

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

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ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC ACADEMY

718-326-0922

Sharon Swift, Principal

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

718-326-0922

Karen Gonzales

Coordinator

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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

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CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICES:

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SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:

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FOURTH

SUNDAY

IN

ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 2022

THE GREAT COMMISSION

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age!”

~ Matthew 28: 19-20

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SUN.	~	DECEMBER 18 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:00		Mildred & John Petschauer
10:00		Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Rosario, Rosaria e Nunzio Taormina/Daniele Bussa/James Bohan (anniv)/Francesco, Maria, e Mimma Virruso/Pellegrino e Giuseppa Benfari/Francesco DeCapite/ Rebecca and Aloysius David/Intention of Josephine Troia
NOON		Peter Bojcenjuk
5:00PM		Anna & Julius Averna
MON.	~	DECEMBER 19 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:00		Joseph Tucci
9:00		Pete & Rose LoMurno
TUE.	~	DECEMBER 20 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:00		Agatha & Louis Palumbo
9:00		Daniel Fitzgerald
WED.	~	DECEMBER 21 - ST. PETER CANISIUS
7:00		Marie Sparacio
9:00		Frank Shaklo
THU.	~	DECEMBER 22 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:00		John Reissig
9:00		Michele Zocchi
FRI.	~	DECEMBER 23 - ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:00		Karl Sippenauer (anniv)
9:00		John Hegener
SAT.	~	DECEMBER 24 - ADVENT WEEKDAY CHRISTMAS EVE
9:00		Collective: Tom, Rosaleen, Catherine and Michael Reilly
1:00PM	**	Confession - until 3:00pm
5:00PM		Carl Dokter, Karen & Robert Schaefer, Louise Moeller
11:30PM		Choral Prelude
MIDNIGHT		People of the Parish
SUN.	~	DECEMBER 25 - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD / CHRISTMAS DAY
8:00		Ethel Mieszkowski
10:00		Calogero e Maria Ciaccio/Filippo, Leonardo, e Maria Curatolo/Geraldine Ciaccio/Salvatore Palmeri/Dawn Cruz/ Maria Bachman
NOON		People of the Parish NO 5:00PM MASS

** Time for Christmas Eve only



**FOURTH
SUNDAY
IN
ADVENT
DECEMBER 18**

PARISH INFORMATION

Rectory Office Hours

**Monday - Friday - 9am to Noon
and 1pm to 5pm**

Saturday - 9am to 2pm

Other times by appointment only.

Sunday - closed

CONFESSIONS - Saturday, 4:00-4:45 PM.

NOVENA to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Mondays after the 9 AM Mass.

THE ROSARY AND DIVINE MERCY
devotion are prayed every morning in the church
at 8:30 AM.

BAPTISMS take place on the 1st and 3rd Sunday
of each month, at 1:30 PM. Please call the rectory
for an appointment and to register your child.

WEDDINGS MUST be scheduled at least six (6)
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.

ENGLISH CHOIR rehearses on Wednesdays at
7 PM in the Church. Tenors and baritones needed!

THE YOUTH CHOIR rehearses on Wednesdays
at 3pm in the Church.

SENIOR CITIZENS meetings are held every
Wednesday at 11:30am, in the Parish Center.

**ALTAR SERVER ASSIGNMENTS HAVE
RESUMED. SEE SCHEDULE.**

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.*

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, Allen McConville, Jack Marchindiondo, The Scaturro Family, Louis Pittelli, James Graff, The Mojica Family, Matthew Zender, Anthony Pittelli, Charlie Krzewski, Helga Zender, Deacon John DeBiase, Tom Haubert, John Miller, Cathie Greulich, Santos Santiago, William & Patricia Scharach, Bernard Russo, John & Katie Bryzgoria, Eric Velasquez, Joseph Simon, Emma Green, Mary Policke, The Valasquez Family, Caroline Martin, Michelle LaBove, Christine Arundel, Jamie Allison, Eileen Hagan, Regina Caridi, Lenny Masone, Lorraine Colon, James Buchanan, Joseph Guecia, Jacob Zane, Joan Grippo, Hazel Scanlon, Ray and Pam Sadler, Pauline Vella, Dennis Roberts, Louisa Diviney, Daniel Wilson, Marie Breslin, Robert Sukup, Sam Cianciolo, Maria Fava, Jeremiah Harris, Cathy Wilkenson, Maria Cermeli, Frank Marlow, Stephen Crane, Sara Alvarado, Denis Mets, Samantha Cianciolo, Maria Colalella, Vicki Lydecker, Vito Dugandzic, Lisa Lanzetta, Maria Barretta, Paula Kammer, Carol Hensley, Joan Hanahoe, Grace Sorrentino, Bob Bicknese, Jerry Feldman, Kathleen Mercado, Janice McManus-Genevrino, Rita Heilman,

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:

*Rev. Nicholas M. Colalella
Paul Zwolak*

Pray for first responders and medical personnel.

Pray for the men from our Parish who are serving in
the defense of our country:

*Lt. Col. Thomas Frohnhoefer
Sgt. Robert A. Domenici
Pfc. Alexander Gockley*

Pray for peace in Eastern Europe.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be



WE RECALL OUR BELOVED DECEASED

especially this week:

GIUSEPPE SCLAFANI, JULIE EBERT,

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and may perpetual light shine upon them!
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through Thy mercy,
rest in peace! Amen!*

MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

WINE & HOSTS

*are offered in memory of Peter Bojceniuk
at the request of Helen Bojceniuk.*

ALTAR CANDLES

*are offered in memory of Peter Bojceniuk
at the request of Helen Bojceniuk.*

TABERNACLE LAMP

*is lit in memory of Peter Bojceniuk
at the request of Helen Bojceniuk.*

TODAY'S READINGS

***Fourth Sunday in Advent
Cycle A - Hymnal # 867***

Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 24:1-6
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-24

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Judges 13:2-25
Psalm 71:3-17
Luke 1:5-25

Tuesday: Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm 24:1-6
Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14
Psalm 33:2-21
Luke 1:39-45

Thursday: I Samuel 1:24-28
I Samuel 2:1-8
Luke 1:46-56

Friday: Malachi 3:1-24
Psalm 25:4-14
Luke 1:57-66

Saturday:
(morning) II Samuel 7:1-16
Psalm 89:2-29
Luke 1:67-79

Sunday: Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98:1-6
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

*"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ"
~ St. Jerome*

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Actions Speak More Loudly Than Words”

As we come to the end of our Advent journey, our eyes turn at last to the first coming of Christ, with just one more week to go until we celebrate His birth. Today we read about the miraculous conception of our Savior from the Infancy Narrative according to St. Matthew, as it is presented from the perspective of St. Joseph.

We pick up the story immediately after a long genealogy of St. Joseph's ancestors (which we will hear on Christmas Eve), given to us as a reminder that the Messiah would come as God's fulfillment of the ancient promises made to Abraham and down the generations to David and on to Joseph. The genealogy ends with a sharp turn, however, insofar as Jesus is not Joseph's biological son. Instead, He is to be born of the Virgin Mary (in fulfillment of today's first reading from Isaiah), but He is incarnate by the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph's humble acceptance of the Child gives Him legitimacy as a legal descendant of David.

While we have a handful of sentences spoken by Mary in the Gospels, we do not have a single word attributable to St. Joseph. Instead, his actions speak more profoundly than even the most eloquent of discourses could. Joseph is described as being a “righteous man”, i.e., one who lived in right relationship with God. No scholar of the Law and the Prophets, but a simple laborer, nevertheless, Joseph was attuned to hearing the word of God and willing to carry it out faithfully, trusting in Divine Providence. He is truly a man of trust: one who trusts in God and one in whom God could trust.

We could wonder how we might react to the situation in which Joseph found himself. Would we respond with trusting obedience? Would we go out of our way in order to avoid any semblance of scandal, no less the serious repercussions (her being stoned to death) of Mary's mysterious and unexpected pregnancy?

So often we are confronted with mysterious twists and turns and serious decisions to be made and options from which to choose. What if we were to do this instead of that? What if we were to choose B instead of A, or just avoid the whole matter entirely? Our life situations are not as dramatic as Joseph's, and they certainly are not as impactful vis-à-vis the redemption of the entire world, but they are important to us and the people around us who are affected by them and they do impact on our salvation. We need to take such matters seriously to prayer and to ask God's assistance in choosing what is right and in accord with His will for our good and our salvation. Then, like Joseph, we need to act.

Christmas is a time when we easily can get lost in nostalgia and in the incidentals of celebrating one more holiday among many in the course of the long year. It should be, however, the occasion for us to realize that what we are celebrating is indeed the presence of Emanuel, “God with us”, the God Who keeps His promises from generation to generation, Who searches us out and lovingly claims us as His own, Who speaks to us in the silence of our hearts and guides us in the ways of righteousness, holiness, and truth, and Who comes to us no longer as a Babe in a manger but in His Church and in His Word and in His Sacraments, especially in the Most Holy Eucharist of His Body and Blood.

This is true cause for celebration and rejoicing not simply one day each year but each day of our lives. Of course, it requires us to put our lives in proper order, to be in right relationship with God, to reflect prayerfully upon the teachings of the Prophets, of Christ, and of the Church, and to act boldly in carrying them out. Then, like St. Joseph, our actions will speak more loudly than our words and we will rest in the peace that the world cannot give.

~ *Fr. Armato*

BOILER PROJECT UPDATE

The heat finally is on in the main building, and the *second* new boiler has been installed and should be up and running soon.

The cost of the project is estimated at over \$480,000. We have received a **loan** from the Diocese of \$350,000, which must be repaid over the next few years. Other money will come from our *Generations of Faith* account and dwindling Parish reserves, but a capital campaign will be needed. More information on this will follow shortly.

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 10:30 am on the first Saturday of each month.

The next holy hour is Saturday, January 7.

Come and spend some quality time with the Lord!



PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

Continue to pray the Rosary for peace in Ukraine. May our Lady of Vladimir, Queen of Peace intercede for her children!

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL '22

Thanks to all who have pledged toward this year's ACA campaign! We're at **\$72,693, 95.6% of the way toward our goal of \$76,014 with just \$3,331 to go!** A fair-share donation is just \$150 from each family, but, as always, whatever your means allow is most appreciated. Pledges can be paid out in lump sum or installments until the end of the year.

Envelopes are available on the radiators for you to make a pledge. You also can *pledge on-line at:*
annualcatholicappeal.org

REMEMBER YOUR PARISH!

Please remember St. Margaret's in your will. It's a simple but important way to say "Thank you" for the years that the Parish has been here to serve your spiritual, social, and physical needs.

THE ST. VINCENT dePAUL FOOD PANTRY



is located in the Convent
66-25 79th Place and is open

**WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY
from 10:00am to 12:00Noon**

Most needed are supermarket gift cards or certificates which **we will use** to buy fresh fruits, eggs, cheese, butter and bread. You can place cards and certificates in the rectory office mail slot.

Again, we thank you for your continued support!

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE PERISHABLE ITEMS IN
THE BIN IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH!**

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 on
Saturday, January 14.**

CHURCH OPEN HOURS

The church will be open for private prayer: Monday-Friday, 6:30am to 12:00 Noon; Saturday, 8:30am to 6:00pm; Sunday, 7:30am to 6:00pm. Come and spend some quality time with the Lord before or after Mass or during the day.

Please use common sense for your safety and that of others.

CONFESSIONS

Take advantage of the special times for confession **this Monday, December 19**, whether here at St. Margaret or at any of the 680 other parishes in the dioceses of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre or the Archdiocese of New York.

No excuses!

See the various special times for confession here as listed on page 6 of this bulletin.

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; two seasons of "The Chosen" series with a Catholic Commentary; mental health issues; videos for holiday activities for children; and many more 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.



ST. MARGARET GIFT SHOP

open Sunday, 9am until 1pm

We have a selection of religious goods:
Rosaries - Medals - Gifts - Crucifixes -
Statues - Bibles - Books

AND MORE!

If we don't have it, we'll try to get it for you.

The Gift Shop is located in the rectory.

Please use the red side door in the parking lot.

If the door is closed, please knock.

Contact: stmmvcalendar@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

2022

CONFESSIONS

Monday, December 19

7:30 to 9am - 3 to 5pm - 7 to 8pm

Saturday, December 24

1 to 3pm (Note special time!)



SOLEMNITY: THE LORD'S NATIVITY

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Saturday, December 24

5pm and Midnight

Choral prelude 11:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Sunday, December 25

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

NO EVENING MASS

SOLEMNITY:

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Saturday Vigil Mass at 5pm

Sunday, January 1, 2023

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

NO EVENING MASS

BLESSING THE CHRIST CHILD

We invite you to bring your nativity scene statue of the Christ Child to be blessed at any of the Christmas Masses.

A TIME OF

GREAT ANTICIPATION . . .

As we await the birth of the blessed Babe,
let us silently hum the alleluias that
will soon be shouted out loudly again.

Envision the shepherds tending to their
flocks in the fields, as of yet, unaware
of the great miracle soon to come.