

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

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ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

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MUSIC MINISTRY

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LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTERS

Kathryn Burger Hazel Scanlon
Jeanne Perry Sue Karcher

GIFT SHOP

Sue Karcher, Coordinator
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CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICES:

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SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:

stmmvcalendar@gmail.com



FOURTH SUNDAY
IN
LENT
LAETARE SUNDAY
MARCH 10, 2024

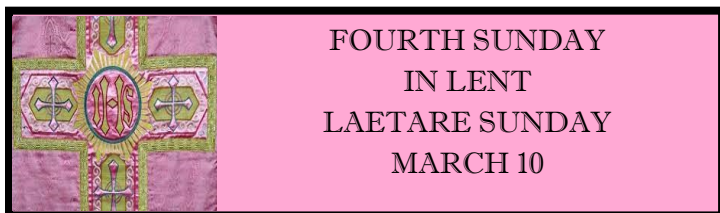
THE GREAT COMMISSION

“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. ~ | MARCH 10 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT |
| 8:00 | William J. Roemmelt |
| 10:00 | Adriana Gibb/Agostino Recca/ Giuseppa Taverna/Marianna Mule |
| NOON | Hank Banker |
| 5:00PM | Thomas O'Leary |
| MON. ~ | MARCH 11 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 7:00 | Helen T. Pfeifer |
| 9:00 | John Landi |
| TUE. ~ | MARCH 12 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 7:00 | Anna Nick/Franziska Stalzer |
| 9:00 | Margaret Huges |
| 9:30 | Stations of the Cross (Italian) |
| WED. ~ | MARCH 13 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 7:00 | Ruth O'Hehir (Anniv) |
| 9:00 | Filippo, Leonardo & Maria Curatolo/ Geraldine Ciaccio |
| THU. ~ | MARCH 14 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 7:00 | Jeanette Tavarone |
| 9:00 | Lt. Michael Maloney, FDNY |
| 7:30PM | Holy Hour |
| FRI. ~ | MARCH 15 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| | ABSTINENCE |
| 7:00 | Margaret & Eugene Trunz |
| 9:00 | Joseph Russo |
| 9:30 | Stations of the Cross (English) |
| SAT. ~ | MARCH 16 - LENTEN WEEKDAY |
| 9:00 | Collective: Helen Haeberle (anniv)/ |
| 5:00PM | Leonardo Castelli |
| SUN. ~ | MARCH 17 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT |
| 8:00 | The People of the Parish |
| 10:00 | Dcd. of Rice & Minogue Families/ Francesco e Maria Virruso/Joseph Battaglia/Pellegrino e Giuseppa Benfari |
| NOON | Hank Banker |
| 5:00PM | Walter Martin |



CHRISM MASS

We have received two tickets for parishioners to attend the Chrism Mass at St. Joseph Co-cathedral at 4:30pm on Tuesday, March 26. Please call the Rectory, ASAP, if you wish to represent us. First come/first served.

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 ASSIGNMENT SHEETS ARE IN THE SACRISTY.

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, Lee Falk, Justin James Quirke, Allen McConville, James Graff, The Mojica Family, The Valasquez Family, Maria Colalella, Joan Hanahoe, Grace Sorrentino, Bob Bicknese, Janice McManus-Genevrino, Katie Bryzgoria, 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, Jerry Feldnan, Chris Rossi, Cathy Lynch, Virginia Biehl, Ben Armato, Olivia Calastro, Wilhelm Wilps, Michael Crane, Stephen Crane, Michael Reilly,

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:

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:

Laurel Ibert

*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 Rose Accardi
at the request of Ben Armato, brother.*



TODAY, SUNDAY MARCH 10

TODAY'S READINGS

*Fourth Sunday in Lent
Cycle B - Hymnal # 893*

II Chronicles 36:14-23

Psalm 137:1-6

Ephesians 2:4-10

John 3:14-21

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Isaiah 65:17-21

Psalm 30:2-13

John 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ezekiel 47:1-12

Psalm 46:2-9

John 5:1-16

Wednesday: Isaiah 49:8-15

Psalm 145:8-18

John 5:17-30

Thursday: Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 106:19-23

John 5:31-47

Friday: Wisdom 2:1-22

Psalm 34:17-23

John 7:1-30

Saturday: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Psalm 7:2-12

John 7:40-53

Sunday: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:3-15

Hebrews 5:7-9

John 12:20-33

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Both Faith and Works”

How are we saved from our sins? Is it by faith alone (“sola fide”), or do our works really make a difference? The short answer, as we find it in today’s second reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians (2: 8-9), is that “by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so that no one may boast.” Today’s Gospel says, “God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life.” (This is “John 3:16”, the popular Bible phrase seen so often on signs held up by fans at sporting events).

This might raise a question or two among the curious: “Well, if we already are saved by the grace of God, then why are we running around being good and doing good works? It IS rather exhausting, after all, frequently boring, and often not terribly enjoyable. Why can’t I just profess my faith in Jesus Christ as my personal Lord, God, and Savior, let it go at that, and then live my life however I please?”

That may settle the matter, except for the pesky little Letter of St. James in which we find the disturbing and challenging lines (2: 14, 17), “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ... faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” These particular verses were among the reasons why the Protestant reformer, Martin Luther, moved the Letter of James to the appendix of his Bible, as it conflicted with his position (and that of Reformation leaders after him) that faith alone sufficed to save.

Now, to cut to the chase, and in the modern spirit of ecumenism, Catholic and Lutheran theologians agreed upon the matter about twenty-five years ago (after almost five centuries of arguing), shook hands, and shared hot cocoa and sponge cake, or something like that. We indeed are saved only by grace, i.e., by the loving mercy of God alone. Our salvation was His doing and His initiative. It is only by the saving act of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ – the incarnate, only begotten, consubstantial, and co-eternal Son of the Father – and His Resurrection through the power of the Holy Spirit, that anyone is saved.

This being said, though, it also was agreed that faith must be more than just the acquiescence of the mind to a major theological point or even to the whole set of doctrines and dogmas. Faith needs to be expressed, to be acted upon by the way we live our lives. One cannot profess faith in a loving and merciful God and not show love and mercy to other people. We cannot profess our faith in a Savior Who suffered and died for our sake while not being willing to sacrifice, submitting ourselves humbly, lovingly, and obediently to the will of the Father. We cannot believe in a God Whose essence is love while harboring hatred in our hearts.

It is true that none of us can “buy” eternal life by anything that we say or do. Again, our salvation is a pure gift to us from God. At the same time, anything that we say or do must be in accord with the will and commandments of God for our good, our salvation, since it reflects our faith in God, in His Son, in His love, etc. God initiates purely out of love; we must respond in kind.

Faith expressed in works develops over time and needs to be nurtured by prayer, with reflection on the Word of God, and through the grace that comes to us through our proper celebration of the Sacraments. This holy season of Lent is not just a matter of what we give up, but also of what we acquire: hopefully a deeper, more mature, and firmer faith in the God and Father Who loves us, in His incarnate Son Who has saved us, and in His Holy Spirit Who dwells within us.

During the Rite of ordination to the Diaconate, the bishop hands the candidate the Book of Gospels and says, “Receive the Gospel of Christ Whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.” Faith requires concrete expression by all of us, whether ordained or not.

If you live in the light of the Father’s truth, your works will be seen clearly as expressions of your belief in His only Son, Whom He has sent. You will not perish but will be brought to eternal life!

~ *Fr. Armato*

EUCHARISTIC 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 10:30am on the first Saturday of each month.

The next holy hour is Saturday, April 6.

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!

LENTEN STUDY SERIES

Lent is here!

We invite you to participate in our
Lenten Study Series
Bishop Robert Barron's Video

"Priest, Prophet, and King"

This program will help us to understand those who foreshadowed Jesus, the perfect Priest, Prophet and King!

We will be able to deepen our understanding of how each of us, as Baptized Christians, participate in the life and work of Christ, sharing in this three-fold office of priest, prophet and King.

The program will be held on Wednesdays at Noon and on Thursdays at 7pm, in the Convent meeting room.

The dates are as follows:

Wednesdays, **3/13** and 3/20

Thursdays, **3/14** and 3/21

Father Joseph will facilitate the discussions. We look forward to your presence and participation!

THE ST. VINCENT dePAUL CLOTHING PICK-UP

is being held **TODAY**, Sunday, March 10. 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

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, April 13.

PARISH FINANCES

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

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.

YOUNG ADULTS HOLY HOUR

Our next holy hour for young adults, with an opportunity for private confession, will be celebrated this Thursday, beginning at 7:30pm.

All are welcome!



FIRST DAY
OF SPRING
MARCH 19

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. Some recent presentations include audio books and videos on: living Lent and preparing for Easter; Catholic customs; the Stations of the Cross; the Eucharist; St. Joseph; and 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.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

We went over our 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign goal by \$11,806, which helps to offset some of our expenses. Can we do it again?

The goal for our 2024 Campaign is \$76,014 once more. I ask very member of the Parish to consider participating in the 2024 Appeal with a "fair-share gift" of \$125 or more, as your means may allow. Your generosity will help both our Parish and our Diocese to serve the spiritual and physical needs of our people.

We're off to a good start with pledges so far of \$32,600 (42.9% of goal, thanks to those donors who have responded early and generously!

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY

The 9:00am Mass on St. Joseph's Day, Tuesday, March 19, will be celebrated in both English and Italian.

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

BRIDGE TO LIFE



The St. Vincent dePaul Society is conducting it's **13th 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, March 29

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.

THANK YOU . . .

from Pat Minogue to the members of the Irish Night Committee, and friends, who helped make the night a success. They include:

Fr. Armato, Sr. Bridget, Debbie Barrett, Susan Conte Betty Cocco, Sheila & John DeBiase, Mary & Andy Harrison, Anne & Tom Lenihan, Kathy & Mike Loftus, Bridie Mitchell, Mary Pascale, Maureen & John Postel, & Jim Minogue.

We look forward to seeing you again next year! Happy St. Patrick's Day!!

