be a symbol of your growth, your hopes and your dreams.

LENTEN PRACTICES

We usually think of Lent as a long, weary period for giving up things, whether bad habits or good things that we enjoy. This year, try to make it a positive opportunity for growing spiritually and in good works.

Come to Mass during the week; stop in to church to pray for a few minutes in the morning before rushing off to work or school; remember the needs of the poor as well as of your elderly, shut-in neighbor; pray the Rosary each day; get to confession at least once before Easter.

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!