

# ***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](mailto:stmargaretmv@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.stmargaretmv.com](http://www.stmargaretmv.com)**

**Schedule/Calendar:**  
*parishcalendar@aol.com*



**THIRD SUNDAY  
OF  
LENT  
MARCH 7, 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

<b>SUN.</b> 8:00 10:00 NOON 5:00PM	<b>MARCH 7 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b> Elissa DeBenedictis Davide Colalella/Marco Colalella/ Louis Meyers Edward H. Morrissey & Nellie Tolles
<b>MON.</b> 7:00 9:00	<b>MARCH 8 - ST. JOHN OF GOD</b> Intention of Phyllis Nolan John Ciorcari
<b>TUE.</b> 7:00 9:00 9:30	<b>MARCH 9 - ST. FRANCES OF ROME</b> Michael J. Leone Franz Mussing Stations of the Cross, Italian
<b>WED.</b> 7:00 9:00	<b>MARCH 10 - LENTEN WEEKDAY</b> MaryAnn Salvato (anniv) Arthur Woods
<b>THU.</b> 7:00 9:00	<b>MARCH 11 - LENTEN WEEKDAY</b> Carol Polanish Pat O'Brien (anniv)
<b>FRI.</b> 7:00 9:00 9:30	<b>MARCH 12 - LENTEN WEEKDAY/ ABSTINENCE</b> Ruth O'Hehir (anniv) Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio Stations of the Cross, English
<b>SAT.</b> 9:00 11:45 5:00PM	<b>MARCH 13 - LENTEN WEEKDAY</b> <b>collective:</b> Ed Burke <b>Memorial Mass:</b> Genevieve Cahill, Vivien Hegarty, Marco Colalella, Frances Coyle, Michelina Camporese, Josephine Vaccaro, John A. Cardi, Giovanna Lore
<b>SUN.</b> 8:00 10:00 NOON 5:00PM	<b>MARCH 14 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b> People of the Parish Joseph Russo/Pellegrino & Giuseppa Benfari/Maria & Francesco Virruso/ Angelina Fischetti Megan Garczynski



**THIRD SUNDAY  
OF LENT  
MARCH 7**

## 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](http://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](mailto: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, 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, Fr. William Farrugia, Bernard Russo, Gerard Frohnhoefer, John & Katie Bryzgoria, Eric Velasquez, Joseph Simon, Emma Green, Joan McShea, Mary Policke, Donna Stubbs, Msgr. Robert J. Thelen,

***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:***

***Jean Snowden,***

***May they rest in Christ's Peace!***

## MEMORIALS

### **WINE & HOST THIS WEEK**

*are offered in memory of John Bohan  
at the request of the Irish Night Committee.*

### **TABERNACLE LAMP THIS WEEK**

*is lit in memory of Rose Accardi  
at the request of brother, Ben Armato.*



***SAINT FRANCES  
OF ROME  
MARCH 9***

## TODAY'S READINGS

### *Third Sunday of Lent*

Ex 20:1-17 or  
20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17  
Ps 19:8-11  
1 Cor 1:22-25  
Jn 2:13-25

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab  
Ps 42:2, 3, 43:3, 4  
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43  
Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc, 8, 9  
Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9  
Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20  
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28  
Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9  
Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10  
Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab  
14, 17  
Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6  
Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab  
Lk 18:9-14

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23  
Ps 137:1-6  
Eph 2:4-10  
Jn 3:14-21  
**Scrutiny**  
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a  
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6  
Eph 5:8-14  
Jn 1-41

*From the Pastor's Desk:*

***“WWJD? Really?”***

It used to be (maybe it still is) that a popular thing to do among “hip” or “woke” Christians was/is to wear a bracelet containing the four letters, WWJD, meaning “What Would Jesus Do?” It was/is supposed to be a guide to Christian decision-making in situations that involve moral choices and interpersonal relations. The suggestion is that He would be non-confrontational, kind, gentle, and loving, in short, sort of a go-along-to-get-along kind of guy in denim and sandals.

The scene in today’s Gospel passage in which He overturns the tables of the moneychangers and whips the merchants out of the Temple area should dispel that erroneous illusion. Still, we might ask, “Whatever came over good old Jesus?”

That “whatever” is known as righteous indignation and justified anger. The sight of the misuse of the holiest place in all of Jewish society and religion stirred Him to react in such a violent way. It’s along the lines of the anger that should arise within us when we see something unjust or abusive taking place right in front of us and to which we respond in a way to defend the victim or to right the wrong.

We seem to have lost that fire in the belly to fight for the right, to defend the innocent victim, to stand up for our principles, our faith. We’ve become pathetically passive, more apt to remain comfortably at home or to stand at a safe distance taking pictures with our phones rather than to get involved. Small wonder it is, when we’ve reduced the divine guidelines of life to being mere options and platitudes.

We’ve watered down the Ten Commandments, treating them simply as some suggestions among equally valid philosophies of life, or reducing them to the two basics of loving God and loving neighbor, watering down what it means to love. Yet they have not been repealed or reduced, for to love is not an emotional or romantic response but one that requires all of one’s heart, soul, mind, and strength. The Ten Commandments remain in effect to help us to love properly and fully.

Jesus was upset because true worship of God was supposed to be at the center of Jewish life, and what was supposed to be the focal point of worship for the Chosen People, namely the great Temple in Jerusalem, had been turned into the ancient equivalent of a shopping mall for haggling over religious goods.

Lest we get too smug over the matter, let us remember that the same thing happens to us in a different way. We do it not so much by way of opening stores in churches but rather by replacing the worship that we practice in the temple of our souls with what is not holy. We can get so preoccupied with the passing delights of sinful distractions that we forget that our first calling is to become saints for all eternity. That calling is not just for those whose memory we honor on feast days or by adopting their names at the time of our Baptism or Confirmation. It is the universal and prime vocation of every man, woman, and child. Instead, we replace God and the quest for God with that which neither is God nor leads us to Him.

This holy season of Lent is an opportunity for us to drive out from ourselves whatever it is that prevents us from placing God at the center of our lives and from loving Him and our neighbors as we should. We begin by making a thorough examination of conscience and then a good confession, and then we live in right relationships with God and one another by carrying out His Commandments.

“I have not come to abolish the Law, but to fulfill it,” Jesus told the people. The Ten Commandments are still in effect today to guide us to eternal life. Jesus has taught us how to carry them out properly and completely. Let the temple of your soul be a place of prayer, your heart be a source of compassion, your mind be used to contemplate the holy, and your strength be used in the cause of righteousness.

The time for apathy and passivity is over. God has given you this day for action, to draw close to Him. WWJD? May He give you the grace to hear His Word and to take it to heart in all that you say and think and do!

~ *Fr. Armato*

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The **2021 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign has begun, and we're off to a good start with **\$25,183 already pledged** against **this year's goal of \$76,014**.

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

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.

## 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 April 10.

Come and spend some quality time with the Lord!

## 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:** Now until 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 Pl. on Wednesdays or Saturdays, from 10am to 12noon.

## 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. See listing on page 2 of this bulletin.**

## 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.

## YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Late last year, Pope Francis decreed a “Year of St. Joseph” to run Dec. 8, 2020-21, in honor of the foster father of our Lord.

As part of our celebration the 9:00am Mass on the solemnity of St. Joseph, Friday, March 19, will be celebrated in Italian and English, and Fr. Joseph will present a holy hour at 7:30pm that evening. All are welcome to attend both celebrations.

Also, a devotional statue of St. Joseph has been placed at the front of the church. The candles at either side of it will be lit at all Masses during the rest of the jubilee year and can be donated each week in memory of your particular intention. Contact the rectory for more information.

## 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!

## 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.

**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.

To **register** on FORMED:

- 1) Go to FORMED.org/signup
- 2) Enter our Zip Code, 11379, and select St. Margaret
- 3) Enter your name and email address.

If you **already have a FORMED account**:

- 1) Go to FORMED.org
- 2) Click on “Sign In”
- 3) Enter your email address
- 4) Click the link to your email
- 5) BOOM! You’re in and free to explore to your heart’s delight.

## 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.

## 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.