

# ***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 Smallwood**  
**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*



**FOURTH SUNDAY**  
**IN**  
**ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 19, 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>	<b>DECEMBER 19 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT</b>
8:00	Julius Averna
10:00	Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Anna Lattanzio/ Giuseppa Morreale/Salvatore Montalbano/ Domenica & Pietro Martorana/Maria & Francesco VIRRUSO/Pelegrino & Giuseppa Benfari/Constance & Harold Wilken/Neil Greer/ Caterina Diramondo/
NOON	Fire Lt. Kevin J. & William Pfeifer
5:00PM	Daniel Fitzgerald
<b>MON.</b>	<b>DECEMBER 20 - ADVENT WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Marion Farrenkopf
9:00	Marion Farrenkopf
<b>TUE.</b>	<b>DECEMBER 21 - ST. PETER CANISIUS</b>
7:00	Agatha & Louis Palumbo
9:00	Marie Sparacio
<b>WED.</b>	<b>DECEMBER 22 - ADVENT WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Anna & Guido Carosi
9:00	Konstantinos Ouranitsas
<b>THU.</b>	<b>DECEMBER 23 - ST. JOHN OF KANTY</b>
7:00	Karl Sippenauer (anniv)
9:00	John Reissig
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE</b>
9:00	Eileen & Arthur Connolly
5:00PM	Robert & Karen Schaefer/Carl Dokter/ Louise Moeller
11:30	<b>Sacred Music Program</b>
Midnight	People of the Parish
<b>SAT.</b>	<b>DECEMBER 25 - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>
8:00	Rosaleen, Tom, Catherine & Michael Reilly
10:00	Maria Bachman/Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/Geraldine Ciaccio/Salvatore Palmeri/ Calogero & Maria Ciaccio/Anna & Wilhelm Nick Stalzer Family/Piro Zangrilli/ <b>NO EVENING MASS</b>
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>DECEMBER 26 - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH</b>
8:00	Anna Roemmelt
10:00	Andrea & Adriana Sciulara/Daniele Bussa/ Rosario, Rosaria & Nunzio Taormina/Luigi Bonello/Marco Colalella/
NOON	People of the Parish
5:00PM	Benny Moccio

**THE RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED  
ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24  
MASSES ARE 9:00AM,  
5:00PM VIGIL & MIDNIGHT  
WE WISH YOU  
A BLESSED CHRISTMAS**

## **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](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 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 Marchindiondo, 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 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, Carmen Gonzalez, Edward Stoltzenberg, Santos Santiago, William & Patricia Scharach, Bernard Russo, John & Katie Bryzgoria, 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, Joan Grippo,

***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

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

*are offered in memory of Louis & Joan Meyers  
at the request of Grandchildren.*

### **ALTAR CANDLES THIS WEEK**

*are offered in memory of Gaetano Morreale  
at the request of Grandchildren.*

### **TABERNACLE LAMP THIS WEEK**

*is lit in memory of Maria Bachman  
at the request of uncle Ben Armato.*



## TODAY'S READINGS

***Fourth Sunday in Advent  
Cycle C - Hymnal number 869***

Mi5:1-4a  
Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19  
Heb 10:5-10  
Lk 1:39-45

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 7:10-14  
Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6  
Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a  
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21  
Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28  
1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd  
Lk 1:46-56

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24  
Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, 14  
Lk 1:57-66

Friday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29  
Lk 1:67-79  
**Vigil:** Is 62:1-5  
Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27,29  
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25  
Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Is 52:7-10  
Ps 98:1, 2-6  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or  
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28  
Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3,  
5-6, 9-10  
Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24  
Lk 2:41-52

## *From the Pastor's Desk:*

### *“Blessed Are You”*

We have come nearly to the end of our Advent journey. Today's readings speak to us of the coming of the long-awaited Messiah, the answer to the ancient promises and prophecies. The events described take place not in any splendid palace in the midst of a great city but in otherwise insignificant towns that barely would be accounted as specks on the map. The main characters in the drama are not drawn from the elites of their time but from the “anawim”, the poor and lowly ones who frequent the stories throughout the Gospel according to St. Luke, rough and humble folk living simple, ordinary lives. That might seem strange to us who are overly concerned with social standing, power, popularity, and notoriety today.

How strange our celebration would seem, though, to those very same characters of two thousand years ago, with our focus on the glitzy decorations, expensive gifts, and lavish meals shown to us repeatedly on TV. Yes, we have reason to celebrate, but what are we celebrating if not the birth of the great and glorious One, the very Son of God, Who humbled Himself to become like us in all things but sin?

How have we spent these last weeks of Advent preparation? Chances are that we're cramming in our last-minute shopping and food preparations in between premature Christmas parties. Just as a change is warranted during the season of Lent, however, if we are no better off spiritually on Christmas Day than the way that we were on November 27, we've missed the point of Advent and misused the precious time that we've been given for drawing closer to the Lord and preparing a way for Him into our lives, our hearts, our souls.

Understandably, this will be a hectic week for all of us, whether preparing our homes or preparing the church for the holy days. Let's set aside a little time, though, to prepare ourselves spiritually, beginning with going to confession. The last opportunities will take place this Monday from 7:30 to 9:00 in the morning, 3:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon, and finally from 7:00 to 8:00 in the evening. Other parishes throughout NYC will have other times in the course of the day, so as to present a range of timeslots for your convenience. Take good advantage of them.

For spiritual reading, pick up the Bible and read the first two chapters of the Gospels according to St. Matthew and St. Luke that tell us of the conception and birth of the Christ. Or, use the readings guide that is presented each week in the Mass Bells to help you prepare for the daily and Sunday Masses.

In prayer, pray and meditate on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. As you set up your Nativity scene, place yourself in the position of the various characters represented by the statues; imagine what it might have been like and pray over what you experience.

As you conclude your gift-wrapping and food preparations, remember the needs of those who are less fortunate. While it's too late to contribute to the food, clothing, and toy drives that we did earlier this month, there's always a monetary donation to the St. Vincent de Paul Society or the charities of your choice to share the blessings that you've been given. (Please don't forget your Parish!)

Finally, come to Mass for each of the feast days as well as on every Sunday to have a personal, living encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ, Who comes to us in Word and in Sacrament. That's the purpose of Christianity.

St. John the Baptist leaped in the womb of his mother, St. Elizabeth, at the approach of the Christ, Who rested in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We also can leap spiritually with joy at the arrival of the same Christ Who comes to dwell in each one of us and enables us to share in His glory because of our humble welcome and state of preparedness.

Blessed are you who believe that what has been spoken to you will be fulfilled!

~ *Fr. Armato*

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We went **OVER THE TOP** for the **2021 Annual Catholic Appeal** campaign with **\$79,565 in pledges** received from **181 families** against **this year's goal of \$76,014**. That's **104.7% of goal**. **Thanks to all who supported this year's Campaign!**

**Please pay your pledges by Christmas, if you have not done so already.**

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, except this January.

**The next holy hour is Saturday, January 8.**

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

## PARISH LIFE

Life and mission in the Parish are returning to pre-Covid normal as Mass, meetings, athletics, prayer meetings, outreach, etc., all are resuming.

**Get involved in the life of YOUR Parish!**

## MARY'S GARDEN

Work has been done to spruce up the garden areas in front of the Parish Hall as a place for prayer to our Blessed Mother. We've also cleaned up the property alongside the Parish Center, allowing more air and light into the classrooms and also providing areas for seasonal planting.

Some money has been donated already, but more donations are needed. Memorials can be made for \$250 for each intention and will be posted on a commemorative board in the church vestibule. Please contact the Rectory to arrange for your intention.

## 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, January 15.**

## 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 as we enter into a new phase of the pandemic:**

- ~ Do NOT enter the church, if you are feeling sick.
- ~ Church teaching does NOT prohibit vaccinations; they are encouraged.
- ~ Wearing a facemask or covering is recommended (and may become mandated), **EVEN IF YOU HAVE BEEN VACCINATED**. In your charity, consider those around you.
- ~ Receive Communion in the hand.

## 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 Advent and Christmas, Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Immaculate Conception of the BVN, daily reflections, Parish revival, men's and women's interests, teaching toddlers, saints and heroes for children and many other interesting 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.

## 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!

*Please prayerfully consider your current level of stewardship and commit to increasing your on-going support as your means will allow.*

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.

## OPEN MEETING

Our Deanery parishes will hold a Mass and open meeting with Bishop Brennan at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs beginning at 7:30pm on Friday, January 7. We will discuss the upcoming *Synod on Synodality* and present the results of the parishes' input sessions. All are welcome. More information will follow next week.



## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

2021

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 18

3:00 to 4:30pm

Monday, December 20

7:30 to 9:00am/ 3:00 to 5:00pm/ 7:00 to 8:00pm

### SOLEMNITY OF THE LORD'S NATIVITY CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Friday, December 24

5:00pm/ 11:30pm Sacred Music Program/ Midnight

### CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Saturday, December 25

8:00am, 10:00am (Bilingual - (It/Eng.)), 12 Noon

### NO EVENING MASS

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD

*(not a holy day of obligation)*

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

Friday, December 31

Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

Saturday, January 1, 2022

10am (Bilingual - (It/Eng.)), 12 Noon

### NO EVENING MASS

## ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC ACADEMY



Help us raise funds for our organization by donating your gently worn, used and new shoes! A box will be placed outside the Parish Hall on the steps, from **8:00 until 11:45am, weekdays**.

Please place gently used or new shoes only, rubber banded together in the box.

Collected shoes are used to support micro-enterprises, who are small businesses in developing nations. Share this wonderful fundraiser with family and friends.

For any questions **haasmca@gmail.com**