

# ***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**  
*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](mailto:stmargaretmv@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.stmargaretmv.com](http://www.stmargaretmv.com)**

## **SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:**

*stmmvcalendar@gmail.com*



**THIRD  
SUNDAY  
IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 21, 2024**

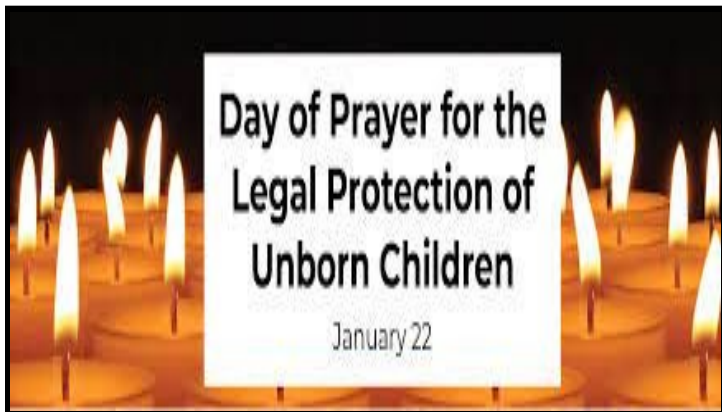
## **THE GREAT COMMISSION**

*“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. ~ JANUARY 21 - THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
8:00 Anita Cacioppo  
10:00 Maria Siragusa/Peadair Walsh  
NOON The People of the Parish  
5:00PM Ida, Fannie & Josephine Spadafora
- MON. ~ JANUARY 22 - DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN**  
7:00 Ann Baird  
9:00 Fred Basedow
- TUE. ~ JANUARY 23 - STS. VINCENT AND MARIANNE COPE**  
7:00 Eamon Blake  
9:00 John D'Amato
- WED. ~ JANUARY 24 - ST. FRANCIS deSALES**  
7:00 Pat & Joe DiChiaro  
9:00 Angelo Scaturro
- THU. ~ JANUARY 25 - THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL**  
7:00 Mina Sippenaur (anni)  
9:00 Rev. Msgr. William A. Varvaro (anni)
- FRI. ~ JANUARY 26 - STS. TIMOTHY & TITUS**  
7:00 Gerald McDonald (birth)  
9:00 Anne Abbruzzese
- SAT. ~ JANUARY 27 - ST. ANGELA MERICI**  
9:00 **Collective:** Bill and Rita M. Heilman  
5:00PM Ines Drayton
- SUN. ~ JANUARY 28 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
8:00 Mary Hawd  
10:00 Michael, Luigi e Saverio Bosco/Anna Silaco/Marianna and Jack Mule  
Giovanni Campo  
NOON Lila Ashebergas  
5:00PM The People of the Parish



## 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](http://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, James Graff, The Mojica Family, The Valasquez Family, Pauline Vella, Maria Cermeli, Maria Colalella, Maria Barretta, Paula Kammer, Carol Hensley, Joan Hanahoe, Grace Sorrentino, Bob Bicknese, Janice McManus-Genevrino, Katie Bryzgornia, 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, Sue Cerbone, M. Ann P., Jamie Allison, Alana Cermeli, John Mattia, Mary Lou Simon, Craig Pacheco, Mike DeCarlo, Vicki Zelinski, R. Soto, James Buchanan, Fr. Paul Wierichs, CP, Lorraine Colon, Martina Bruno, John Abel, Anthony Fiorello, Anthony DiChiara, Zofia Dirocco, Benjamin Armato,

**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:***

***EDWARD QUADRINO, JR.,***

***HAROLD (HANK) BANKER***

*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 Eileen Moraglia  
at the request of the Altieri Family.*

### TABERNACLE LAMP

*is lit in memory of Irene Meretti-Passamenti  
at the request of the Lopez Family.*

## TODAY'S READINGS

***Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Cycle B - Hymnal # 935***

Jonah 3:1-10  
Psalm 25:4-9  
I Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: II Samuel 5:1-10  
Psalm 89:20-26  
Mark 3:22-30

Tuesday: II Samuel 6:12-19  
Psalm 24:7-10  
Mark 3:31-35

Wednesday: II Samuel 7:4-17  
Psalm 89:4-30  
Mark 4:1-20

Thursday: Acts 22:3-16  
Psalm 117:1-2  
Mark 16:15-18

Friday: II Timothy 6 1:1-8  
Psalm 96:1-10  
Mark 4:26-34

Saturday: II Samuel 12:1-17  
Psalm 51:12-17  
Mark 4:35-41

Sunday: Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Psalm 95:1-9  
I Corinthians 7:32-35  
Mark 1:21-28

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

*From the Pastor's Desk:*

***“Repent and Come Follow”***

Imagine an almost perfect stranger coming up to you and telling you to drop everything, including your job and family life, to change your ways radically, and to follow him, no questions asked. It's unlikely that most of us would comply any too quickly. Yet, that is exactly what Christ's first disciples – Simon and Andrew, James and John – did in today's Gospel passage.

Now, we may think that it was easy for them. After all, we might say, they had little to give up aside from backbreaking work, taking their chances on the water, and either dealing with smelly fish every day or coming home without a sufficient catch with which to feed their families and pay their bills. But we would be wrong. Fishing was in their blood; it was no idle hobby by which they passed a pleasant afternoon on the lake. These were businessmen with partners and employees, families and homes. They were not wealthy by any stretch of the imagination, and perhaps they barely eked out a living for themselves and their families, but they surely were people with something to lose: their livelihood, their way of life, their families, and even their very lives. Their positive response was as radical (and surprising to us) as was Jesus' call to them to follow Him.

How might we respond to that same call today? Are we prepared to repent of our sins and change our lives, removing all of the obstacles that separate us from God? Are we ready to drop everything to live the life of Christian discipleship according to the Gospel, to take up our crosses each day and even to lay down our lives to follow Jesus, participating in His mission? As one Mid-west US bishop put it a few years ago, are we truly committed to following Jesus, or are we content simply to admire Him from a safe distance? Too often, it seems to me, we (myself included) tell Him, “Thus far shall You come into my life, but no closer.”

There are questions that each one of us must answer for ourselves, sooner or later, and the sooner the better. None of us is guaranteed any particular length of years. None of us is marked with a “best if used by” date. Jesus calls us each day to reject sin and to accept the grace of God in order to live a life of holiness. Each day can be for us a new beginning leading to a richer life.

The Prophet Jonah in today's first reading tried initially to avoid the mission that he received from God to be an instrument of renewal. (We get an abbreviated version of the story today. The unabridged version takes a few minutes to read.) We might not take such a step, even accepting the mission grudgingly, but most of us also don't get so fired up and excited about our particular calling either.

While we may not leave everything behind, each of us must respond with commitment and dedication to proclaim our love for Jesus Christ by repenting of our sins and living as He commands us to live. It begins with a good examination of our lives and of our own need for forgiveness and mercy, just as every generation of disciples has had to do.

We also need to remember that the first four disciples were not left to their own devices to fulfill their part in the Great Mission. Jesus' words to them are quite clear: “Come after Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” It is Christ Who empowers and enables us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit to complete the work to which He calls us.

“Repent! Come and follow Me,” He says to each one of us. We, too, are to be fishers, catching people with the Gospel and drawing them in the net of God's love into a profound relationship with Christ and the fullness of life in the Father's Kingdom. How faithfully and eagerly will we respond to His challenge?

May God continue to bless you along your journey of faith and bring you to the eternal reward that Christ has won for us!

~ *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, February 3.**

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



## PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Continue to pray the Rosary for peace in Ukraine and the Holy Land. May our Lady of Vladimir, Queen of Peace, intercede for her children!

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thanks to the **159 families** who have participated so far, we have gone over our 2023 *Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign* goal. So far, **\$87,010 has been pledged. That's 114.5% of our goal of \$76,014, with an average of \$10,996!**

## FR. ARMATO

As I noted at most of the Masses last weekend, Bishop Brennan has approved by retirement as of the end of this June (I will be 72). What will happen after that time has not been decided at this point, but I will keep you posted as matters develop.

In the meanwhile, there remains plenty of work to be done. I am away for a couple of weeks of R&R, but, as the Lord told His disciples, "I will not leave you orphans."

Please keep me in your prayers as you all remain in mine.

## BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE

**MANY THANKS** from the New York Blood Center to all who responded to the request for much needed blood.

The Blood Drive this past Sunday was a **HUGH SUCCESS!** We are happy to report that 67 units were collected, a great testament to the dedication of the members of our community.

We commend the New York Blood Center staff for a job well done!

## 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.

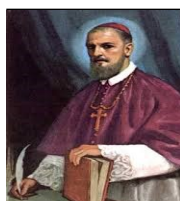
**The next memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, February 10.**

## PARISH FINANCES

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

We are trying to provide regular services with a reduced staff. Our in-pew collections fluctuate from week to week, especially with the inclement winter weather, and continue to fall far short of covering our regular operating expenses despite budget cuts.

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.



SAINT  
FRANCIS  
deSALES  
JANUARY 24

## 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 our Lady in Scripture; the Holy Eucharist; audio books; teenage mental health; videos for children and the whole family to enjoy together.

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.



## JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

### IRISH NIGHT

Saturday, March 2, 2024  
5:00pm Mass followed by  
reception until 11pm

Traditional Irish dinner, beer, wine, soda, coffee, tea

Music by **The Cunningham Brothers**

\$75p/p. For info or tickets call: Susan Conte,  
646-330-8451; Anne Lenihan, 718-350-9448;  
Bridie Mitchell, 917-302-3569 or  
Maureen Postel, 917-589-6804.

Looking forward to seeing you again.  
**Let's keep the tradition ALIVE!!**

## 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](mailto:stmmvcalendar@gmail.com)

## Maggie's Little Theater presents Robert Harling's

STEEL  
*Magnolias*

### PERFORMANCE DATES

Saturdays, February 3 & 10 at 8:00pm  
Sundays, February 4 & 11 at 2:30pm  
Friday, February 9 at 8:00pm

### **RESERVE YOUR TICKET AT**

[wwwmaggieslittletheater.org](http://wwwmaggieslittletheater.org)  
or by calling 347-286-8508

**Tickets: Adults, \$22 - Seniors 65 & over, \$20  
Children 11 & under \$20.**

## CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

for tax purposes

**WILL BE ISSUED**  
**ONLY UPON REQUEST**

Please call the Rectory, 718-326-1911  
If you would like a statement mailed to you.  
Letters will go out after February 5th.