

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

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Website: *www.stmargaretmv.com*

SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:

stmmvcalendar@gmail.com



**SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 19, 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 19 - SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00		Elissa DeBenedictis
10:00		Daniele Bussa/Antonino Catalano
NOON		Nancy Gardini
5:00PM		People of the Parish
MON.	~	FEBRUARY 20 - PRESIDENTS DAY ~ NO MASS ~
7:00		
9:00		Steven Dominick Belviso
TUE.	~	FEBRUARY 21 - ST. PETER DAMIAN
7:00		Anthony F. Coccaro
9:00		Robert J. & Karin Morrissey Schaefer/Aida Baker
WED.	~	FEBRUARY 22 - ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00		Joseph & Lena Mazzola
9:00		People of the Parish
NOON		Liturgy of the Word
3:30PM		Liturgy of the Word
7:30PM		Anthony F. Coccaro FAST AND ABSTINENCE
THU.	~	FEBRUARY 23 - ST. POLYCARP
7:00		Sr. Anne Werner, D.W.
9:00		Eugene, Vita & Eugene Lohn
FRI.	~	FEBRUARY 24 - FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00		John O'Shea
9:00		Geraldine Ciaccio
9:30		Stations of the Cross (English) ABSTINENCE
SAT.	~	FEBRUARY 25 - SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY
9:00		Collective: Geraldine Ciaccio (anniv) Vittorio & Angelina Grillo
5:00PM		People of the Parish
SUN.	~	FEBRUARY 26 - FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
8:00		Stanislawa Krzewski
10:00		Grazia Scandariato (anni)/Roman Krzewski
NOON		Grace Ann Franzese
5:00PM		Daniel Fitzgerald



**THE RECTORY
WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, FEB. 20
IN OBSERVANCE OF
PRESIDENTS DAY
MASS IS AT 9:00AM**

*Presidents
Day*

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, Gina Messina,

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

*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 Joseph & Lena Mazzola
at the request of Ben Armato.*



ASH WEDNESDAY

Ashes will be imposed
this Wednesday at Masses
celebrated at 7 and 9am
and 7:30pm, and at the
Liturgy of the Word at
12Noon and 3:30pm.

TODAY'S READINGS

*Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Cycle A - Hymnal # 946*

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sirach 1:1-10
Psalm 93:1-5
Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sirach 2:1-11
Psalm 37:3-40
Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday: Joel 2:12-18
Psalm 51:3-17
II Corinthians 5:20-6:2
Matthew 6:1-18

Thursday: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1:1-6
Luke 9:22-25

Friday: Isaiah 58:1-9
Psalm 51:3-19
Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday: Isaiah 58:9-14
Psalm 86:1-6
Luke 5:27-32

Sunday: Genesis 2:7-9
Psalm 51:3-17
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Be Perfect Just as Your Heavenly Father Is Perfect”

If you thought last week's Scriptures were difficult to carry out with Christ's command to go beyond the mere letter of the Mosaic Law, this week's readings present even greater challenges. In the passage from Leviticus, Moses delivers God's command to the People of Israel to “be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy!” If that's not problematic enough, Jesus continues His call in His sermon on the mount to surpass what would be normal responses and instead, to “be perfect, just as your Heavenly Father is perfect!”

These commands are going to require a lot of work on our part. We are frail and imperfect, sinners who are prone to use the expression “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth” as justification for seeking vengeance, the very thing that that expression was intended to rein in. I paraphrase one of my favorite dramatic characters, Tevye from “Fiddler on the Roof”, who responds to another character's impassioned plea to such action against the Tsar's oppressive authorities, “Wonderful! And when we're all blind and toothless, then what do we do?”

We forget sometimes that the Scriptures call us into a life of radical action that is in opposition to the culture around us. Our sinful brokenness would have us act as the world acts: in a manner very much contrary to our calling as children of the God in Whose image and likeness we were created, and as members by Baptism of the Mystical Body of Christ, Whose Name we bear. “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” This doesn't mean that we lie down and play dead and let people walk all over us, nor that we do not stand up for what is right.

Jesus' instructions applied most proximately toward how His followers should behave with respect to the Romans, who were looked upon as evil enemy occupiers. Slapping on the right cheek required most offenders to use the back of the right hand, adding insult to injury. Turning the cheek is to say, “You struck me once, but you will not do that again.” Jesus' comment about giving up one's cloak as well as one's tunic points to His own action as the soldiers gambled for His clothing as He hung upon the Cross. Roman soldiers could force non-citizens to carry heavy loads for them for up to a mile. Jesus says to show them that the oppressed are better than the oppressors by going a second mile voluntarily.

The clincher in today's Gospel passage, however, is the final line: “Be perfect, just as your Heavenly Father is perfect!” God is, in fact, the fullness of perfection and of all virtues. We realize that we are very far, indeed, from being perfect. Yet, the Christian is a work in progress. Hopefully, we always are becoming more and more the person whom God has created us to be until we attain Heaven.

Our responses to the often-difficult and even oppressive situations of daily life always require an acceptance of the grace that God pours forth upon us when we ask Him for it. Without God we can do nothing, but with Him we can do all that He commands. The holy season of Lent, which begins this Wednesday, is an opportune time for us to take stock of our lives in order to see where we are in our journey to the Father and what we need to do to alter course in order to live up to His expectations. The sacrifices and acts of charity and additional time spent in prayer are not the goals of Lent, but they are all useful tools, as are frequent reception of the Sacraments and our study of Scripture, to help us achieve the goal of eternal life in union with the Most Holy Trinity.

So, let us strive to be holy as God is holy, to be merciful as God is merciful, to be generous as God is generous, to be faithful as God is faithful, to be patient as God is patient, to be forgiving as God is forgiving, to be loving as God is loving. In short, “be perfect just as your Heavenly Father is perfect!”

~ *Fr. Armato*

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The second collection this weekend is for the relief of the survivors of the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. It was in Antioch in this area where the disciples of Jesus were first called "Christians". Please be generous without neglecting the needs of our own Parish.



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! We'll report on the accounts, once the accounting has been completed.

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!

SCHOOL'S OUT

The Academy and Religious Ed Program are closed for Presidents Week. All classes will resume the week of February 27.

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; preparations and activities for Lent; what every couple should know about marriage and prayer; saints for sinners; 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

Maggie's Little Theater Presents

Agatha Christie's



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

LAST SHOW

Sun. February 19 at 2:30pm

**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.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

will be given in St. Margaret Parish Hall on
SATURDAY, MARCH 11,
from 9am 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.



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 Postel - 917-589-6804**