

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

718-326-0922
Sharon Swift, Principal
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

718-326-0922
Karen Gonzales
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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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SCHEDULE/CALENDAR:

stmmvcalendar@gmail.com



**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF
EASTER
APRIL 28, 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. ~ APRIL 28 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 The People of the Parish
10:00 Maria Curatolo (anniv)/Anna Silaco
Mario Gisone/Frank R. Vella/Anna
Braccioforte/Luisa Ciulla
NOON Antoinette Santora
5:00PM Angie & Rick Ferzola

MON. ~ APRIL 29 - ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

7:00 Ted Lubanski
9:00 Andrew Jenner (birth)

TUE. ~ APRIL 30 - ST. PIUS V, POPE

7:00 Int. Cathal Friel
9:00 Alanna Conneely

WED. ~ MAY 1 - ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

7:00 Maria e Pasquale DiFonti
9:00 Claire Abbate

THU. ~ MAY 2 - ST. ATHANASIUS

7:00 Peter Trinche
9:00 Foglia & Belloisi Families

FRI. ~ MAY 3 - STS. PHILIP AND JAMES

7:00 Frank & Lucia Sparacio
9:00 Jim Ronan

SAT. ~ MAY 4 - EASTER WEEKDAY

9:00 **Collective:** Dcd. Priests of Brooklyn
and Rockville Centre Dioceses/Bill
& Lee DiGiovanna/Souls in
purgatory
9:30 **Holy Hour**
5:00 Bernard A. Moreno

SUN. ~ MAY 5 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 Donna Roemmelt
10:00 Vincenza Palmeri/Girolama Curatolo
Geraldine Ciaccio/Maria Curatolo/
Rosario, Rosaria e Nunzio Taormina
NOON Concetta & John Averna
5:00PM Hank Banker



MAY CROWNING

We will crown the statue of our Blessed Mother at the 12 Noon Mass on Sunday, May 5. All children who received their first Holy Communion the day before or who were confirmed this week are asked to participate in this devotion.

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, 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, Michael Crane, Stephen Crane, Michael Reilly, Frank Fuller, Nancy Gunshinan, Tim Scanlon, Marie Ashford, Chris Kearns,

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
Marine Angel Faican*

Pray for peace.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be



WE RECALL OUR BELOVED DECEASED

especially this week:

ANGELO CANDINO, PATRICIA ANGRISANI

*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 Claire Abbate
at the request of Frank & Florence Cerar.*

ALTAR CANDLES

*are offered in memory of Sebastiano and Anna
Braccioforte, at the request of the Caracci, Musca &
Braccioforte families.*

TABERNACLE LAMP

*is lit in memory of Sebastiano and Anna
Braccioforte, at the request of the Caracci, Musca &
Braccioforte families.*

TODAY'S READINGS

*Fifth Sunday of Easter
Cycle B - Hymnal # 911*

Acts 9:26-31
Psalm 22:26-32
I John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 14:5-18
Psalm 115:1-16
John 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28
Psalm 145:10-21
John 14:27-31

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6
Psalm 122:1-5
John 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21
Psalm 96:1-10
John 15:9-11

Friday: I Corinthians 15:1-8
Psalm 19:2-5
John 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10
Psalm 100:1-5
John 15:18-21

Sunday: Acts 10:25-48
Psalm 98:1-4
I John 4:7-10
John 15:9-17

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

“Christ's Vibrant, Fruitful Branches”

It's difficult at times to get into a group, whether at school, at work, or in an organization or a parish society. It may take time for those already within the group to accept us during a period of formal or informal probation, after which there's usually a form of ritual acceptance. That seems rather normal. Imagine, though, if someone who had been hostile to the group later tried to join it. They're bound to have a rough time of it, if not encounter outright rejection by the members. Still, they know that the only way to survive is to join, to be part of that group.

Such was the case of Saul, who had persecuted the Church in Judea and was heading off to do the same thing in Damascus when he had his dramatic, totally life-changing encounter with Christ. It took some doing for the disciples to accept him, but that did not deter him. He realized that he had to belong to Christ and that his life would be a meaningless waste without Christ. From the time of his baptism in Damascus until the moment of his martyrdom in Rome about thirty years later, Saul (St. Paul) was inseparable from his Lord and Savior. Despite all of his sufferings as he proclaimed the Gospel of salvation in Jesus, all that he ever feared was being cut off from Christ. Can we say as much?

Christ tells us in today's Gospel that attachment to Himself is required of each disciple. Separated from Him like branches cut off from a vine, we wither and die. We flourish by the grace of God and produce the fruit of good works in love for Him and one another. We are called to do this, as St. John tells us in today's second reading, “not [merely] in word and speech but in deed and truth.” Our discipleship must be real, active, and demonstrable in order to be effective.

I remember being in friends' and relatives' backyards as a boy and seeing the elders pruning their grape vines, carefully clipping off certain branches and bundling them up to be thrown away or burned. It looked like a lot of unnecessary, hard work and a waste of what I thought were good branches. Little did I know then that those branches had to be removed because the owner knew that they wouldn't produce any fruit but actually would drain strength from the vine, thereby inhibiting its production of bountiful clusters of good grapes.

In a way, that happens with us, too. God wants to prune away from us the sins and sinful inclinations that prevent us from producing the good that He knows we can accomplish with His care and grace. He strengthens us to remain connected as strong branches to the Vine, His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and He nurtures us as we put Christ's teachings into practice, not as an optional, arbitrary philosophy, but as the way to true and eternal life. God takes delight in what we accomplish as we respond to His initiative, and, just as the sap gives life to the branches, so the Holy Spirit abiding in us gives life to our souls.

It's easy to be lukewarm and get lost in the sentimentality of the holidays and “Kodak moments” of our lives. It's quite another matter to persevere in the practice of the Faith, especially when the going gets tough. We should recognize at all times that God, Who loves us beyond all measure or imagination, has accomplished our salvation through the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of His Son. He does not force His will upon us but waits for us to act in the freedom of the children of God.

Sometimes, we live in anxious fear and hesitate to embrace God's love and calling; at other times, we have the courage to accept the grace that He offers us so as to live in fear (profound awe and respect) of the Lord. The former is dry, brittle, and sterile; the latter is supple and vibrant, and produces much fruit for the Kingdom of God.

Let us live and truly love, always united with our Savior, open to the power of His Holy Spirit constantly at work in us and through us, so that we may enjoy the fullness of life with our God and Father, to Whom be glory now and forever!

~ *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 NEXT Saturday, May 4.

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!

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you for your generosity in the regular and special collections, whether through e-giving or in the collection basket! Nevertheless, we are far from meeting our regular expenses. Our Diocesan bills alone account for over 150% of our weekly in-pew collections.

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

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.

The Appeal helps our senior citizen and youth programs, seminarians and Senior Priests. 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 **58 pledges so far totaling \$40,264 (53% of our goal)**, thanks to those donors who have responded early and generously!

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!

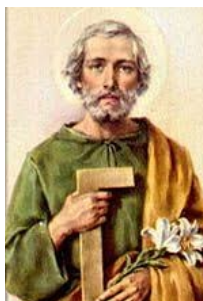
**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE PERISHABLE
ITEMS IN THE BIN IN THE CHURCH!**

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, May 11 at 9am.**



SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER

was an ordinary, humble man, a carpenter who worked hard to support his family. Joseph’s trust led him to follow God’s path. He faced many critics, still, Joseph lived a happy life and his faithful trust allowed him to be a loving foster-father to Jesus and devoted husband to Mother Mary.

CONFIRMATION

*Congratulations to the members of
our Confirmation classes! We look
forward to seeing you at Mass each
weekend, as mature Catholics
committed to practicing the Faith.*



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 Scriptures, Old and New Testaments; the Resurrection; Saint Joseph, our spiritual father; the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary; Jesus in the Holy Eucharist; teenage mental health issues; Confirmation; programs for kids as well as 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.



UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

There is an **URGENT NEED** for blood donations and the New York Blood Center is asking for our help.

St. Margaret Parish will sponsor a Blood Drive on **Sunday June 2, 2024 from 9am til 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 **800-933-2566**. Appointments are preferred; however, walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits.

Bring a mask; requirements may change depending on CDC guidelines.

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

ESTATE PLANNING

Did you know that there are ways to support our parish and the mission of the Church that can also provide you with tax benefit and potentially even a source of income?

If you have an asset such as appreciated stocks, a retirement plan, art, real estate, or other assets, a planned gift could be a smarter way to give than cash alone. You can sustain our beloved parish with a planned gift while also making smart financial decisions to benefit your family.

For more information, please call the Catholic Foundation at 718-965-7375.

DAY TRIP TO AMISH COUNTRY TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 7:00AM



with Father Joseph to see
The Sight & Sound Theatre Production of

DANIEL

\$190 ALL INCLUSIVE: transportation, tips,
theatre ticket, grand smorgasbord lunch at
Yoder's Restaurant and Buffet.

Bus leaves in front of St. Margaret Church at
7:00am **SHARP!**

The tour will operate with a minimum of 30 people.
Please call Becky Wong at Gloria Travel
929-417-2338

Last day for reservations is **May 1, 2024**.