

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



**SECOND SUNDAY
OF
LENT
FEBRUARY 28, 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 28 - SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 William J. Roemmelt
10:00 Josephine Vaccaro
NOON People of the Parish
5:00PM Daniel Fitzgerald

MON. MARCH 1 - LENTEN WEEKDAY

7:00 Purgatorial Society
9:00 Salvatore Fischetti

TUE. MARCH 2 - LENTEN WEEKDAY

7:00 Philip Composto
9:00 Giulia Caruana (birth)
9:30 Stations of the Cross, Italian

WED. MARCH 3 - LENTEN WEEKDAY

7:00 Vivien Hegarty
9:00 Costanza Villoni

THU. MARCH 4 - SAINT CASIMIR

7:00 Vivien Hegarty
9:00 Aurora Cermeli

FRI. MARCH 5 - LENTEN WEEKDAY/ WORLD DAY OF PRAYER/ ABSTINENCE

7:00 Katie Kirnan Katz
9:00 Albert & Julia Paetzig
9:30 Stations of the Cross, English

SAT. MARCH 6 - LENTEN WEEKDAY

9:00 **collective:** Deceased Priests, Brooklyn & Rockville Centre Dioceses/Geraldine Ciaccio (birth)/Bill & Lee DiGiovanna/ Souls in purgatory/Joseph W. Mazzola/ Mary Narky/Paul Milana, Sr./
9:30 Holy Hour
5:00PM People of the Parish

SUN. MARCH 7 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 Elissa DeBenedictis
10:00 Anna Carosi
NOON Louis Meyers
5:00PM Edward H. Morrissey & Nellie Tolles



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FEBRUARY 28**

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

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 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, Fr. William Farrugia, Bernard Russo, Gerard Frohnhoefer, John & Katie Bryzgornia, 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:

*Carol Lamicella Polanish,
Connie Faccibene, Brian Malley,
Br. James McVeigh, OSF,*

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 Connie Faccibene.



***SAINT
CASIMIR
MARCH 4***

TODAY'S READINGS

Second Sunday of Lent

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Dn 9:4b-10
Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13
Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20
Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23
Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20
Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15, 16
Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10
Ps 1:1-4, 6
Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a
Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20
Ps 103:1-4, 9-10, 11-12
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17
Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11
1 Cor 1:22-25
Jn 2:13-25
Scrutiny
Ex 17:3-7
Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
Rom 5:1-2, 5-8
Jn 4:5:42

From the Pastor's Desk:

“In God We Trust”

On the back of every US currency bill and on the front of every US coin is the expression, “In God We Trust”. It’s such an everyday part of our lives that we don’t give it a second thought, unless perhaps we come across a comical sign in a store that reads, “In God We Trust. All others pay cash.” I mean, when was the last time that you looked at the inscription on the money in your pocket and said, “WOW! Yeah!”? Maybe like never?

The Scriptures today speak to us about trusting God. Elderly Abraham was prepared to sacrifice Isaac, his young son and only heir, at the command of God, which would have ended the prospect of innumerable descendants that God had promised him in a covenant bond. Still, he placed his trust in God and proceeded to comply until stopped by the Angel of the Lord (“angelos” means “messenger” in Greek). He had proved his faithfulness to God, and God would remain faithful to His part of the covenant. We, by faith, are part of God’s delivery on His promise.

That sense of divine faithfulness is driven home by St. Paul in the second reading, which is full of rhetorical questions. Unfortunately, we get a sort of “Reader’s Digest” version of what St. Paul wrote. His more fully developed point is that nothing can separate us from the love of God, Who did not spare His only-begotten Son for our salvation. God keeps His promises and, having given us the best He has to offer, His Son, readily grants us everything that we need for our salvation and eternal life. His love is ours in Christ Jesus.

The first reading and Gospel on Sundays are always connected, with the first set to support the latter. So it is on this Transfiguration Sunday as Moses and Elijah, representing the Law and the Prophets, bear witness to Christ as we hear the voice of the Father booming from the cloud, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him!”

Now, the instruction is not simply to “hear what He says” but to “LISTEN to Him.” There’s a big difference in English and in many other languages, as well. We “hear” sounds around us all the time. Sometimes, they become “white noise,” blending into the background as we go about our business, or read, or relax. To “listen”, however, implies that we are paying attention. That is what the Father demands of the stunned Apostles and what He demands of us.

Why should we listen? Jesus is no mere miracle worker or latter day prophet or philosopher. He is the very Son of God, God incarnate, coeternal and consubstantial with the Father. His teachings are not simply ideas that it would be nice to follow or, alternatively, okay to ignore if too inconvenient for our desires. There’s no voting on the matter. If you want to live for all eternity in the peace, joy, happiness, and love of the Father, then you very well had better listen, pay attention, and live your life according to the teachings of Jesus Christ His Son.

This holy season of Lent is a particular period in which we pay special attention to Christ’s teachings, checking on how well we live up to them, and determining what we need to do to get back on track. We employ the principal exercises of all forms of prayer to communicate with God, of almsgiving as a way of looking beyond ourselves to the needs of others, and fasting as a means of self-discipline, in order to strengthen the bond, the covenant, that God has made with humanity through the Blood of His Son, that we might inherit His promise of eternal life.

If you feel as if you already are struggling with Lent, that may be a good sign. Take a look at where you are at Point A and where you want to be at Point B, then trust God and ask Him for the grace of conversion of heart to help you get from A to B. Take it in small steps, and do not get discouraged if progress is slow or if you fall, for the work that you have begun is the work of a lifetime, until the day when we, too, may be counted as “Saints among the Saints of Heaven.”

“God did not spare His own Son, but handed Him over for us all; how will He not give us everything else along with Him?” Trust Him, and He will bless you as you continue 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.

EUCHARISTIC 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 this Saturday, 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.

E-DATA UPDATES

Help us to update our database of email addresses so that we can maintain contact, Print the following information and return it via the collection basket, or by mail, or by emailing it to:

stmargaretmv@gmail.com

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone #:(_____) - _____ - _____

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 is delayed but will be provided to the Parish shortly.

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.

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.

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 a new video series on "I Thirst: A Lenten Journey with Mother Theresa". You can also order the book on line.

BRIDGE TO LIFE

The St. Vincent dePaul Society is conducting its annual campaign for Bridge to Life.

Bridge to Life gives prospective moms an alternative; Good pre-natal care, safe delivery and medical and economic help for moms and infants.

Please be as generous as possible. Make this your Lenten sacrifice.

WHEN: Ash Wednesday to Good Friday.

HOW: Envelopes marked "*Bridge to Life*" are on the radiators in Church or provide your own, Cash or checks (payable to Bridge to Life) and/or new or gently used infant and toddler clothing or diapers size 2-5.

WHERE: Place envelopes in collection baskets or in the rectory mail slot. Place clothing in the black bin in the church vestibule or at the Convent (66-25 79 Place) on Wednesdays or Saturdays, from 10am to 12Noon.

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!