

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

Sharon Swift, Principal

principal@stmargaretschoolmv.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

718-326-0922

Karen Gonzales

Coordinator

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

stmmvcalendar@gmail.com

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICES:

Mary Pascale, Receptionist

Phone: 718-326-1911

Fax: 718-326-1883

E-mail: *stmargaretmv@gmail.com*

Website: *www.stmargaretmv.com*

SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:

stmmvcalendar@gmail.com



**THE
NATIVITY
OF THE
LORD
DECEMBER 25, 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 25 - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD/ CHRISTMAS DAY
8:00		Ethel Mieszkowski
10:00		Calogero e Maria Ciaccio/Maria Bachman/Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/Geraldine Ciaccio/Salvatore Palmeri/Katarzyna Szczubelek Esposito/ Dawn Cruz
NOON		People of the Parish <u>NO 5:00PM MASS</u>
MON.	~	DECEMBER 26 - ST. STEPHEN
7:00		Dan Brusstar
9:00		Joanne Paternostro <u>RECTORY OFFICES ARE CLOSED</u>
TUE.	~	DECEMBER 27 - ST. JOHN
7:00		Philomina Karcher (anniv)
9:00		Frank Parente
WED.	~	DECEMBER 28 - THE HOLY INNOCENTS
7:00		Carol McDonald (birth)
9:00		John Piro
THU.	~	DECEMBER 29 - ST. THOMAS BECKET
7:00		Ferdinand Troje
9:00		Tom Cordero (birth)
FRI.	~	DECEMBER 30 - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
7:00		Thomas Salvato (anniv)
9:00		John & Theresa Rice
SAT.	~	DECEMBER 31 - ST. SYLVESTER NEW YEAR'S EVE
9:00		Collective: Thomas Salvato (anniv)/ Joe Miller (birth)
5:00PM		Cermeli, Santora & Gardini Families
SUN.	~	JANUARY 1, 2023 - SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD/ NEW YEAR' DAY
8:00		Mary Hawd
10:00		Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Marcellino Troia/ Enrico Franzese/Mary O'Connor (anni)/ Anna Governale
NOON		Anita Competello <u>NO 5:00PM MASS</u>



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD DECEMBER 25

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 will resume on January 4, 2023.

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, Anthony Pittelli, Charlie Krzewski, Deacon John DeBiase, Tom Haubert, John Miller, Cathie Greulich, Santos Santiago, William & Patricia Scharach, Bernard Russo, John & Katie Bryzgormia, Eric Velasquez, Joseph Simon, Emma Green, Mary Policke, The Valasquez Family, Caroline Martin, Michelle LaBove, Jamie Allison, Eileen Hagan, Regina Caridi, Lenny Masone, Lorraine Colon, James Buchanan, Joseph Guecia, Jacob Zane, Joan Grippo, Hazel Scanlon, Ray and Pam Sadler, Carmen Ciulla, 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:

DOMENICK FRISCIONI, ROBERT A. SAAR

*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 John Pirc
at the request of Frank & Florence Cerar.*

ALTAR CANDLES

are offered in memory of Anna & Guido Carosi.

TABERNACLE LAMP

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

TODAY'S READINGS

*The Nativity of the Lord
Cycle A - Hymnal # 873*

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98:1-6

Hebrews 1:1-6

John 1:1-18

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59

Psalm 31:3-17

Matthew 10:17-22

Tuesday: I John 1:1-4

Psalm 97:1-12

John 20:1-8

Wednesday: I John 1:5-2:2

Psalm 124:2-8

Matthew 2:13-18

Thursday: I John 2:3-11

Psalm 96:1-6

Luke 2:22-35

Friday: Sirach 3:2-14

Psalm 128:1-5

Matthew 2:13-23

Saturday: I John 2:18-21

Psalm 96:1-13

John 1:1-18

Sunday: Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 67:2-8

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Unto Us a Child Is Given”

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first census, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And so, all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph, too, went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the House and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And it happened while they were there that the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her first-born Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region, living in the fields and keeping watch over their flocks by night. And the Angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the Glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were struck with great fear. And the Angel said unto them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy that shall be for all the people; for today in the city of David is born for you a Savior, Who is Christ, the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the Heavenly Host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace to those upon whom His favor rests!”

~ *Luke 2: 1-18*

+ + +

The custom among most American Christians on this holy day is to exchange gifts, hoping that the recipient will appreciate what we give and that we will be equally pleased with what we receive. That doesn't always work out well, though: the color or the size or the very item itself sometimes is wrong or not exactly (if even remotely) what was wanted.

How different the situation should be with the great Gift that has been given to us by our Heavenly Father: the Gift of our redemption, forgiveness, and eternal life granted through Jesus Christ, His only-begotten Son, the eternal Word of God made flesh and born of the Virgin, true God and true man!

This is a Gift that fits all, for we all are sinners in need of God's love and mercy. It also is a Gift far beyond our wants or wildest imaginings, for who could presume to ask for such a Gift, were it not given freely and willingly through the initiative of God? Truly, it is the Gift beyond all telling, the Gift that keeps on giving.

What can we offer in return? God tells us: act with justice, love goodness, and walk humbly with your God (see Micah 6:8). Our entire life should be the gift that we offer to Him in thanksgiving for His goodness to us, not just once a year or once in a while, but every day. Since we cannot accomplish this on our own, God even gives us the means of His grace to do so.

Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given. He is the great Gift of the Father, our redemption, our joy, and our lasting peace. Come, let us follow the example of the shepherds and angels in adoring Him, but also let us follow Him faithfully each day of our lives!

May the blessing of the Christ Child fill you and yours with joy and hope this Christmas!

~ *Fr. Armato*

BOILER PROJECT UPDATE

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

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 **\$72,767, 95.7% of the way toward our goal of \$76,014 with just \$3,246 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.

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

There is an **URGENT NEED** for blood donations and the New York Blood Center is asking, again for our help.

St. Margaret parish will sponsor a Blood Drive on **Sunday, January 15, 2023 from 9:00am until 3:00pm in the Parish Hall.** Please remember to eat and drink before you come and to bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, it is requested that you schedule an appointment by calling **888-933-2566.** Appointments are preferred; however, walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits.

Bring a mask; requirements may change depending on CDC guidelines.

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: Christmas recipes and programs; two seasons of "The Chosen" series with a Catholic Commentary; 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 - 2023

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 Masses this week through January 8.

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you for your generosity in the several collections for the Parish and outside agencies. We'll report on the amounts shortly.

Please prayerfully consider your current level of stewardship in the next few weeks in order to commit to increasing your offerings, as your means will allow.

On-line giving helps to keep your donations current when you are away from the Parish. 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 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!