

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

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ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC ACADEMY

718-326-0922

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

718-326-0922

Victoria LoBosco
Karen Gonzales
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MUSIC MINISTRY

718-326-1911

Don Competello, Director
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LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTERS

Kathryn Burger Hazel Scanlon
Jeanne Perry Sue Karcher
Mary Anne Todzia

GIFT SHOP

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CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICES:

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Schedule/Calendar:

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TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY

IN

ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 12, 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.	SEPTEMBER 12 - TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00	Elissa DeBenedictis
10:00	Giulia Caruana (anni)/Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/Geraldine Ciaccio/Daniele Bussa/Luigi, Michael e Saverio Bosco/ Maria e Francesco Virruso/Domenica e Pietro Martorana/
NOON	People of the Parish
5:00PM	Francesca Bertucci
MON.	SEPTEMBER 13 - ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
7:00	The Darragh Family
9:00	Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio
TUE.	SEPTEMBER 14 - THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
7:00	Steven Dominic Belviso
9:00	Aldo Cermeli
WED.	SEPTEMBER 15 - OUR LADY OF SORROWS
7:00	Deacon Vincent & Dolores DeBiase
9:00	Stanislawa Krzewski
THU.	SEPTEMBER 16 - STS. CORNELIUS AND CYPRIAN
7:00	Angie Ferzola
9:00	Fred Basedow (birth)
FRI.	SEPTEMBER 17 - ST. ROBERT BELLAMINE
7:00	Pat & Joe DiChiaro
9:00	Terry Moloney
SAT.	SEPTEMBER 18 - WEEKDAY
9:00	collective: Ignazio & Giuseppa Pandolfo
5:00PM	Robert Schaefer
SUN.	SEPTEMBER 19 - TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00	George Cacioppo
10:00	Salvatore Palmeri/Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio/Nicolo Mancino/ Salvatore Montalbano/Domenica e Pietro Matorana/
NOON	Edward H. & Ellen T. Morrissey
5:00PM	People of the Parish



THE EXALTATION
OF THE HOLY CROSS
SEPTEMBER 14

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. Please call the rectory for an appointment and to register your child.

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 REHEARSALS ARE SUSPENDED.

BOY SCOUT TROOP #119 MEETINGS ARE SUSPENDED.

CUB PACK #119 MEETINGS ARE SUSPENDED.

SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING will take place on Wednesday, October 6 at 12:00 Noon in the Parish Center.

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 Bryzgornia, Dave Kazmier, John Nogiewich, Tim Rooney, Frank Ciccone, Cindy (Peli) Heege, Charlie Krzewski, Helga Zender, Deacon John and Danny DeBiase, Tom Haubert, John Miller, Cathie Greulich, Carmen Gonzalez, Edward Stoltzenberg, Santos Santiago, William & Patricia Scharach, Bernard Russo, Gerard Frohnhoefer, John & Katie Bryzgornia, Eric Velasquez, Joseph Simon, Emma Green, Mary Policke, Donna Stubbs, Heig Allocca, Joyce Seecheeck, The Valasquez Family, Kathryn Hummel, Caroline Martin, Michelle LaBove, Lee Johnson, Christine Arundel, Jamie Allison, Eileen Hagan, Regina Caridi,

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***

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

MEMORIALS

ALTAR CANDLES THIS WEEK

***are offered in memory of Ignazio and
Giuseppa Pandolfo at the request of
Ben Armato.***



**OUR
LADY
OF
SORROWS
SEPTEMBER 15**

TODAY'S READINGS

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 50:4c-9a
Ps 116:1-6, 8-9
Jas 2:14-18
Mk 8:27-35

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8
Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9
Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: Nm 21:4b
Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38
Phil 2:6-11
Jn 3:13-17

Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16
Ps 111:1-6
Jn 19:25-27 or
Lk 2:33-35

Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16
Ps 111:7-10
Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12
Ps 49:6-10, 17-20
Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16
Ps 100:1b-5
Lk 8:4-15

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20
Ps 54:3-6, 8
Jas 3:16-4:3
Mk 9:30-37

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Faith, Works, and the Cost of Discipleship”

One of the guys in seminary quipped at lunch one day, “I don’t mind being a martyr, as long as it doesn’t hurt.” We weren’t sure whether he meant it or was just joking. I don’t think that anybody asked him then or has done so since, but it does raise an interesting point about our willingness to follow Christ.

Today’s Gospel passage from St. Mark presents a short, original version of the story of St. Peter’s proclamation of Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah, the Christ. (St. Matthew expands on it, with Jesus saying that Peter’s declaration was inspired by the Father and was not simply a matter of human intuition or revelation. See Matthew 16:13-26.) But what was St. Peter saying in calling Jesus “the Christ”?

Jews of that era believed that the Messiah/Christ would be a military leader in the manner of King David, who would rid the people of the occupying Romans and re-establish an independent kingdom for God’s Chosen People. That was not what Jesus or God the Father had in mind, though. Thus Jesus admonished His disciples not to speak of this title in public, lest the people get the wrong idea about Him. Then He spoke plainly about His coming passion, death, and resurrection, all of which made no sense to St. Peter by the standards of human reasoning and expectations, if Jesus really were the long-awaited savior of Israel.

We very well might follow along the line of thought of St. Peter and put our foot in our mouth before also being rebuked by Christ. As the Protestant theologian H. Richard Niebuhr wrote in 1937, we prefer to have “a God without wrath [Who] brought men without sin into a Kingdom without judgment through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross.” I.e., we’d like it done the easy way.

That is not the way of discipleship, though. Discipleship costs. It requires more than following Christ simply with the assent of the mind. St. James doubles down on the idea when he says bluntly in today’s second reading that faith without works is dead and then challenges his community to demonstrate their faith by their actions. That idea got the Letter of St. James relegated out of the Bible for a while by some Reformation theologians like Martin Luther who stuck with the notion of “sola fide”, “faith alone suffices.” Fortunately, the Catholic Church has stood fast with St. James and with Christ.

What is the cost of discipleship, then? Its expression varies depending on our different stations and situations in life, but its essence is the same across the board, and it is expressed in our works of charity as we see the Person of Jesus in those around us and respond with love and compassion. Christ sums it up in today’s Gospel: discipleship requires self-denial and the acceptance of our individual crosses as a participation in His Cross. It requires placing our trust in God, Who has proved the full measure of His love for us through the passion, death, and resurrection of His only-begotten Son, so that we might become His children by adoption and share in the fullness of His own divine life.

As there is no salvation without the Cross of Christ, so, too, there is no valid discipleship without the cost of carrying our own personal crosses. While some people may have an adventurous and evangelical spirit, there is no great need for most of us to rush off looking for crosses to carry; opportunities to serve and to bear witness (this is the very meaning of martyrdom) with our lives surround us and are certain to be encountered in the course of life. We need to remember, however, that we cannot carry our own crosses and triumph in the end except by allowing the grace of God to sustain us and bring us to the promised victory.

Thus, like the Prophet Isaiah in today’s first reading, we must place ourselves in the strong hands of God and say, “The LORD God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; ... I shall not be put to shame; ...who will prove me wrong?”

~ *Fr. Armato*

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We're so close to our goal for the **2021 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign. We've received pledges for **\$75,457** already from **just 160 families** against **this year's goal of \$76,014**. That's **99.3% of goal with only \$557 to go!** Will you help to put us over the top? **Money over goal that is collected by the end of the year will come back to the Parish for our own local needs.**

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. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge this year.** Forms and envelopes are available in church.

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

Please note: NO money received through this campaign is used in the settlement of ANY lawsuits.

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 Saturday, October 2.

Come and spend some quality time with the Lord! Let us pray for our nation.

SAVE THE DATE!

~ **Anniversary Celebration Dinner-dance**, Saturday evening, November 6; buffet dinner, music, raffles and more. We could use help in forming a committee; contact the Rectory to volunteer.



WELCOME BACK WE MISSED YOU!

*Join us on Sunday, September 26
after the 8, 10 and 12 Masses in
the Parish Hall for light
refreshments in thanksgiving
for your return to Mass.*

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

The Food Pantry is in need of mayo, cooking oil, pasta sauce and instant coffee. 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, October 9.

FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS

We just want to let you know that our adult Faith Formation Programs will resume again this year.

Our Fall program will study and reflect on the Seven Sacraments. This program, by Bishop Barron, is educational and very inspiring.

Registration for the program will take place after all the Masses on September 25/26 and October 2/3. You have a choice of three evenings and one morning.

It's been a long year and a half, locked up in the safety of our homes. Now, consider treating yourself to one hour weekly, for six weeks.

Encourage a friend to come along with you!

STORM DAMAGE

We had some minor damage to the lower level of the Parish Center from the heavy rains last week. All was cleaned and sanitized in time for school reopening. Now we're just waiting for the bill.

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!

We depend even more on e-giving for a steady flow of income to meet the steady flow of operating expenses, which do not take a break.

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 **faithdirect.net** and enter our parish code, **NY299**. You can change your decision later on, as you wish.

Thanks to your generosity, a second AC unit for the church and Center was repaired this summer, making both a bit more comfortable. In addition, the interior and foundation wall of the Parish Hall was painted.

SACRAMENTS FOR ADULTS

Are you over 16 years old and still need to receive any of the Sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, First Communion)? If so, please contact Sr. Bridget, 718-326-1911 *after September 23* to enroll in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) formation sessions that will begin this Fall. Reception of the Sacraments will take place in the Spring.

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SMCA NEWS

Classes have resumed with regular length days this week, but a limited number of seats are still available at Saint Margaret Catholic Academy. Contact the Academy Office (718-326-0922) *ASAP* to make an appointment to visit and register your child for the best in Catholic education.

IRREGULAR MARRIAGE?

If you and your spouse were not married in a Mass or ceremony in a Catholic church, you need to have your marriage convalidated in order to participate in the sacramental life of the Church. It is often a simple process, but you should call the Rectory to speak with one of the priests as soon as possible.

CONNECT TO FORMED!

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. Recent presentations include videos on various saints, life lessons, Sacraments, daily Scripture study, sacramental prep and stories and activities for children, and many other topics.

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.

CHURCH OPEN HOURS

We are back to 100% occupancy for use of the church for Mass and other celebrations. The Church will be open for private prayer until 12 Noon on weekdays, from 8:30am to 6pm on Saturdays, and between Masses on Sundays.

Come early, and/or stay afterwards to pray, and bring someone to Mass with you!

Please observe these common sense rules for your safety and that of others:

- ~ Do NOT enter the church, if you are feeling sick.
- ~ While wearing a facemask or covering remains optional ***IF YOU HAVE BEEN VACCINATED***, please consider those around you who still are not vaccinated or who may be on edge. Get a shot or wear a mask.
- ~ Receive Communion in the hand.