

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



FIRST SUNDAY

IN LENT

FEBRUARY 26, 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 26 - FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT |
| 8:00 | | Stanislawa Krzewski |
| 10:00 | | Grazia Scandariato (anni)/Roman Krzewski/John Bica/Gaetana e Giovanni Caruso/Enzo Madia/Giacinto Sciortino/ |
| NOON | | Grace Ann Franzese |
| 5:00PM | | Daniel Fitzgerald |
| MON. | ~ | FEBRUARY 27 - ST. GREGORY OF NAREK |
| 7:00 | | Anthony F. Cocco |
| 9:00 | | Nicholas Cascio (birth) |
| TUE. | ~ | FEBRUARY 28 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 7:00 | | Rita M. Heilman |
| 9:00 | | Anthony F. Cocco |
| 9:30 | | Stations of the Cross (Italian) |
| WED. | ~ | MARCH 1 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 7:00 | | Philip Composto |
| 9:00 | | Anthony F. Cocco |
| THU. | ~ | MARCH 2 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 7:00 | | Anthony F. Cocco |
| 9:00 | | Angie Ferzola |
| FRI. | ~ | MARCH 3 - ST. KATHERINE DREXEL |
| 7:00 | | Anthony F. Cocco |
| 9:00 | | Albert & Julia Paetzig |
| 9:30 | | Stations of the Cross (English) |
| | | ABSTINENCE |
| SAT. | ~ | MARCH 4 - ST. CASIMIR |
| 9:00 | | Collective: Deceased Priests of the Brooklyn and Rockville Centre Dioceses/Bill & Lee DiGiovanna/ Souls in purgatory/ |
| 5:00PM | | Edward H. Morrissey & Nellie Tolles |
| SUN. | ~ | MARCH 5 - SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT |
| 8:00 | | People of the Parish |
| 10:00 | | Marcellino Troia/The O'Connor & Sloane Families/Geraldine Ciaccio/ |
| NOON | | Andrew Jenner |
| 5:00PM | | Aurora Cermeli |



SUNDAY, MARCH 12

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, Tina Messina, Matthew Young,

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:

**AGNES L. LAWRENCE,
JOSEPHINE PODLOVITS**

*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
William J. Collins and Family.*

ALTAR CANDLES

are offered in memory of Sister Jean Redigan.

TABERNACLE LAMP

*is lit in memory of Anthony F. Cocco
at the request of the Wolfe Family.*

TODAY'S READINGS

*First Sunday in Lent
Cycle A - Hymnal # 883*

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Leviticus 19:1-18
Psalm 19:8-15
Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday: Isaiah 55:10-11
Psalm 34:4-19
Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jonah 3:1-10
Psalm 51:3-19
Luke 11:29-32

Thursday: Esther C:12-25
Psalm 138:1-8
Matthew 7:7-12

Friday: Ezra 18:21-28
Psalm 130:1-8
Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday: Deuteronomy 26:16-19
Psalm 119:1-8
Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday: Genesis 12:1-4
Psalm 33:4-22
II Timothy 1:8-10
Matthew 17:1-9

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ"

~ St. Jerome

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Don't Give In!”

We interrupt the Sermon on the Mount to bring you the holy seasons of Lent and Easter, plus two extra solemnities (those of the Most Holy Trinity and Corpus Christi) for good measure. It happens every year. Just as we are getting into the evangelist of the year (St. Matthew in 2023), we shift to a whole other set of readings that support the observances of the liturgical cycle. As a suggestion, however, you might consider using the Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5 to 7 in the Gospel according to St. Matthew) as part of your spiritual reading this Lent, reflecting on one or two paragraphs each day.

The holy season of Lent indeed has begun. Yes, it's a penitential season, but it also is one that is full of hope and promise as we are renewed in our determination to follow Christ. Nevertheless, we usually view this as a gloomy time of year (the weather usually doesn't help), a time of “having to do without”, or we see it just as another opportunity to get back on our diets or to kick bad habits. We see only ashes and emptiness, and we forget about the haloes and the glory. Although it is celebrated at every Mass, we are called to pay special attention to the Paschal Mystery of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection as we proceed from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday.

This truly is a time for giving up and doing without, but doing so for a particular purpose: to help us to refocus our lives, centering them on God, and thereby deepening our relationship with Him. As nature abhors a vacuum, so our lives also need to be occupied, spiritually as well as physically. If you are going to do without something, be prepared to put something *positive* in its place, so that sin may not fill the gap. The three keys of Lent about which we hear every Ash Wednesday – namely, fasting, almsgiving, and prayer – are not ends in themselves but rather give us important tools to do this.

If you give up time watching TV or using the internet/social media, use the time that you save for prayer or to read and reflect on the Scriptures or some other solid, spiritual work. Get to Mass faithfully every weekend, maybe even during the week; step into a church during the day to pray quietly before the Blessed Sacrament for a while. Pray the Rosary every day, especially the Sorrowful Mysteries. Go to confession at least once before Easter. If you give up a particular food, or drink, or smokes, use some of the money that you save and put it towards helping those who do not have the bare necessities of life. If you go out to dinner, put into the Poor Box the same amount that you leave for a tip. Be more patient with others as God is patient with you, and be patient with yourself; the devil specializes in discouragement.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Christ has shared in the fullness of our humanity with the exception of committing sin. A descendant of Adam by the flesh, His faithfulness to the will of the eternal Father undoes the bondage under which the sin of Adam has placed all of humanity. Christ's temptations for self-aggrandizing power, satisfaction of carnal appetites, and presumption on God's loving care for us are our temptations. Ours are relatively negligible by comparison, but succumbing to them has the same great personal effect for us: the loss of Heaven. The same devil who tempted Christ in the desert is the very one who tries to pull us away from God and following Christ.

The time truly will fly, but let's try to allow Lent to be an unhurried period of spiritual growth, a time in which we challenge ourselves, using the grace that God gives us to be better disciples of Jesus Christ His Son. Be still, unburden yourself, and let God be God. Make Lent meaningful, and keep it realistic so as to finish it in a way that prepares you for a more worthy celebration of Easter's joy.

Most of all, do not give in to the temptation to trivialize your penances or to give up if you find the going difficult at any point in your Lenten journey. After all, the grace of the same Holy Spirit Who strengthened Christ in the desert also strengthens us to overcome sin and to remain faithful to the Lord.

~ *Fr. Armato*

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Thank you for your generosity in the second collection last weekend for the relief of the survivors of the recent earthquakes in Turkey and Syria! \$1,971 is being sent to the Diocese in the name of our Parish.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thanks to your generosity, our Parish has received **\$8,568.67**, the amount by which we went over goal for the **2022 ACA campaign**. It will come in handy to help cover various capital and operating expenses.



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.

THE ST. VINCENT dePAUL CLOTHING PICK-UP

will be held on Sunday, March 19. The truck will be on 79th Place, near or in the parking lot from 8am until 12:30pm for your items.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR ITEMS
AT THE RECTORY OR CONVENT DOOR**

SCHOOL' BACK IN SESSION

The Academy and Religious Ed program resume classes this week. Please be careful driving!

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 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**

| | | |
|----------|--|---------------|
| 2/28/3/2 | <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: spiritual practices and activities for Lent; what every couple should know about marriage and prayer; St. Joseph; the Eucharist; Sunday readings for Lent; 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 Postel - 917-589-6804

BRIDGE TO LIFE

The St. Vincent DePaul Society is conducting its **12th Annual Campaign for Bridge to Life**.

Bridge to Life gives prospective moms an alternative; good pre-natal care, safe delivery and medical and economic help for moms and infants.

WHEN: Through Good Friday, April 7th

HOW: Envelopes marked "**Bridge to Life**" are on the radiators in Church or provide your own. Cash or checks (payable to **Bridge to Life**) and/or new or gently used infant and toddler clothing or diapers size 2-5.

WHERE: Place envelopes in collection baskets or in the rectory mail slot. Place clothing in the black bin in the church vestibule or at the Convent (66-25 79 Place) on Wednesdays or Saturdays, from 10am until 12Noon.

Please be as generous as possible. Make this your Lenten sacrifice.

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you for your generosity in the regular and special collections, whether through e-giving or in the collection basket!

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, so 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.

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.