

# ***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*



**FIFTH  
SUNDAY**

**IN**

**LENT**

**MARCH 17, 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

<b>SUN.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 17 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT</b>
8:00	The People of the Parish
10:00	Deceased of the Rice & Minogue Families/Francesco e Maria Virruso/ Pellegrino e Giuseppa Benfari/Joseph Battaglia
NOON	Hank Banker
5:00PM	Walter Martin
<b>MON.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 18 - ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM</b>
7:00	Marguerite Scaturro & Matilda Kunzinger
9:00	Constantine Iannicello (anniv)
<b>TUE.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 19 - ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>
7:00	Dan Smith
9:00	** Colombo Iannicello (birth)
9:30	Stations of the Cross (Italian)
	** <b>Italian/English</b>
<b>WED.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 20 - LENTEN WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Scaturro & Kunzinger Families
9:00	Fred Basedow
<b>THU.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 21 - LENTEN WEEKDAY</b>
7:00	Peter Scully
9:00	Florence McShea
<b>FRI.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 22 - LENTEN WEEKDAY</b>
	<b>ABSTINENCE</b>
7:00	Carmelo Caruana (anniv)
9:00	Otto Schug
9:30	Stations of the Cross (English)
<b>SAT.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 23 - ST. TURIBIUS</b>
9:00	<b>Collective:</b> Giacomino e Giuseppina Gennari/
5:00PM	Michael, Catherine, Tom, Joe & Rosaleen Reilly
<b>SUN.</b> ~	<b>MARCH 24 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>
8:00	Edward Stoltzenberg
10:00	Il Popolo della Parrocchia/Vincenza, Mariano e Salvatore Palmeri/Anna Silaco/Geraldine Ciaccio/Salvatore Fazzolari/Dawn Petronella/Calogero Tuttolomondo
NOON	Herta Matschulat
5:00PM	Carl Dokter & Louise Moeller



## 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 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 Flesch, 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, Frank Fuller, Nancy Gunshinan, Michael Macchia,

*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:*

***ANGELINA CAPOBIANCO, ROBERT LEDOUX***

*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 Eamon Blake.*



### ST. JOSEPH'S DAY

The 9am Mass on  
St. Joseph's day, this Tuesday,  
March 19, will be celebrated  
in both English and Italian.  
The *Via Crucis* in Italian will  
follow Mass.

## TODAY'S READINGS

*Fifth Sunday in Lent  
Cycle B - Hymnal # 896*

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:3-15

Hebrews 5:7-9

John 12:20-33

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Daniel 13:1-62

Psalm 23:1-6

John 8:1-11

Tuesday: II Samuel 7:4-16

Psalm 89:2-29

Romans 4:13-22

Matthew 1:16-24

Wednesday: Daniel 3:14-95

Daniel 3:52-56

John 8:31-42

Thursday: Genesis 17:3-9

Psalm 105:4-9

John 8:51-59

Friday: Jeremiah 20:10-13

Psalm 18:2-7

John 10:31-42

Saturday: Ezra 37:21-28

Jeremiah 31:10-13

John 11:45-56

Sunday: Mark 11:1-10

Psalm 22:8-24

Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47

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

## *From the Pastor's Desk:*

### *"Carved into Your Soul"*

Some of my friends take me to task as being old-fashioned, behind the times, not "with it". My failure: I prefer not only to see and read things, whether important or casual, but also to hold them in my hands. I also prefer to deal with people face to face, rather than via Apple Pay, ATM, or even Zoom. At almost 72, I don't think I'm about to change for the sake of XXI Century technology.

God, however, has gone even further, not simply giving us His Commandments on slabs of stone or on the scrolls of the Prophets for us to inspect, hold, and study, but rather carving, in a sense, His eternal Covenant in our hearts, our souls. The proclamation of His love for us is bonded into our very being. God has made us for Himself, St. Augustine said, to share His love and His eternal life.

He had promised through the Prophet Jeremiah, as we hear in today's first reading, that He would establish an intimate, personal, one-on-one, covenant relationship with each one of His people and forgive their many sins, infidelities, and wrongdoings. That promise would have to wait almost six centuries before being fulfilled in the Person of Jesus Christ, Who drew all people to Himself as He was lifted up on the Cross and then by His Resurrection from the dead and Ascension into Heaven. By virtue of our baptism, Christ's presence in us is immediate through a bond that never can be broken.

There is no need for us to stand on line waiting for an opportunity to get to meet Jesus, as the Gentile Greeks requested in today's Gospel passage. Their encounter points to the ancient prophecy of the all-embracing universality and immediacy of the Kingdom of God. Yes, salvation has come through the Jewish people, but it is not limited to them. The blood descendants of Abraham were chosen not to have a monopoly on salvation or to have an exclusive relationship with God, but rather to serve as the conduit through which all of mankind would be brought into right relationship with Him. "Through them have come the Law, the Prophets, and the Messiah," but not just for their sakes.

The approach to Jesus is universal, but it also is very costly. It requires all who would follow Him to pick up their own personal crosses every day, to die to our egos and self-centeredness and to the worldly enticements that distract us from our true goal: the treasure of eternal life in the Kingdom of God. In short, it requires us to say repeatedly and with all sincerity, "Father, Thy will be done!" That can be very difficult because we are rather attached to those distractions like desires for power, prestige, wealth, honors, and more. Yet the Cross is the only way to follow Him, by the grace that God grants us.

Jesus speaks in the parable about the seed that produces fruit only if it dies. A seed does not exist for its own benefit, but is intended for the production of fruit for someone else to enjoy. He was speaking directly about His own approaching Death and Resurrection, through which sin and death were conquered and the forgiveness of sins and eternal life were won for us. He refers to our discipleship, as well, insofar as He requires us to follow His example of humble and loving self-sacrifice for the sake of acquiring the greater good, THE Good: God Himself.

It would have been very easy for Jesus to say, "Okay, I've been doing quite a bit of teaching and healing over the last three years. The people should have gotten My point by now. My mission is accomplished, and I'm returning to My Father in glory. Ciao!" The "hour" of His glorification would not come, however, until He had given and shown the full measure of His love for and dedication to His Father on the Cross. It is in that moment, too, that He showed the full measure of His love for sinful mankind and His commitment to bringing about our reconciliation and salvation.

We passed the "halfway mark" of Lent last Sunday. Our gaze in these next two weeks now is toward the great events of Holy Week, from Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the glory of His Resurrection a week later. In between, though, we need to get through His Passion and Death, for there can be no Easter Sunday without Good Friday. We also must remember this in the difficult times of our own lives, for they are occasions to unite our sufferings with those of Christ.

May God, Who has established His Covenant with you and carved it in your soul, strengthen your faith and lift you up in the glory of eternal life with Christ Jesus, His Son!

~ *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 10:30am 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!

The program will be held this Wednesday at Noon and on Thursday at 7pm, in the Convent meeting room.

Father Joseph will facilitate the discussions. Thank you for joining us!



## DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

will be given in St. Margaret Parish Hall on **SATURDAY, APRIL 20** from 9:00am to 3:30pm.

**THE COST:** \$50 per person

**THE BENEFITS:** 10% discount on liability and collision insurance for 3 years. Up to 4 points deducted from your driving record.

**CONTACT:** Sr. Bridget, 718-326-1911, for more information or to register.

## 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 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!

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.

## 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 every 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 \$34,340 (45.2%) of goal**, thanks to those donors who have responded early and generously!

## EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Diocese of Brooklyn will sponsor a **Eucharistic Revival** at Louis Armstrong Stadium in Flushing Meadows Park on **Saturday, April 20**. Seating is limited. Contact the Rectory as soon as possible, if you wish to attend.

## 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: THE Stations of the Cross; the Resurrection; Jesus in the Eucharist; St. Joseph and St. Patrick; a Catholic art program for kids; and videos for the whole family to enjoy.


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.



## BRIDGE TO LIFE

The St. Vincent dePaul Society is conducting its **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.

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE - 2024

### PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, Confession from 3:30 to 4:45pm  
Saturday, Vigil Mass at 5:00pm  
Sunday Masses at 8:00am,  
10:00am (Bilingual - Italian/English),  
Noon and 5:00pm

### RECONCILIATION MONDAY

Confessions from 7:30 to 9:00am  
3:00 to 5:00pm and 7:00 to 8:00pm

### HOLY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer at 9:00am  
Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8:00pm  
**Adoration until 10:30pm in the Church**

### GOOD FRIDAY

Morning Prayer at 9:00am  
Stations of the Cross at Noon (English)  
Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at 3:00pm

### HOLY SATURDAY

Morning Prayer at 9:00am  
Mid-day Prayer with Blessing of food at Noon  
Great Vigil of Easter at 8:00pm  
**NO CONFESSION TODAY**  
**NO 5:00PM MASS**

### EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

8:00am  
10:00am (Bilingual - Italian/English) & Noon  
**NO EVENING MASS**

## MAGGIE'S LITTLE THEATER **AUDITIONS** FOR THEIR SUMMER PRODUCTION OF



St. Margaret Parish Hall (parking lot entrance)  
look for the sign on the door.

**TODAY**, Sunday March 17 - 2 to 4:30pm  
Monday, March 18 - 7:30 to 9:30pm  
Tuesday, March 19 - 7:30 to 9:30pm

Gender-blind and color-blind casting  
All auditionees must be **FULLY** vaccinated