

ST. MARGARET ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

66-05 79th Place, Middle Village, New York 11379

~ MASS BELLS ~

PASTOR

Rev. ROBERT J. ARMATO

PAROCHIAL VICAR

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
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

718-326-0922
Karen Gonzales
Coordinator
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MUSIC MINISTRY

718-326-1911
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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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**TWENTY-THIRD
SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 10, 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.	~	SEPTEMBER 10 - TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00		John Masi
10:00		Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio/Daniele Bussa/ Pasquale Mosca/Victims of 9/11
NOON		Fire Lt. Kevin J. Pfeifer
5:00PM		Robert & Regina Gockley
MON.	~	SEPTEMBER 11 - WEEKDAY
7:00		Ferdinand Troje
9:00		Christopher Amoroso/Kathy Mazza
TUE.	~	SEPTEMBER 12 - THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY
7:00		Steven Dominick Belviso
9:00		Michael O'Connor (birth)
WED.	~	SEPTEMBER 13 - ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
7:00		Elizabeth, Patrick & Joe Kearney
9:00		Filippo, Leonardo e Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio
THU.	~	SEPTEMBER 14 - THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
7:00		Ken Chiang
9:00		Pat O'Brien
7:30PM		Young Adults Holy Hour
FRI.	~	SEPTEMBER 15 - OUR LADY OF SORROWS
7:00		Giuseppa & Ignazio Pandolfo
9:00		Karoline Lackner
SAT.	~	SEPTEMBER 16 - STS. CORNELIUS / CYPRIAN
9:00		Collective: Fred Basedow (birth)/ Edward H. & Ellen T. Morrissey
5:00PM		
SUN.	~	SEPTEMBER 17 - TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00		William R. Roemmelt
10:00		Salvatore & Rita Palmeri/Geraldine Ciaccio/Maria Curatolo/Patrick Pellegrino/Peter Holzapfel/Leonardo Patti
NOON		The People of the Parish
5:00PM		Suzanne J. Rosario

YOUNG ADULTS HOLY HOUR

Our monthly holy hour for young adults will resume in the church this Thursday at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

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 - meet the first and third Wednesday of the month, 11:30am, 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, Mary Policke, The Valasquez Family, Caroline Martin, Hazel Scanlon, Pauline Vella, Sam Cianciolo, 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, Matthew Young, James Spoto (FDNY), Bob Weiner, Rose MacNamara, Peter DiRocco, Howard Zissel, Anna Braccioforte, Mark Lewis, Carmela Guerra, Emma Green, Sr. Noemi Valdes, Yulka Vukicevic, Richard Page, Theresa Erdtmann, John Fleisch, Hilda Vannata, Sue Cerbone, M. Ann P., Jamie Allison,

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:

Frances DiPompo

*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 Fire Lt. Kevin J. Pfeifer,
Pat DiChiaro, Erwin Erker, Marco J. Colalella.*

ALTAR CANDLES

*are offered in memory of Ignazio & Giuseppa Pandolfo
at the request of Ben Armato.*

TODAY'S READINGS

***Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Cycle A - Hymnal # 994***

Ezekiel 33:7-9
Psalm 95:1-9
Romans 13:8-10
Matthew 18:15-20

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Colossians 1:24-2:3
Psalm 62:6-9
Luke 6:6-11

Tuesday: Colossians 2:6-15
Psalm 145:1-11
Luke 6:12-19

Wednesday: Colossians 3:1-11
Psalm 145:2-13
Luke 6:20-26

Thursday: Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38
Philippians 2:6-11
John 3:13-17

Friday: I Timothy 1:1-14
Psalm 16:1-11
John 19:25-27

Saturday: I Timothy 1:15-17
Psalm 113:1-7
Luke 6:43-49

Sunday: Sirach 27:30-28:7
Psalm 103:1-12
Romans 14:7-9
Matthew 18:21-35

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



From the Pastor's Desk:

“Repent and Forgive!”

There are two very difficult things that we encounter in today's Scriptures: the first is the recognition of sin and the need for repentance; the second is the importance of reconciliation and forgiveness.

No one likes to admit that they've done something wrong, and it's easier to bury if it “only” offends God. We've lost the sense of sin as a disruption in healthy relationships with God and other people. Everything has become relative, to be judged by our personal standards of right and wrong. Objectivity is absent from our vision, which hinges instead on our own subjective viewpoint. The way we feel about something is all that matters. We forget that right and wrong, good and evil are absolutes, and we get offended when someone points that out to us. We might be led to say, “Well, that's the way YOU look at it, but I feel that...”

We also may try to fall back on what our “conscience” tells us, but conscience is more than the way we feel. We are to develop a *well-formed* conscience, based on the immutable, unchanging Law of God and guided by the teachings of Christ and His Church. Simply put, we do not get to pick and choose what's right or wrong based on how we feel. That would make us false gods, which is how Adam and Eve got into trouble in the first place and started the mess we're in today.

On the other hand is our obligation to seek reconciliation, to heal the damage that we have done through our thoughts, words, wrongful actions, or lack of proper actions, i.e., done by sin. Sometimes we need to be called out; sometimes, we need to call out others – always in charity! That was the purposeful challenge given to the Prophet Ezekiel in today's first reading. Had he relinquished his mission, he would have been held responsible for the intransigence of the sinful people.

Christ charges us in today's Gospel passage to seek reconciliation in order to bring the sinner back into proper relationships with ourselves and the whole community of the Church. (Our relationship with Jesus Christ is always within the context of our being members of His Mystical Body, the Church.) We can't just sidestep the issues at hand or turn a blind eye to offenses. Instead, we must make the attempt to reconcile, to ask others for forgiveness and to give offenders every opportunity for contrition and pardon. It's not a matter of beating one's head against a wall or going on endlessly trying to reconcile, though. Jesus tells us to try, try, and try again, but, if our attempts fail over and over again, it eventually becomes time to move on with life and to shun the offender, all the while keeping him/her in prayer for a possible conversion of heart some day.

From time to time, we all sin against God and others; we all stand in need of being forgiven and reconciled. Forgiveness is granted to us when, as Catholic Christians, we enter the confessional with contrite hearts, repentant of our offenses, ask God for mercy and the grace to reform our lives so as to avoid the occasion of sin in the future, are absolved by the priest in the Name of the Trinity, and do our token penance. We also assist one another by our prayers and, when need be, by looking out for one another, pointing out dangerous, disruptive, sinful behavior.

We also must be open to forgiving others who have hurt us. (Remember that the little line in the Lord's Prayer: “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us” can ask for mercy or condemn us!) We'll be held responsible for our own sins and also for being indifferent to those of others, i.e., for not caring enough about their spiritual wellbeing to call them back to right living.

God is gracious, merciful, and full of compassion. He is also the Source and final Administrator of absolute and true justice. We can run, but we cannot hide.

Never be afraid to turn to God for forgiveness by going to confession, though. Do not be afraid to bring others to His mercy, and do not hesitate to forgive those who have harmed you. Forgiveness and remonstrance must go hand-in-hand with love, for, as St. Paul reminds us today, “love is the fulfillment of the Law.”

~ *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, October 7.

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 **\$69,372 pledged already by 121 donors. That's 91.3% of our goal of \$76,014.**

We have "only" **\$6,642** to get to our goal. 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 CLOTHING PICK-UP

will be held Sunday, September 24. 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
DOORS**

FAMILY MASS

Our first "family Mass" of the new pastoral year will be celebrated at 12 Noon on Sunday, September 24. More information will follow shortly.

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!**

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, and our regular collections drop off during the summer vacation months.

Our second collection last weekend raised \$1,720, to be applied to the needs of those who suffered from the recent Maui fires and Florida hurricane.

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.

HOLYLAND PILGRIMAGE

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

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



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: marriage; teenage mental health; the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist; our Lady of Fatima; St. Pio and other saints of September; "Brother Francis" and Catholic Heroes videos for children; and many other topics for adults and youth.

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.



DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

will be given in
St. Margaret Parish Hall on
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
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.



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

PLEASE TAKE NOTE . . .

Next weekend, September 16-17, Sister Sophia of the Congregation of the Daughters of Mary-Tabora, Tanzania, will be conducting a Mission Appeal as part of the Missionary Cooperative Program at St. Margaret Parish. There will be a second collection for the missions.

We ask you to be as generous as possible.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Sessions will take place during the month of October.

WHY? To increase understanding of the Eucharist
To restore a vibrant belief in the Eucharist
To promote reflection and encourage action
in living our Eucharistic belief

HOW? View Bishop Robert Barron's DVD on the eucharist (4 sessions)

Refer to Scripture and Church teachings
Discuss questions for understanding and use
questions for reflection provided on the different aspects
of the Eucharist

Sacred meal; sacrifice; Real Presence
Father Joseph will facilitate these sessions
and provide instruction for discussion and reflection.

SESSION DATES ARE:

Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25 at Noon

Thursdays, October 5, 12, 19, 26 at 7:00pm

REGISTRATION

After all Masses - weekends of
September 16/17 and September 23/24