

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 Smallwood
Karen Gonzales
Coordinators
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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

Sue Karcher, Coordinator
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CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICES:

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Schedule/Calendar:
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**FIRST SUNDAY
IN
ADVENT
NOVEMBER 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.	NOVEMBER 28 - FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:00	Donna Roemmelt
10:00	Mario Salce/Andrea Alfieri/Giovanni e Gaetana Caruso/
NOON	Fire Lt. Kevin J. & William Pfeifer
5:00PM	People of the Parish
MON.	NOVEMBER 29 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:00	Pasqualina (Lena) Pizzo
9:00	Brian Mulheren
TUE.	NOVEMBER 30 - ST. ANDREW
7:00	Nicholas Peshniak, Sr. (birth)
9:00	Andrew Jenner
WED.	DECEMBER 1 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:00	Thomas Foudy (anni)
9:00	William Nichols
THU.	DECEMBER 2 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:00	Filippa Scarpulla
9:00	Albert DiCenso
FRI.	DECEMBER 3 - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
7:00	Philip Composto
9:00	Fred Basedow (anni)
SAT.	DECEMBER 4 - ST. JOHN DAMASCENE
9:00	collective: Deceased Priests of the Brooklyn and Rockville Centre Dioceses/ Mary Narky/Bill & Lee DiGiovanna/Souls In purgatory/
9:30	Holy Hour
5:00PM	People of the Parish
SUN.	DECEMBER 5 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:00	Concetta & John Aversa
10:00	Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio/Michele LoRe/Frank Armano/
NOON	Martin & Charlotte Wintergerst
5:00PM	Peter Bojceniuk



FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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. **BEFORE YOU MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE CATERING HALL.** 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 meet every Wednesday 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, 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, Carmen Gonzalez, Edward Stoltzenberg, Santos Santiago, William & Patricia Scharach, Bernard Russo, 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, Christine Arundel, Jamie Allison, Eileen Hagan, Regina Caridi, Lenny Masone, Lorraine Colon, James Buchanan, Joseph Guecia, Jacob Zane,

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

Epecially:

***Joseph Caridi, James Thelen,
May they rest in Christ's Peace!***

MEMORIALS

WINE & HOST THIS WEEK

*are offered in memory of Brian Francis Mulheren
at the request of Daniel & Nancy Parente.*

TABERNACLE LAMP THIS WEEK

*is lit in memory of Brian Francis Mulheren
at the request of David Parente.*



**SAINT
ANDREW
NOVEMBER 30**

TODAY'S READINGS

***First Sunday in Advent
Cycle C - Hymnal number 860***

Jer 33:14-16
Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14
1 Thes 3:12-4:2
Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 2:1-5
Ps 122:1-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Rom 10:9-18
Ps 19:8-11
Mt 4:18-22

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Mt 4:18-22

Thursday: Is 26:1-6
Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14
Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26
Ps 147:1-6
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9
Ps 126:1-6
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Lk 3:1-6

From the Pastor's Desk

“Beware! Be Vigilant!”

This weekend we begin a new liturgical year with the holy season of Advent, a time of preparation for the comings of the Lord. One by one, we will light the candles on the Advent wreath in the sanctuary as we count off the four Sundays. As always, we flip Christ's two comings, focusing liturgically first on His coming in glory to judge the living and the dead at the end of time, and, in the second part of the season, preparing to celebrate His first coming over two thousand years ago.

We're pretty good at the second part (which begins long before the official start of Advent in our secular, materialist culture), but we're not too keen about working on the first part of the season. After all, the second part is joyful. It finds us busy with externals: decorating just about anything that doesn't move (and pets and vehicles, too), running around shopping, attending Christmas parties, baking and cooking, and a whole host of other activities that knock us out before Christmas even arrives so that we're almost all too glad to see it come and go.

The first part of Advent, however, requires a lot more internal work on our part. It's a time of spiritual preparation to receive our Lord Jesus Christ at the end of time – not only of all time, but also of our time, for neither of which do we know the day or the hour. This preparation requires the work of a lifetime, not just of a season of the year.

Once again, the Gospel passage presents us with some fearful images of the overturning and upending of the natural world. Perhaps the signs have taken place so frequently over the centuries that they don't disturb as much as they did the people of past ages. (There was absolute panic in England in 1066, when Halley's comet suddenly appeared; that was the year that the Normans conquered England, ending centuries of Anglo-Saxon rule.) Nevertheless, Christ instructs His disciples to “stand erect and lift your heads,” and to recognize that “your redemption is at hand.”

He goes on to tell them/us in the second half of the passage that they/we are to beware not to get complacent or lax in our way of following Him but always to be on the alert, lest we be caught off guard by the ravages of sin. That's good advice, but does that mean that we should spend the rest of our lives quarantined in our homes, Bible and Rosary beads in hand, waiting for Jesus to show up? That would be an irrational waste of the life that we've been given by God.

Rather, our state of preparedness depends upon our faithfulness in carrying out Christ's commandments, living a moral life, trusting in God's love for us, calling upon His mercy and readily extending it to others, and offering our lives to God through humble service to those around us. Our prayerful familiarization with the Word of God along with our proper and dignified celebration and reception of the Sacraments that Christ has given to the Church all support and help us to deepen our relationship with God.

If we do that, we cannot help but be prepared to receive the Lord when He comes, whether at the end of all time or at the end of our time. Perhaps we also would be able to recognize that He already is here among us in His Word and, mostly uniquely, in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood in which He is really, truly, substantially present to us. Then, in the words of the Psalmist, “we shall not fear, though the earth be shaken and the mountains fall into the depths of the sea, though its waters rage and foam and the mountains totter at its surging.”

Perhaps we might sleep a bit more easily and celebrate the Lord's coming a bit more eagerly, were we to take His words to heart: “Beware! Be vigilant!” That's what Advent's all about, Charlie Brown.

~ *Fr. Armato*

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We're **OVER THE TOP** for the **2021 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign with **\$79,450 in pledges** received from **180 families** against **this year's goal of \$76,014**. That's **104.5% of goal**, thanks to your generosity. How much more can we add to the total? **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 and should give something. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge this year.** Forms and envelopes are still available on the radiators 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 this Saturday, December 4.

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



The St. Vincent dePaul Society will be sponsoring its Annual Christmas **"GIVING TREE"**. We appreciate your donation of a children's toy or game and/or a clothing item for a child ages infant to 12 years.

WHEN: Through December 8.

WHERE: The black bin in the vestibule of the church or to St. Margaret convent, (66-25 79th Pl.) on Wednesday or Saturday, 10am until 12 Noon.

QUESTIONS: Call Terry, 718-326-0188.

Thank you for your generosity and may you have a blessed Christmas!

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 Holiday foods. Ground coffee (no decaf), stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, instant mashed potatoes, jams, gravy and canned fruit. 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, December 11.

WELCOME BACK GIFT SHOP!

The Gift Shop will be open every **Sunday, from 9am until 1pm**. We have a selection of religious goods: Rosaries - Medals - Crucifixes

Statues - Bibles and a wide selection of

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The shop is located in the rectory. Please use the red side door in the parking lot.

If the door is closed, please knock.

Contact us:
StMargGiftShop@yahoo.com



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!

The price of everything has increased, especially over the last year. The prices of a dozen eggs, a quart of milk, a loaf of bread, a gallon of gasoline, your utilities, etc., all are up. What's true for your household is also true for YOUR Parish.

A donation of just \$2 or \$3 a week doesn't go as far as it did thirty years ago. A week of the Daily News costs over \$21; a pack of cigarettes costs about \$14. What does a latte cost? If you can afford these, can you give as much to the Church every week?

Please prayerfully consider your current level of stewardship and commit to increasing your on-going support.

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.



LESSONS & CAROLS

You are cordially invited to attend Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 12, at 3:00pm in the church.

This year's offering will be dedicated to the anniversaries of the Clergy and Religious of our parish. We welcome you back to church and are grateful for your support of our music ministry.

Please join the choir and the children of St. Margaret Catholic Academy for a Prayerful and spiritual afternoon.

PARISH LIFE

Life and mission in the Parish are strong: the **Senior Citizens** have resumed meeting, the **CYO** is up and running again, **adult study groups** are gathering each week, **altar servers** are back, our **Adult Choir** is growing and rehearsing for *Lessons and Carols*, the **Maggie's Little Theatre** troupe is working on a show for February, the **St. Vincent dePaul Society** is busy caring for our neighbors who are in need, and our **Gift Shop** is reopening for business with items for Advent and Christmas.

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 St. Joseph, "The Search", daily reflections, prayer, marriage, Scripture study, programs in Spanish and Polish as well as English, teaching toddlers numbers and the alphabet, saints and heroes 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.
- ~ Church teaching does NOT prohibit vaccinations; they are encouraged.
- ~ While wearing a facemask or covering remains optional **IF YOU HAVE BEEN VACCINATED**, but please consider those around you, especially the unvaccinated.

~ Receive Communion in the hand.