

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
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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:

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SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:

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**FIFTH SUNDAY
IN
LENT
MARCH 26, 2023**

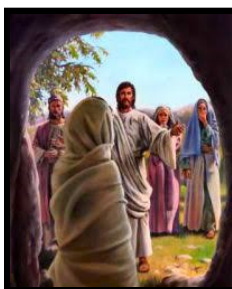
THE GREAT COMMISSION

“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.	~	MARCH 26 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
8:00		Anna Roemmelt
10:00		Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio/Luigi, Saverio e Michael Bosco/Stefano Vitale
NOON		Domenick Friscioni
5:00PM		People of the Parish
MON.	~	MARCH 27 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00		Anna Treitmeier
9:00		Filippo Curatolo
TUE.	~	MARCH 28 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00		Anna Treitmeier
9:00		Anthony F. Cocco
9:30		Stations of the Cross (Italian)
WED.	~	MARCH 29 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00		Harvey Karcher (birth)
9:00		Anthony F. Cocco
THU.	~	MARCH 30 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00		Carol McDonald (anniv)
9:00		Thomas & Delia Waters
FRI.	~	MARCH 31 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:00		Thomas Foudy (birth)
9:00		Jerzy Siemionczyk
9:30		Stations of the Cross (English)
		ABSTINENCE
SAT.	~	APRIL 1 - LENTEN WEEKDAY
9:00		Collective: Deceased Priests of the Brooklyn and Rockville Centre Dioceses/Bert & Sadie Fricano/ Bill & Lee DiGiovanna/Souls in purgatory/Felice Americo
5:00PM		People of the Parish
SUN.	~	APRIL 2 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
8:00		Joan McShea
10:00		Marcellino Troia/Salvatore Fazzolari/ Felice Americo/Vincenzo DiMaggio/ Giovanni Battista DiMaggio/Vincenza Sereno/Caterina Diraimondo/ Izuchukwu Valentine Okoye
NOON		Kathleen Waters
5:00PM		Carl Dokter, Joan Leonard, Louise Moeller



FIFTH
SUNDAY
IN
LENT
MARCH 26

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, Stanley Moculeski, James Spoto (FDNY),

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:

***PHYLLIS ARMELLINO,
ANDRZEJ DOBRZYNSKI,
CHARLES TUTTOLOMONDO,
MARIE FORGIONE***

*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 Anthony F. Cocco
at the request of Frank & Florence Cerar.*

CONFESSION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (going to confession), prepares us to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist in the required state of grace. Celebrate the first before coming to receive the second!

TODAY'S READINGS

***Fifth Sunday in Lent
Cycle A - Hymnal # 895***

Ezekiel 37:12-14
Psalm 130:1-8
Romans 8:8-11
John 11:1-45

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Deuteronomy 13:1-62
Psalm 23:1-6
John 8:1-11

Tuesday: Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 102:2-21
John 8:21-30

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 3:14-95
Deuteronomy 3:52-56
John 8:31-42

Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9
Psalm 105:4-9
John 8:51-59

Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13
Psalm 18:2-7
John 10:31-42

Saturday: Ezekiel 37:21-28
Jeremiah 31:10-13
John 11:45-56

Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-7
Psalm 22:8-24
Philippians 2:6-11
Matthew 26:14-66

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Life Is Changed, Not Ended”

Last month, our parish theatrical troupe, *Maggie's Little Theater*, presented “The Mousetrap”, a wonderful whodunit by Agatha Christie. As has been the custom for seventy-plus years of performances, the audience was asked at the end of each show not to reveal the ending to anyone who hadn't seen it yet, lest it be ruined for him/her. We have an entirely different perspective and reaction, however, when it comes to the idea of the resurrection from the dead. After all, the point has been presented virtually non-stop for almost two thousand years. What confused or astounded the people of Biblical times is today a basic, principal matter of faith for us, yet not without its problems.

The promise of new life as presented in today's first reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel was given to a nation that had been conquered and the cream of whose population had been carried off into captivity in a strange land. It was a prophecy of hope, God's promise of the restoration of life to His Chosen People to be attended by certain signs of verification, and a guarantee: “I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.” The implication was for the people to have faith in the God of their ancestors, Who was with them even in the dark moments of suffering during their national nightmare. The promise had been fulfilled by the time of Christ in terms of a return of the People to the Promised Land, but not yet on a personal level. The dead would have to wait a little longer.

Today's lengthy Gospel passage from St. John presents some disturbing and heartbreaking scenes, from Christ's announcing of the death of His dear friend Lazarus to His conversation with the two sisters to His reaction to the lack of faith of the mourners to His weeping at His friend's tomb as, perhaps, He contemplated His own imminent confrontation with death.

Here, too, a promise of life was made to Martha: “I AM the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever lives and believes in Me, even if he die, yet shall he live. And everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die.” Then trust and faith are called for as He challenged her: “Do you believe this?” Christ asks this same question, my brothers and sisters, of each and every one of us, especially in those moments of personal difficulties and tribulations, of loss and sufferings, when whatever faith we have relied upon is tried and perhaps shattered beyond obvious repair. Through these troubling moments, Christ stands as close to us as He did to Martha and her sister Mary.

Christ continued with great sadness and anguish of heart, along with no little anger over the lack of faith of the crowd. Then, entrusting Himself to the Father, He commanded Lazarus to come forth from the tomb. The man, dead for four days, corrupting and bound head to toe in customary Jewish burial fashion, walked out of the unsealed tomb, at which point Jesus ordered him to be set free, released, and restored.

Something else is going on, though, as we've seen is customary with the Gospel according to St. John. We all too often are dead in our sins, perhaps even written off by ourselves as being beyond reconciliation. The stench of our sins surrounds us. Yet, Jesus mourns and weeps for us, His dear friends, and He stands forth and calls us into newness of life. The wrappings of sin that bind us are removed through mercy of God in the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation by the grace and power of His Holy Spirit, Who unites Him with the Father. Thus, we are set free to answer with the manner of our lives the question that Christ posed to Martha, allowing the Spirit of Christ to dwell within us and to direct us into the ways of holiness and righteousness in the eyes of God.

Our following of the Lord Jesus demands that we die to our old life of sin and self-centeredness and to put on the “new person” in Christ. The practices of this holy season of Lent assist us to accomplish this by the grace of the Father, Who never abandons us and keeps His promises. Persevering in our prayers, and acts of self-denials and charity, we emerge from the tomb that has held us captive and allow the ancient promises to be fulfilled in each of us: “Lord, for Your faithful people life is changed, not ended.”

~ *Fr. Armato*

STATIONS/VIA CRUCIS

We celebrate the **Stations of the Cross** (*Via Crucis*) at 9:30am on Tuesdays in Italian and on Fridays in English. Walk the Lord's Passion with us!

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, April 1.

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

The 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign has begun, and we're off to a good start with **\$34,595 pledged already by 41 donors.**

Whoever contributed to the 2022 Campaign should receive renewal pledge cards in the mail. Forms also are available in church. **Please be sure to designate St. Margaret Parish for your donation.**

The Diocese uses the Campaign to provide services to senior citizens, outreach to the needy, youth programs, housing for retired senior priests, and for the formation of seminarians for the priesthood.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Fr. Joseph Palackal will lead a ten-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land next year, February 4-13. The cost is \$3,699 per person, for round-trip airfare and first class, double occupancy accommodations.

Contact Fr. Palackal for more information:
jpalackal@gmail.com

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, April 15.

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 this year as your means will allow. A minimum of \$15 per person per week would be helpful.

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 donation later on, as you wish.

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: Lent; "The Search"; the Eucharistic revival; addictions and recovery; the Sacrament of Reconciliation; family activities for Lent and Easter; 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.

FYI: Rosemarie W. recommends "The Search" a 7-episode series of 30-minute programs about the search for Christ in the modern world, suitable for teens and adults.

BRIDGE TO LIFE

The St. Vincent DePaul Society is celebrating 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.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE - 2023

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, Confession from 3:00 until 4:45pm
Saturday, Vigil Mass at 5:00pm
Sunday Masses at 8:00am,
10:00am (Bilingual - Italian/English),
12:00 Noon and 5:00pm

RECONCILIATION MONDAY

Confessions from 7:30 until 9:00am
3:00 until 5:00pm and 7:00 until 8:00pm

HOLY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer at 9:00am
Mass of the Lord's supper at 8:00pm
Adoration until 10:30pm in the Church

GOOD FRIDAY

Morning Prayer at 9:00am
Stations of the Cross at 12:00Noon (English)
Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at 3:00pm
Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at 7:30pm

HOLY SATURDAY

Morning Prayer at 9:00am
Mid-day Prayer with
Blessing of Food at 12:00 Noon
Great Vigil of Easter at 8:00pm
NO CONFESSION TODAY
NO 5:00PM MASS

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

8:00am
10:00am (Bilingual Italian/English)
12:00 Noon
NO 5:00PM MASS

ANTICIPATING PALM SUNDAY

*"Hosanna" is the cry, as the man comes this way,
seated upon a donkey, coming slowly, gentle sway.
And they greet this man with palms in hand,
perhaps thinking that he will restore their land.
Palms of victory, declaring the advent of the king,
palms of victory, in such rejoicing they do sing.
But only he knows that he will be crowned indeed;
only he knows what crown will be decreed.
The ancient prophecy he is now making true:
sadness in this time of joy, so well he knew.*

