

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

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



**SIXTH SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 12, 2023**

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.	~	FEBRUARY 12 - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00		James Mancuso
10:00		Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo Geraldine Ciaccio/Antonina DiFilippi/
NOON		People of the Parish
5:00PM		Charles Frick
MON.	~	FEBRUARY 13 - WEEKDAY
7:00		Louis Gonzalez
9:00		Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo
TUE.	~	FEBRUARY 14 - STS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS
7:00		Lucille Conte
9:00		John Bohan (birth)
WED.	~	FEBRUARY 15 - WEEKDAY
7:00		Debbie Lovett
9:00		Pirtz & McDevitt Families
THU.	~	FEBRUARY 16 - WEEKDAY
7:00		Otto Reissig
9:00		Joseph O'Connor (anniv)
FRI.	~	FEBRUARY 17 - THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS OF THE SERVITE ORDER
7:00		Anna & Guido Carosi
9:00		Stanley Andrzejewski
SAT.	~	FEBRUARY 18 - WEEKDAY
9:00		Collective: Samantha Barahona/
5:00PM		John & Anna Rice
SUN.	~	FEBRUARY 19 - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00		Elissa DeBenedictis
10:00		Daniele Bussa
NOON		Nancy Gardini
5:00PM		People of the Parish



**SAINTS
CYRIL
AND
METHODIUS
FEBRUARY 14**

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, Lee Falk, Justin James Quirke, Allen McConville, The Scaturro Family, James Graff, The Mojica Family, Charlie Krzewski, William & Patricia Scharach, 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, 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, Katie Bryzgoria, Tabitha Hayden, Cecilia Ann Feliciano, Donna & Bo Stubbs, Sharie & Carol Ann Slusser, Darlene Lanza,

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:

ARTHUR D. BEAUMONT

SR. ELLEN PATRICE HOPKINS, O.P.

*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

TABERNACLE LAMP

is lit in memory of Anna & Guido Carosi.



And above all these
put on love, which
binds everything together
in perfect harmony

Colossians 3:14

TODAY'S READINGS

***Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Cycle A - Hymnal # 943***

Sirach 15:15-20
Psalm 119:1-34
I Corinthians 2:6-10
Matthew 5:17-37

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Genesis 4:1-25
Psalm 50:1-21
Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday: Genesis 6:5-10
Psalm 29:1-10
Mark 8:41-21

Wednesday: Genesis 8:6-22
Psalm 116:12-19
Mark 8:22-26

Thursday: Genesis 9:1-13
Psalm 102:16-123
Mark 8:27-33

Friday: Genesis 11:1-9
Psalm 33:10-15
Mark 8:34 - 9:1

Saturday: Hebrews 11:1-7
Psalm 145:2-11
Mark 9:2-13

Sunday: Leviticus 19:1-18
Psalm 103:1-13
I Corinthians 3:16-23
Matthew 5:38-48

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“A Matter of Life or Death”

Daily life, for most people, is full of choices and decision-making: what to wear, what and when to eat, how to respond to a particular situation, etc. The range and importance are vast and seemingly endless, from the mundane to the eternal. Today's readings speak of choices that are of the utmost importance insofar as they affect our life here and now as well as for all eternity.

The first reading, taken from the Book of Sirach, reminds us that we are not puppets on a string but that God has given human beings not only the freedom to choose but also the use of His own immense wisdom to choose correctly so that we can do what is good and right and come to the fullness of life; to choose otherwise would be an abuse of that freedom, leading only to licentiousness and ultimate, eternal death.

A scene towards the end of the movie “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade” comes to my mind: The main characters have come to the cave of an aged crusader knight who guards the Holy Grail, the chalice used by Christ at the Last Supper. Whoever would drink from it would have eternal life. The problem is that there are dozens of different chalices from which to choose. The bad guy, greedy for power and wealth and blinded by his erroneous imagination about the Grail, chose an ornate, golden chalice, encrusted with precious gems. No sooner had he drunk from it than he aged horribly at a tremendously rapid pace and – POOF! Gone! The aged knight says, in perfect understatement, “He chose poorly”. Indiana Jones, on the other hand, chose a clay cup, such as might be used by a poor workman. Yep! “He chose wisely.” He used it to bring and pour water to wash and heal his father's otherwise fatal wound.

It's an entertaining movie, but we don't need the likes of Steven Spielberg or Harrison Ford in order for us to make life or death decisions. St. Paul reminds his congregation in Corinth that we have a wisdom that is not “of this age”, but one that is divine, “which God predetermined before the ages for our glory”. It is the nothing less than the guidance of His Holy Spirit, given us by God to help us to weigh carefully and maturely the situations that call for moral judgment and action. Thus, we are able to go beyond what the wisdom of this age or what the “woke” or common culture or political correctness would have us do, and to choose wisely, instead, doing what is good and true and holy in the eyes of God.

Christ also calls us to go beyond the prescriptions and limitations of the Law of Moses, to understand its underlying reasons, and to act appropriately for the long haul of eternal life. In doing so, He does not do away with the Law, but brings it to perfection and fulfillment so that we might come to the perfection of God Who created us in His own image and likeness with the capacity to reason and, most importantly, to love. Our observance of God's commandments must be a correct exercise of human freedom and rooted in our love for God and neighbor rather than being a mechanical, minimalist response.

Thus, we go beyond “merely” not killing someone to being reconciled with those with whom we are at odds in order that our worship of God might be carried out properly and received by Him. Similarly, anything that smacks of being a false substitution for real love is an assault against our marriage-covenant relationship with God, and is to be avoided at all costs. Finally, we are to be truthful in our dealings with others, for God Himself is the fullness of truth, and we are to be like Him.

If all of this seems to be a rather tall order to carry out, that's because it is. Still, God never commands us to do what we are not able to do by the grace of His Holy Spirit. Alone, we can do nothing, but St. Paul reminds us through his letter to the Philippians, “I can do all things in Christ, Who gives me strength.” He might have added to that “wisdom, courage, love”, and a dozen other positive attributes.

How we face choices in our lives and how we use the grace and wisdom of God to decide correctly are matters of grave importance, no pun intended. The upcoming season of Lent is a good time to work on it. So, carefully and prayerfully, choose wisely! It's a matter of eternal life or death.

~ *Fr. Armato*

PREPARING FOR LENT

Lent is a holy season of preparation for the great and solemn feast of Easter. We also should begin to prepare ourselves for our Lenten practices of fasting, prayer, and charitable works of mercy rather than waiting until Ash Wednesday (February 22), so as to make the most of our prayers and penances. Think now about your goals and what you will try to do to achieve them.



PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

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

ESTATE PLANNING

Did you know that there are ways to support our parish and the mission of the Church that can also provide you with tax benefit and potentially even a source of income?

If you have an asset such as appreciated stocks, a retirement plan, art, real estate, or other assets, a planned gift could be a smarter way to give than cash alone. You can sustain our beloved parish with a planned gift while also making smart financial decisions to benefit your family.

For more information, please call the Catholic Foundation at 718-965-7375.

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you for your generosity in the several collections for the Parish and outside agencies last month!

Please prayerfully consider increasing your level of stewardship in the new year 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!

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, March 11.**



WE INVITE YOU TO OUR LENTEN PROGRAM

**in the convent,
Tuesdays at 11am and
Thursdays at 7pm**

Call Sr. Bridget, (718-326-1911) to register

2/21/23	<i>Do you believe in the Resurrection and the Life?</i>	John 11:17-27
2/28/3/2	<i>Do you know what I have done for you?</i>	John 13:3-15
3/7/9	<i>Could you not watch with me one hour?</i>	Matt 26:36-41
3/14/16	<i>Whom are you looking for?</i>	John 20:11-18
3/21/23	<i>Do you love me more than these?</i>	John 21:15-19
3/28/30	<i>Why do you persecute me?</i>	Acts 9:1-8

We look forward to seeing you!

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: the joys and challenges of motherhood; the Holy Eucharist; Catholic customs and traditions; spiritual, physical, and mental health; love and marriage; 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.



WE ARE BACK!! Join the Celebration!

IRISH NIGHT

Saturday, March 4, 2023
Mass at 5:00pm followed by a
Traditional Irish Dinner until 11:00pm
Tickets are \$70 p/p

MUSIC BY THE CUNNINGHAM BROTHERS

Reserve your tickets with:
Susan Conte - 646-330-8451 or
Anne Lenihan - 718-350-9448 or
Bridie Mitchell - 917-302-3569 or
Maureen Postell - 917-589-6804



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

Maggie's Little Theater Presents Agatha Christie's



www.MaggiesLittleTheater.org
347-286-8508 (New phone number!)

SHOW DATES

Sat. February 11 & 18 at 8:00pm
Sun. February 12 & 19 at 2:30pm
Fri. February 17 at 8:00pm
Adults \$20 - Seniors (65+) \$18
Children (11 and under) \$18

We value your safety: All patrons will be required to show proof of Covid-19 vaccination at the door, and wear a mask when not actively eating or drinking.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

will be given in St. Margaret Parish Hall on
SATURDAY, MARCH 11,
from 9:00am to 3:30pm.



THE COST: \$50.00 per person

THE BENEFITS: 10% discount on liability and collision insurance for 3 years. Up to 4 points deducted from your driving record.

CONTACT: Sister Bridget, 718-326-1911,
for more information or to register.