

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
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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



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME
JULY 23, 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.	~	JULY 23 - SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00		Mary Hawd
10:00		Maria Curatolo/Geraldine Ciaccio/ Caterina Diraimondo/Taddeo Arcilesi
NOON		Betty Gullotta
5:00PM		Margaret Quinn
MON.	~	JULY 24 - ST. SHARBEL MAKHLUF
7:00		Intention of Nuala Joyce
9:00		Edward Pandolfo
TUE.	~	JULY 25 - ST. JAMES
7:00		Karoline Lackner
9:00		Grace & Sal Monardo
WED.	~	JULY 26 - STS. JOACHIM & ANNE PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
7:00		Karoline Lackner
9:00		Fred Basedow
THU.	~	JULY 27 - WEEKDAY
7:00		Ron Zabrocki
9:00		Albina Pugliese
FRI.	~	JULY 28 - WEEKDAY
7:00		Olga Troje
9:00		Regina Gockley
SAT.	~	JULY 29 - STS. MARTHA & MARY
9:00		Collective: Eamon Blake/Deacon Vincent & Dolores DeBiase/John D'Amato
5:00PM		Albina Pugliese
SUN.	~	JULY 30 - SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00		The People of the Parish
10:00		Sr. Brigid Kelly (birth)
NOON		Anthony F. Cocco
5:00PM		Julia Caccavale



SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE JULY 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 Sunday and 3rd Saturday 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 - no meetings in July and August.

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, Mary Policke, The Valasquez Family, Caroline Martin, Hazel Scanlon, Pauline Vella, Robert Sukup, Sam Cianciolo, Maria Fava, Jeremiah Harris, Cathy Wilkenson, Maria Carmeli, 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 Bryzgornia, Tabitha Hayden, Cecilia Ann Feliciano, Donna & Bo Stubbs, Sharie & Carol Ann Slusser, Darlene Lanza, Tina Messina, Matthew Young, Stanley Moculeski, James Spoto (FDNY), Bob Weiner, Rose MacNamara, Peter DiRocco, Linda Blair, Howard Zissel, Anna Braccioforte, Mark Lewis, Carmela Guerra,

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 Robert Pozarycki
at the request of his loving family.*

ALTAR CANDLES

are offered for the intention of Maria Krzewski.

SENIOR CITIZENS

The Parish Hall will be available to our senior citizens for informal gatherings from 11am to 2pm on Wednesdays in July and August.

TODAY'S READINGS

***Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Cycle A - Hymnal # 973***

Wisdom 12-13,16-19
Psalm 86:5-16
Romans 8:26-27
Matthew 13:24-43

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Exodus 14:5-18
Psalm 126:1-6
Matthew 20:20-28

Tuesday: II Corinthians 4:7-15
Psalm 126:1-6
Matthew 20:20-28

Wednesday: Exodus 16:1-15
Psalm 78:18-28
Matthew 13:1-9

Thursday: Exodus 19:1-20
Daniel 3:52-56
Matthew 13:10-17

Friday: Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19:8-11
Matthew 13:18-23

Saturday: Exodus 24:3-8
Psalm 50:1-15
John 11:19-27

Sunday: I Kings 3:5-12
Psalm 119:57,130
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Gathered for Eternal Life”

How easy it is for something that is good to be invaded, even taken over, by the bad! Last week I wrote of our beautiful and productive Middle Village gardens that we plant in the spring, making sure to prepare the soil and to plant carefully, often finding that the place has become a jungle by mid-summer, overgrown with weeds faster than we could pull them out.

Neither my father's gardens at home nor those here on the parish campus have enough open ground to grow sufficient vegetables to feed a family of four for very long. Nevertheless, fighting the weeds at both places this year has seen one defeat after the other. The erratic weather and my schedule and pastoral responsibilities haven't helped the situation any. I assure you, it isn't a matter of my being merciful that the weeds have flourished alongside the good plantings.

An often-heard question is, “Why do bad people continue to exist alongside the good?” It's not a new question. It's been asked from the dawn of human history. If it were up to us, perhaps, the bad would be struck by lightning or otherwise taken out of circulation, but we're not the ones to decide. Jesus addresses the problem with a lengthy parable and explanation in which He reminds His listeners that, while we want immediate action and results, it is God Who gets to decide the final outcome and He is patient.

Judgment will come eventually, in God's own time, when each person will be judged by Him and answer for the way in which he/she has lived, whether for good or for bad. The good will go off to eternal life, while those who have chosen to live persistently in sin will be condemned to eternal punishment. It's not a very popular idea these days (I doubt that it ever was), but that is the reality of the matter, unless we choose not to take Christ at His word. I for one think that we'd be smart to bet on His truthfulness and live according to His teachings.

We easily forget (or do we feel more comfortable in denying?) the fact that this life is of limited duration; it is not the be-all and end-all of our existence. We have not been created for the short term, even if it be a hundred or a thousand years, but for all eternity. That also is reality, as is the fact that, sooner or later, each and every one of us must stand before the Throne of God to give account for the way in which we have used our life and the grace, time, treasure, and talents that we have received from Him. He is a patient, loving, and merciful God, but He is also just, so do not play Him fool!

Weeds cannot change into sheaves of wheat, but we do have the ability to change our ways, to return to the Lord with contrite hearts, and to seek His forgiveness. The first reading today from the Book of Wisdom reminds us that God has given us, His children, “good ground for hope that [He] would permit repentance for [our] sins.” Sometimes it's difficult for us to grasp that and to seek His mercy and forgiveness for whatever sins we have committed, whether by commission or omission. Still, there is the Gift of His Holy Spirit, Who, St. Paul tells us, comes to our aid in our weakness and intercedes for us, and Who is poured out in the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the forgiveness of sins.

Yes, it requires our cooperation and the work of a lifetime, but we, too, can produce wonderful results when we allow the Spirit of God to work in us and through us, beginning with our own healing and reconciliation. Our faith, however small, can grow beyond expectations when we open ourselves to God's grace, and, although seemingly small and lost in the crowd, we can affect the world around us when we do what is right and just and holy in the eyes of God.

We are not weeds or wheat or mustard seeds or measures of yeast. Christ used those images in today's three parables in order to explain why things are the way that they are and what can and will happen in the long run when we open ourselves to the grace of God.

Let us use well the time granted us to live as children of God, producing good fruit, that we might be gathered into the barn of His Kingdom for all eternity.

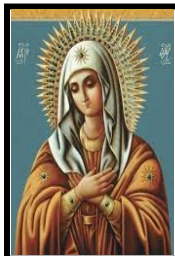
~ *Fr. Armato*

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, August 5.

Come and spend some quality time with the Lord and pray for our country!



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.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign is going well, so far, with **\$67,072 pledged already by 113 donors. That's 88.2% of our goal of \$76,014.**

We have "only" **\$8,942** to get to our goal. Let's do it before the end of this month! Pledge forms are available in church. **Please be sure to designate St. Margaret Parish (#4117) for your donations.**

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.

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, August 12 at 9:00am.**

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you for your generosity in the regular and special collections, whether through e-giving or in the collection basket! Our regular expenses, however, continue to outpace our regular income.

Some Masses are averaging less than \$4.00 per adult. That may have been fine back in 1965, but it isn't anymore. Times are rough for all of us. Please do your best to support *your* parish.

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.

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: human life and sexuality; the Mystery of the Eucharist; the saints of July; a series on "The Victory of St. Joan of Arc"; Catholic married life; armchair pilgrimages; activities for children and the entire family; and many other 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.

GET TO MASS

Classes are finished for this academic year, but there's no vacation from Mass. One of the great things about being Catholic is that there's usually a church nearby for us to attend Mass, even when on vacation.

Check masstimes.org if you're heading away this summer, and **get to Mass!**

SUMMER SAFETY

Please drive with care for our children and our elders on the streets this summer!

Also, be sure to keep in touch with your elderly neighbors this summer to make sure that they are drinking water and keeping their homes comfortable with AC or fans on particularly hot days.



ST. MARGARET GIFT SHOP

open Sunday, 9am til 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

CLOSED THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Maggie's Little Theater presents



www.MaggiesLittleTheater.org
347-286-8508

LAST PERFORMANCE

Sun., July 23 at 2:30pm

Tickets \$25 - 65+ \$20 - 11 and under \$20

Reservations and masks recommended.

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, August 13, 2023 from 9am until 3pm 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.

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.