

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

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ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC ACADEMY

718-326-0922

Sharon Swift, Principal

principal@stmargaretschoolmv.org

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

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SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:

stmmvcalendar@gmail.com



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY

IN

ORDINARY TIME

JULY 30, 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 30 - SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 The People of the Parish
10:00 Sr. Brigid Kelly (birth)
NOON Anthony F. Coccaro
5:00PM Julia Caccavale

MON. ~ JULY 31 - ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

7:00 Billy Policke
9:00 Pat O'Brien

TUE. ~ AUGUST 1 - ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

7:00 Robert R. Gockley, Sr.
9:00 Contina & Eugino DiCenso

WED. ~ AUGUST 2 - STS. EUSEBIUS OF VERCELLI / PETER JULIAN EYMARD

7:00 Margaret Jehle
9:00 Donald Ashford

THU. ~ AUGUST 3 - WEEKDAY

7:00 Intention of Lawrence Swaine
9:00 Jean Cajigal

FRI. ~ AUGUST 4 - ST. JOHN VIANNEY

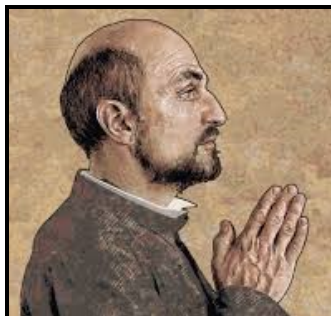
7:00 Patrick L. Smith
9:00 Anna Paolilli

SAT. ~ AUGUST 5 - THE DEDICATION OF THE BASILICA OF ST. MARY MAJOR

9:00 **Collective:** Deceased Priests of the
Brooklyn & Rockville Center
Dioceses/Bill & Lee DiGiovanna
Souls in Purgatory
9:30 **Holy Hour**
5:00PM Mary & Alfonso Trotta

SUN. ~ AUGUST 6 - EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 Rita Nicholas
10:00 Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Marcellino
Troia
NOON Anthony F. Coccaro
5:00PM Patrick McGibbon



SAINT
IGNATIUS
OF
LOYOLA
JULY 31

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 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 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, Emma Green,

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:

JACK POMIANEK

***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 Donald Ashford
at the request of Frank & Florence Cerar.***



**SAINT
JOHN
VIANNEY
AUGUST 4**

TODAY'S READINGS

***Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Cycle A - Hymnal # 976***

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday: Exodus 32:15-34
Psalm 106:19-23
Matthew 13:31-35**

**Tuesday: Exodus 33:7-11, 34:5-28
Psalm 103:6-13
Matthew 13:36-42**

**Wednesday: Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99:5-9
Matthew 13:44-46**

**Thursday: Exodus 40:16-38
Psalm 84:3-11
Matthew 13:47-53**

**Friday: Leviticus 23:1, 4-37
Psalm 81:3-11
Matthew 13:54-58**

**Saturday: Leviticus 25:1, 8-17
Psalm 67:2-8
Matthew 14:1-12**

**Sunday: Daniel 7:9-14
Psalm 97:1-9
II Peter 1:16-19
Matthew 17:1-9**

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“What Would You Give?”

Who hasn't dreamt of hitting “the big one”? The imagination runs wild at the prospect of using the huge winnings for one purpose or another, whether personal or for a more noble cause. As I write, tonight's Mega prize stands at about \$820 million; the numbers won't be drawn until after I've finished putting this article (and myself) to bed. Truth be told, I've played my own small part in helping to make a good number of other people millionaires at \$10 a clip. That's my maximum bet – over and over and over again – as I try to convince God about all the good that I could do with even just a “small fortune”.

Jesus presents us today with three more parables about the Kingdom of Heaven: It's something terribly precious to be sought and acquired, to obtain which one should give up everything else willingly, speedily, and gladly; it reaches out to all people, yet it separates the evildoers from the righteous; it requires careful reflection, introspection, and consideration of wisdom both old and new.

Few, if any, of us would give up anything readily for a mere possibility of something better to come. Even our participation in lotteries hopefully has its limits. At the same time, we should not be so attached to any poor substitutes for eternal life that we would insult God by rejecting the share in His very divinity that He greatly desires to give us. Money doesn't last forever, and neither will whatever it's been used to acquire – not pleasure nor power nor prestige. Furthermore, we can't use it to buy eternal life; Christ already has paid the immeasurable price for our salvation.

So, if you could receive just one thing from God, what would you ask of Him? Health? Wealth? Power? Prestige? Comfort? World peace? Cures for diseases? That winning lottery ticket? In today's first reading, King Solomon asks God for wisdom, that he might govern his subjects with right judgment. The gift was given to him and lasted as long as Solomon stayed focused and remained faithful to God. Even Solomon, however, succumbed to worldly pleasures, and his Kingdom paid the price for a wise man's foolishness and weakness.

Perhaps we all need to take the Scriptures more seriously and to contemplate them more deeply in order to realize just what God is offering us. It's better than the wisdom of Solomon or anything that we could imagine in our wildest dreams. Were we to use our abilities to reason and reflect properly, we would come to understand the Scriptures better and see in them God's promises in the Old Testament and their fulfillment by Christ in the New Testament. There's no time like the present for exploring and participating in the mystery of God's love for us, so dust off your Bible, read, and reflect prayerfully.

St. Paul told the Christians of Rome (whom he had yet to meet at the time that he wrote to them) that we have been called, chosen, by God to be conformed to and share in the image of Christ. God always initiates; we are to respond, using our free will properly, so that our faith might lead us more deeply into the Mystery all the way to our glorification, sharing in the very glory and life of God.

Do we take the words of Scripture to heart? What will we give for a share in the Kingdom of Heaven? Do we assume (as some people incorrectly do) that eternal life is guaranteed to us simply by our baptism, thereby freeing us to go about our own pursuits, figuring that we're home free? Or will we respond to God's initiative seriously, cooperating with His grace and putting our faith into action, seeking what is true and beautiful, doing what is righteous, acting with justice, and walking humbly with our God?

Christ told His disciples (us), “Whoever would save his life in this world will lose it; whoever loses his life for My sake and that of the Gospel will save it for eternal life.” That is the plain truth and no lie. It's the cost of discipleship and the reward that awaits those take His words to heart and put them into effect. The question remains for each of us to answer: What would you give in order to attain eternal life? If your answer is given simply in terms of dollars and cents, think again. Open your heart to Christ, and do not be afraid to follow Him.

~ *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!

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign is going well, so far, with **\$68,050 pledged already by 115 donors. That's 89.5% of our goal of \$76,014.**

We have "only" **\$7,964** 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 CAST AND CREW OF MAGGIE'S LITTLE THEATER'S PRESENTATION OF ONCE UPON A MATTRESS

wish to thank everyone who joined us at the castle, for this fun-filled experience!

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 and personal spiritual growth. Recent presentations include videos on: various devotions; human life and sexuality; cultivating Catholic feminism; the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist; how God changes us; armchair pilgrimages; children saints; 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.

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.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Please! If someone in your family is sick or elderly, call the rectory to arrange for a priest to come to celebrate the Sacraments of Anointing and Reconciliation and to bring them Communion. Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion also are available to bring Communion to the homebound.

The Sacraments are for the living, not the dead. Don't wait until it's too late!

FAREWELL AND HAIL!

Our thanks to Fr. Anthony for his service to the Parish during July! We wish him well as he returns to his studies in Poland.

We also take this opportunity to welcome back Fr. Felix Akamonye, who will be with us for the month of August.

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.

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, **get to Mass and remember to dress appropriately!**

SENIOR CITIZENS

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

UPS AND THE MASS BELLS

The delivery of copies of *Mass Bells* may be affected by the possibility of a strike against UPS. In that event, we will continue to post the full bulletin on the Parish website (www.stmargaretmv.com). Copies also will be posted on the church bulletin boards.