

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

718-326-1911
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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:

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**SIXTH SUNDAY
OF
EASTER
MAY 5, 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. ~	MAY 5 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
8:00	Donna Roemmelt
10:00	Vincenza Palmeri/Geraldine Ciaccio Girolama Curatolo/Maria Curatolo/ Rosario, Rosaria e Nunzio Taormina
NOON	Concetta & John Averna
5:00PM	Hank Banker
MON. ~	MAY 6 - EASTER WEEKDAY
7:00	Purgatorial Society
9:00	Maureen Schmerwitz
TUE. ~	MAY 7 - EASTER WEEKDAY
7:00	Int. Domenick & Donna Orsano
9:00	Rev. Joseph O'Donnell CM, (birth)
WED. ~	MAY 8 - EASTER WEEKDAY
7:00	Theresa Rom
9:00	Caroline Martin (birth)
THU. ~	MAY 9 - ASCENSION OF THE LORD
7:00	Billy Heilman
9:00	Pat O'Brien
7:30PM	The People of the Parish HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
FRI. ~	MAY 10 - ST. DAMIEN deVEUSTER
7:00	Velma Thornton
9:00	Edward & Madeline Lorth
SAT. ~	MAY 11 - EASTER WEEKDAY
9:00	Memorial Mass: Mary Reddington, Angelo Candino, Patricia Angrisani, Anna Nick/Rosa Stalzer
5:00	
SUN. ~	MAY 12 - SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/MOTHER'S DAY
8:00	William R. Roemmelt
10:00	Mother's Day Triduum/Geraldine Ciaccio/Maria Curatolo/Daniele Bussa/Francesca, Lina, Mary & Maria Battaglini/In anore della Madonna di Fatima/Benedetto Barretta e Famiglia/Francesca, Giuseppe e Salvatore Casabianca e Famiglia/Leamine del Purgatorio/ The People of the Parish
NOON	Antoinette Santora
5:00PM	



SIXTH
SUNDAY
OF
EASTER
MAY 5

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 Bryzgornia, 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:

LINA SCIOTTI

*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 Luisa Ciulla
at the request of the Rodriguez Family.*

ASCENSION THURSDAY

This Thursday is the solemnity of the Lord's Ascension, a **holy day of obligation** and the start of a novena in preparation for the solemnity of Pentecost. *See page 2 for the full schedule of Masses.*

TODAY'S READINGS

*Sixth Sunday of Easter
Cycle B - Hymnal # 914*

Acts 10:25-48

Psalm 98:1-4

I John 4:7-10

John 15:9-17

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:

Acts 16:11-15

Psalm 149:1-9

John 15:26-16:4

Tuesday:

Acts 16:22-34

Psalm 138:1-8

John 16:5-11

Wednesday:

Acts 17:15-22 - 18:1

Psalm 148:1-14

John 16:12-15

Thursday:

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47:2-9

Ephesians 4:1-13

Mark 16:15-20

Friday:

Acts 18:9-18

Psalm 47:2-7

John 16:20-23

Saturday:

Acts 18:23-28

Psalm 47:2-10

John 16:23-28

Sunday:

Acts 1:15-26

Psalm 103:1-20

I John 4:11-16

John 17:11-19

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

From the Pastor's Desk:

~ The Cost and Fruit of True Friendship ~

There was a class on non-Catholic religions in my Fourth Year of seminary formation. We referred to it rather tongue-in-cheek as "Making Friends for Jesus". Christ speaks clearly to His disciples (including us) in today's Gospel passage about true friendship, but it may not be what we'd hope for or expect.

First we hear Him use the conditional "if", which implies consequences for not complying. Then He issues a commandment to the very ones whom He's just called His friends, and not just once but twice. It's rather odd for a friend not only to place conditions on the friendship but then also to command the other to do something to keep it intact. Ask, okay. Request, sure. But command?

The Gospel scene is part of Jesus' final speech at the Last Supper, His "farewell address". He's making it clear to His twelve disciples that, while He has chosen them to be His friends, that friendship requires a definite response on their part. He has come out of loving obedience to the will of the Father with Whom He is united in the bond of love, the Holy Spirit. If the disciples are to remain united with Him, they must respond with the same bond, both to Him and to one another. The love that unites the Father and the Son is to be the same "glue" that binds His disciples.

This required love is not romantic, emotional, or theoretical. Christ again makes it perfectly clear what He commands: He demands that His disciples be willing to give themselves fully for the good of others. Yes, they have been chosen, but it is not for membership in some prestigious social club or exclusive prayer group. They have been chosen to share in His mission, to bear permanent results, achievable only if they follow His example of self-emptying love, just as He fully loves the Father and the Father fully loves Him. True love is demanding.

That's pretty scary, yes? Of course, yes! But Christ never pulls any punches with His disciples. He has shared with them everything that He has been given by the Father. Neither does He pull any punches with us. He has initiated; we are called to respond. You and I have been chosen by Christ to be His disciples, His friends. We, too, have His promise, and we know what He expects of us, if we are to remain in His friendship. We share now in His life by virtue of Baptism, which imposes on us a responsibility, a duty, an imperative, a command: we are to love, i.e., to die to self and to live for Him.

For the most part, we don't engage in a dramatic laying down of our lives like countless martyrs have done for love of Christ, or as soldiers do for love of country and kin. Instead, we respond through the small, daily sacrifices of our lives, putting ourselves on hold for the sake of addressing the needs of another. Perhaps it is to take care of a sick relative or friend. It might be spending more of our personal quality time patiently with a child who requires more attention and guidance. It could be responding to the inconvenient, untimely need of a neighbor who has requested our help, or of a friend who has asked us to do him/her a favor. It might be helping to bring the parish back to life by getting active in one or another ministry when we'd just as soon stay comfortably at home. The opportunities are endless.

St. John gives a major reason for Christian love in our second reading: "love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God." By "knows God", St. John means, "experiences an intimate relationship with Him". Not to love puts us outside that relationship. We'd be out in the cold, empty, eternal darkness, worse than being lost in space without oxygen or a spacesuit.

Christ has called us to share the warm light of His love. God the Father has given us the example of what He expects of us by sending His Son to atone for our sins. Think about it: we have sinned against God, defied Him, turned our backs on Him, rejected His love, and, despite all this, He still has loved us so much as to give us everything in His Son, Who has loved the Father and has complied willingly and humbly with the Father's redeeming will in bringing us back to Him.

Christ has come on a mission that bears the fruit that will last: our eternal salvation. He has chosen us to share in that mission by loving one another, and the Father has given us the Holy Spirit to accomplish all that He asks of us. The love of the Father is extended to us through Christ freely and fully, but it is contingent, conditional upon our response. We are created in the image and likeness of God with the capacity to love, and Christ commands that we put that into effect, producing the fruits of goodness, justice, and truth.

The challenge of Christ's command is before us, as fresh and demanding as it was when He issued it to His disciples at the Last Supper. Let us live and truly love in the light of our Savior, open to the power of His Holy Spirit working in us and through us, that we may enjoy the fullness of eternal life!

~ Fr. Armato

**ST. MARGARET
CATHOLIC ACADEMY
SHINES !!**



Thank you to 7th grade student journalists and artists Mia Milom, Nastasya Samuel, Evangeline Kotarski, Amelia Chang, Gabriella Ostrowski, Lana Sanchez, Rosie Estrella, and Amelia Tyszuk who contributed to *The Tablet Jr.* in the 4-27-24 issue. We hope that their insights will make a difference now, and in the future. We are so proud of you! Keep up the good work!

**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!**



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 **63 pledges so far totaling \$41,689 (54.8% of our goal).**

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. See page 2 for listing.

**ASSOCIATED VINCENTIAN CHARITIES
GIVES BACK**

for each car, truck or van, running or not, Vincentian Charities will give back to our parish
\$75/\$200 per vehicle.

If you have an old or neglected vehicle that is not being used, please call **718-491-2525** or
SVDPAULTO-BROOKLYNQUEENS.ORG

**IRS TAX DEDUCTION
FREE TOWING
ANY CONDITION**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION



FIRST COMMUNION

Congratulations to the members of our First Communion classes! We look forward to seeing you at Mass with your families each weekend as you continue to receive Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

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: Pope St. John Paul II; discerning a vocation to priesthood, marriage, or religious life; Jesus in the Holy Eucharist; teenage mental health issues; Confirmation; programs for toddlers and kids as well as videos for 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.



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.

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

is the event, where Jesus arose into Heaven at the end of his time on earth.

Jesus' time on earth began with His birth. It was interrupted for three days by His death on the Cross. During that time He descended into the realm of the dead and preached the Gospel to the people who died before Him. This allowed those souls, who accepted Christ as their Savior, to proceed to Heaven. On the third day after His death and burial, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, an event we call the Resurrection. He spent the next 40 days preaching and preparing His disciples to perform the work of preaching and baptizing all people.

At the end of this 40 day period,
Jesus ascended into Heaven.

