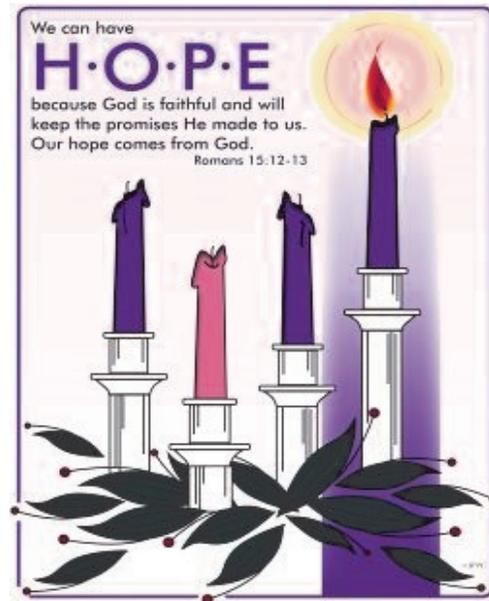


ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH PARISH

208 N. Narberth Avenue
Narberth, PA 19072
610-664-3770, Fax 610-664-5001
Web site: www.saintmarg.org
Email: office@saintmarg.org

First Sunday of Advent December 2, 2018



Msgr. Paul V. Dougherty,
Pastor, Ext. 12
pastor@saintmarg.org

Rev. Robert J. Chapman,
Pastor Emeritus

In Residence
Rev. Matthew W. Guckin

Weekend Assistance:
Rev. Robert Pesarchick
Rev. Kevin DePrinzio, O.S.A.

Principal, St. Margaret School,
Mrs. Mary Anne Johnston
mjohnston@smsnarberth.org
610-664-2640

Director of Religious Education, Ext.16
Mrs. Mary Anne J. Monroe, M.A.
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Coordinator of Parish Services, Ext. 20
Mr. Robert Cermignano, M.S.W.
faith@saintmarg.org

Parish Business Manager, Ext.17
Mr. Cliff Coombs
busmgr@saintmarg.org

Administrative Assistants, Ext. 10
Mrs. Teresa Myers (Mon, Tues, Thurs)
Mrs. Rose Marie Dalton (Wed, Fri)
office@saintmarg.org

Director of Music - Mr. Michael Worth
saintmargmusic@gmail.com
267-304-6490

Scrip Sales

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

FROM 9AM TO 4:30 PM IN THE RECTORY

Rectory Office Business Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00AM to 4:30PM
CLOSED WEEKENDS

**Any requests for the weekly Bulletin
should be submitted by
Monday, 12:00 Noon.**

Schedule of Masses

Saturday Evening Vigil: 5:15PM
Sunday: 7:30, 10:00 and 11:30AM
Daily Monday - Friday: 7:00AM,
followed by Morning Prayer
Saturday: 8:00AM

Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass - 7:00 PM
7:00 AM, 12:05 Noon and 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Exposition

7:30-8:30 AM Tuesday
7:30-8:00 AM - First Fridays

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 PM
Sunday before 7:30 AM Mass
Tuesday thru Saturday: 7:45-7:55 AM
or by appointment.



First Sunday of Advent

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Advertisers have been at it for months now, long before Halloween, even going back to July, when most of us are thinking beach or mountains. At what? Talking about Christmas gifts. They remind us that “Christmas is coming, and shopping time is limited.” For them, the purpose is certain: a profitable bottom line.

With this First Sunday of Advent, as another Liturgical year begins, this short season of spiritual preparation has arrived. With it come those chosen Scriptures that at the start emphasize Christ’s second coming, even though we think only of the first. So while we are busy decorating in bright reds and greens, the Church brings out sanctuary decorations and vestments of deep purple, with their sober symbolism of the need for penance.

However, Advent does not come with the heavy seriousness of Lent. That season has its own themes. Advent seeks to remind us that while there was an historical beginning to the redemptive work of Christ, the finale is yet to come. We Christians must keep in mind that He is coming back at a time we do not know.

There is a real value in reflection on that one stop to our life here below when eternal life begins. The “entrance exam” is our judgment by Christ. His verdict is of eternal consequence and irreversible. So in our Advent state of mind, we are obliged to strike a balance between the here and now, and the then and there.

“Balance” is the key word. For example, the Church in wearing her purple does not seek to quash the many joys of the Christmas season. As a sponsor of healthy family life, she certainly knows the precious nature of time spent with family and friends. She just does not want us to be so carried away with rejoicing as to forget that one day we all will have to shuffle off “this mortal coil” to a different and better life in our true home. Also, she wants us to bear in mind that it was an adult, mature God-man who suffered, died and rose for our benefit. We can consider our lives as one great Advent of preparing for that very personal one on one with Him. Advent offers the hope of a happy outcome of that meeting. That should offset any depression that could settle in our minds come the end of the Christmas season.

The good news is that the same Jesus who will judge us has also given us the best preparation agenda. He came as a King of hearts. He showed us a loving lifestyle is the only one that guarantees our success at life. All we have to do is live it.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 3

7:00 AM Deceased Members of Scorzetti Family

TUESDAY, December 4

7:00 AM Mary & Jack Mullarkey

WEDNESDAY, December 5

7:00 AM Scorzetti Family

THURSDAY, December 6

7:00 AM Rev. Gerald J. Lynam

FRIDAY, December 7

7:00 AM Mike Marconi

7:00 PM Vigil Anthony & Teresa Falcone

SATURDAY, December 8

7:00 AM Immaculate Bizzarri

12:05 PM Deceased & Living Members of the Kelly Family



THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 2, 2018

The Sanctuary Candle will burn in memory of Anthony & Teresa Falcone.

Msgr. Dougherty offers a Mass each Sunday for all the parishioners and for those enrolled in the church memorial fund.

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Weekend Collection of Nov. 18, 2018: \$10,983

Including Electronic Funds Transfer: \$ 803

Mail In: \$ 3,095

Parish On Line: \$ 1,075

Envelopes: 230

Weekend of November 19, 2017: \$9,518

The Weekend Collection of Nov. 25, 2018: \$9,121

Including Electronic Funds Transfer: \$ 803

Mail In: \$ 795

Parish On Line: \$ 1,680

Envelopes: 223

Weekend of November 26, 2017: \$8,988

I sincerely thank you for continuing to live faithful stewardship. God bless you and your families.

Msgr. Dougherty



NEW ONLINE GIVING - Saint Margaret Parish has arranged a new, secure method of online

giving. You can now setup all your second collections in advance. Create or login to your Parish Giving account by going to the Parish website and clicking on the logo at the lower right or <https://tinyurl.com/>

From the Pastor

Advent: the Beginning of a New Church Year - Today is the First Sunday of Advent, which marks the beginning of a New Church Year. The Parish Pastoral Council decided that it would be good for us to have a Parish Theme to focus on through the new Church Year and the theme chosen is: The Eucharist: Our Strength and Our Joy. The Mass is at the heart of who we are as Catholic people; the Eucharist is the Lord's gift of himself to us through the reception of his Body and Blood. Our focus during the Church Year will be to help our Parish to grow in its appreciation and love for the Eucharistic Liturgy, the Mass. May all of us look for ways to understand more completely and live more fully the Eucharist the Lord left us a grace-filled treasure for his glory and our sanctification.

Presentation of the Gifts - We would like to give people the opportunity to volunteer to bring up the gifts of the bread and wine at our Sunday Masses. Beginning next week there will be a sign up sheet in the vestibule of the Church for anyone who wants to volunteer to perform this ministry at our Sunday liturgies. Those who bring up the gifts represent the entire community in expressing our desire to offer ourselves to the Lord so that he can transform us into his image through the bread and wine that will become his Body and Blood and be given back to us. Please consider participating at Mass by presenting on occasion the gifts of bread and wine.

Day of Sanctification for Priests - At the beginning of a new Church Year each Advent the priests of the Archdiocese gather for a Day of Sanctification to rededicate ourselves to priestly service of God's people. We ask for your prayers to help us to live dedicated and holy lives as good shepherds of the flock. Please pray for us during the Season of Advent. Here is a prayer you could use: *Lord our God, who in governing your people make use of the ministry of priests, grant to these men a persevering obedience to your will, so that by their ministry and life they may gain glory for you in Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

School Advisory Board - We will meet at 7pm on Thursday, December 6 in the Antioch Annex.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holyday of Obligation - Saturday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holyday of Obligation. This Solemnity remains a Holyday even when it falls on a Saturday, because the Blessed Mother, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, was declared many years ago by the Church as the Patroness of our country. Masses will be celebrated at 7:00pm on Friday, December 7 and at 8:00 and 10:00 am on Saturday, December 8. Attending Mass on this day draws us close to the Lord through Mary and is a special way of praying to Mary to intercede for our country so that we can walk in the ways of God's truth, peace and justice.

Choir Christmas Concert on December 14 - Our St. Margaret Choir will present their Annual Christmas Concert on Friday, December 14 at 7:00pm in Church. Come and experience the inspiration of this sacred music as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection - The second collection at all the Masses this weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This Fund helps provide for the needs of our aging and ill religious women and men who have served the Church so faithfully.

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY

Week of December 2, 2018
Robert Ritzco 610-649-3973
Please call as early in the week as possible.



Food Collection Weekend

Next Weekend, December 8 & 9 is our monthly food collection. Please pick up a Manna bag in the back of church and return next weekend to the School Cafeteria before or after all the Masses. There is more of a need during these cold winter days and nights for your generous donations to the food banks. Thank you



We welcome into the Church *Ila Margaret Bognanno*, daughter of Michael and Lindsay Bognanno. Congratulations to the family on the Baptism of their daughter.



CRS Ethical Trade Sale Extended On

This year we are extending the CRS Ethical Trade Sale by offering you the opportunity to shop on line. You can purchase craft items through the SERRV catalog until December 9 and still have a portion of the sale benefit CRS. The items will be shipped to you directly (there is a shipping cost.) Use this link to access our shopping "room." This is your custom CRS Shop & Serrv web link: serrv.org?c=crs&a=CRS9. Thank you for your support.



Open House and Christmas Concert at the Seminary

Please mark your calendars and save the date (Sunday, December 9) for the annual Open House and Christmas Concert, featuring the seminarian choir. The Open House and seminary tours begin at 1:00 pm and the concert begins at 4:00 pm in our St. Martin of Tours Chapel.



**American
Red Cross**

Red Cross Blood Drive - There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by St. Margaret Church on Thursday,

December 27, 2018 from 2:30 to 7:30 pm in the Saint Margaret School Cafeteria. This is a critical time of year for blood supplies. Please consider being a donor. To register, visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter the sponsor keyword: st margaret rc church, or call 1-800-Red-Cross. Also, if you would like to volunteer to assist at the Blood Drive, you can contact Tina Braun at christinabraun2002@yahoo.com

The Chestnut Foundation

Please join us at our *Jolly Holiday Fundraiser and Auction*, Friday, December 7, 2018 from 7 to 11pm. Auction, Dancing and all you can eat and drink. Casey's Saloon and Restaurant, 812 Lansdowne Ave., Drexel Hill, Pa 19126.

Cost: Adults \$42, Children \$15. Children under 10 free. Santa will be there from 7 to 9pm.

If you cannot come to the party, please consider making a donation to The Chestnut Foundation, 134 Kenilworth Rd., Merion, PA 19006 to support the care of children with disabilities.

Church Teaching: The One Priesthood of Christ -

Everything that the priesthood of the Old Covenant prefigured finds its fulfillment in Christ Jesus, the one mediator between God and men. The Christian tradition considers Melchizedek, priest of God Most High, as a prefiguration of the priesthood of Christ, the unique high priest after the order of Melchizedek; holy, blameless, unstained, by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified, that is, by the unique sacrifice of the cross. The redemptive sacrifice of Christ is unique, accomplished once for all; yet it is made present in the Eucharistic sacrifice of the Church. The same is true of the one priesthood of Christ; it is made present through the ministerial priesthood without diminishing the uniqueness of Christ's priesthood; only Christ is the true priest, the others being only his ministers.

Spiritual Thought -

Human nature grows tired of always doing the same thing, and it is God's will that it is this way because of the opportunity of practicing two great virtues. The first is perseverance, which will bring us to our goal. The other is steadfastness, which overcomes the difficulties on the way. (St. Vincent de Paul)

Christmas Concert at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul, Sunday, December 9, 3:00 - 4:30pm

Our annual Christmas celebration is back and better than ever. Cathedral Music Director Charlene Angelini leads an uplifting program of beautiful carols and the traditional music of Christmas, performed by the combined forces of the Cathedral Choir and the choirs of the Philadelphia Archdiocese. Resounding brass add to the spectacle as voices rise in celebration of the festive season!

Location: The Basilica of SS. Peter & Paul

Parking: Complimentary Parking available.

To Purchase tickets and information: visit cathedralphilaconcerts.org

A Little Humor -

A husband and wife flew to the Holy Land on vacation. While they were there, the husband passed away. A funeral director told the wife she could bury her husband right there in the Holy Land or have him brought back to the United States for burial. He explained that the cost to have him buried in the Holy Land would be \$500 and the cost to have him buried back in the United States would be \$7,000. The woman thought for a minute and said, "I will bring him back to the States." The funeral director replied, "Are you sure? As I said, the cost for here is only \$500 but for the burial to be in the States it will cost \$7,000." She explained, "I know it is less expensive to have it here, but I recall that you people buried a man here about 2,000 years ago, who then rose from the dead, and I don't want to take that chance."

St. Margaret School will begin accepting applicants for Prekindergarten 4 year old and Full Day Kindergarten.

Applicants for grades 1 to 8 are considered on an individual basis. St. Margaret School accepts parish members and the area Catholics as a priority with early application. We invite you to learn more with a visit to school while in session on a Walk in Wednesday from 9am to 12 noon. If you would like to visit on another day / time. Please email: info@smsnarberth.org to make arrangements.

Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood

Holy Hour For Vocations, January 9, 2019

Where: St. Margaret Parish

When 2:00 - 3:00pm

Questions? Contact the Vocation Office:

610-667-5778, cgallagher@archphila.org.

St Margaret School

SAVE THE DATE - SMS Christmas Concert, which will include our SMS Band, Children Choir, grade 8 Christmas Play, will take place on Wednesday evening, Dec 20th at 7 pm. We welcome all Alumnae back to SMS!

THANKSGIVING KIDSCARE PROJECT - Wow! What a fantastic job the entire school did to donate 1,190 canned goods and 4 turkeys to **Mercy Neighborhood Ministries** for the Thanksgiving Food Drive! A BIG Thank You and great job to the 2nd grade class for creating the wonderful posters to announce our food drive! The 8th grade took first place with 486 donations and 2nd grade in second place with 121 food donations. **Sharing with others who are in need is a way of giving thanks for what we have.**

CHRISTMAS SCRIP – BUY YOUR GIFT CARDS AT SMS (www.smsnarberth.org)

On the School and Parish website, you will see an order form for Christmas Scrip. Orders will be collected between **now and Wednesday December 12th**. It takes approximately 1 week between the order and shipment so please plan accordingly. Please note that the percentage of rebate noted next to the retailer is allocated as a 50/50 split between SMS and the family purchasing. **If would like to donate your credit scripts to a sms family, please call the school office (Mrs. D. 610-664-2640 or email office@smsnarberth.org) Thank you for all your support.**

ALSO, The Credit script can also be donated to the SMS PARISH as well. Please contact Rose Marie 610-664-3770.

Credit Slips can be donated to the following

- Tuition at Saint Margaret School
- CARES or Extended Day fees at Saint Margaret School
- PREP fees at Saint Margaret Church
- The annual Teacher Bonus collection at Saint Margaret School
- A donation to Saint Margaret School
- A donation to Saint Margaret Church



Box Tops for Education - Please help St. Margaret School by clipping and saving your Box Tops. This is such an easy way to put money into our school's pocket. Thank you and let's keep clipping!

Used Cartridges - If you have any used cartridges, please send in to school office. Great way to earn for our school to earn rewards.

Please feel free to drop off at school or place in back of the church. Thank you for your support!



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

***Mercy Neighborhood Ministries,
Narberth Food Bank and
Housing for Haiti***

You will be able to drop off your wrapped gift (s) to the Antioch Annex Sunday, December 16,

Monday, December 17 and Tuesday, December 18 from 7:00am to 8:00pm.

Please be sure to attach the tag to the gift after you wrap it.

Scrip Cards for Mercy Ministries and Narberth Food Bank may be purchased at the rectory

If you have any questions, call Teresa or Rose Marie at the rectory, 610-664-3770, Ext 10.

Merion Mercy Academy, a Catholic independent all girls high school sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, has an opening for a short-term substitute Spanish teacher. The position will begin on January 3, 2019 and conclude by April 8, 2019. Degree required. Experience and certification preferred. Qualified applicants are asked to email a cover letter and resume by Monday, December 3rd or until position has been filled to Mary Ann Danovich, at madanovich@merion-mercy.com or call 610-664-6655 for more information.

Sunday Preschool Program runs simultaneously with the Sunday 10 AM Mass. The preschool program, which occurs in the St. Margaret School cafeteria, is a perfect place to leave your young children while you participate in the 10 AM Mass. Our dedicated catechists will engage them in a faith-based, age-appropriate program that incorporates songs, stories, crafts, movies and activities into the Sunday scriptures. The fee for the Sunday preschool program is only \$20 per family/year. Participation in this program is not a pre-requisite for PREP.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In case of serious illness, please contact the Rectory to make arrangements. If someone is already in the hospital, be sure to register as a Catholic so that the priest will visit.

COMMUNION CALLS

Parishioners unable to attend Mass regularly because of age or illness should call the Rectory to make arrangements to receive Communion at home. If any member of your family is hospitalized, please be sure to register as a Catholic and inform the Rectory so that a visit can be arranged.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Sundays at 1:00 PM. Arrangements must be made in advance at the Rectory by calling Msgr. Dougherty, ext. 12. If parents have not attended a Baptism class, they must attend our Baptism Preparation Seminar. Call the rectory to register for the class. Godparents guidelines state that one godparent must be Catholic. They must be at least 16 years of age, registered in the parish where they live, fully initiated, and practicing their faith; they must obtain a letter of eligibility from their own parish. One practicing non-Catholic Christian may also be admitted as a Christian Witness. [The next Baptism Preparation Seminar is Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 7:00pm in the Rectory.](#)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Registered parishioners who wish to marry at St. Margaret should contact Msgr. Dougherty. The Sacrament of Marriage is celebrated after a period of preparation of not less than six months. Engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage can register, explore possible dates or find out more information for pre-marriage classes by visiting PhilaMarriagePrep.com. For email inquiries, Amy@PhilaMarriagePrep.com.

REGISTRATION

A warm welcome is extended to new parishioners. You may register by calling the parish office during office hours to set up an appointment. Parish registration is required for reception of the Sacraments and letters of eligibility to serve as godparent or sponsor.

REQUESTS FOR ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATES

The role of a sponsor is primarily a spiritual role to model a Christian life for the child. Therefore, anyone requesting a certificate must be a registered, participating member of St. Margaret Parish, a practicing Catholic in good standing (not living in violation of the church laws), at least 16 years of age and have received the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist). Please call the rectory for an appointment if you need a certificate.

SOCIAL NETWORKING WITH THE ARCHDIOCESE

<http://www.facebook.com/ArchbishopChaput>
www.twitter.com/ArchPhilly
www.youtube.com/user/CatholicPhilly
<http://livestream.com/archphila>

BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study meets every Tuesday from September to June in the Antioch Annex (9:00 to 10:30am).

THE ROSARY

Every Saturday the Rosary is recited beginning after the 7am Angelus. Come and pray with us.

PRAYER CIRCLE

Do you have an immediate prayer need or can you offer the Gift of Prayer? Tap into our electronic Prayer Circle and receive an outpouring of heartfelt prayer by members of St. Margaret Parish and others. E-mail your prayer requests or if you want to join the **Prayer Circle at cbuhn@yahoo.com**.

REMEMBER THOSE YOU LOVE

For a donation of \$10.00, **the sanctuary candle or altar candles** will burn for a week for your intention or in memory of a loved one. Another memorial opportunity is to have **flowers** placed on the altar for a donation of \$100. Each week the intention or memorial will be published in the bulletin. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, please call Teresa or Rose Marie at the rectory, 610-664-3770, Ext 10.

EUCHARIST FOR CELIAC COMMUNICANTS

St. Margaret Church is aware of the need to have the low gluten hosts available at all Masses. If you or a member of your family is interested in receiving Low-Gluten Holy Eucharist at any Mass, please contact Maria at mecarinato@gmail.com.



JOURNEY WITH US TO EXPLORE THE CATHOLIC FAITH

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey to a deeper experience of God's love manifested through the teaching and treasures of the Catholic Faith. St. Margaret Church offers instructions for people seeking more information about the Catholic Faith, the Sacraments and living the Christian Life. These instructions are for adults who would like to inquire about following Jesus and becoming a member of the Catholic Church, or, if you are already a baptized Catholic would like to receive Confirmation and Holy Communion. **RCIA classes meet on Tuesday, at 7pm.** Please contact Msgr. Dougherty at pastor@saintmarg.org or 610-664-3770, Ext *812.



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It's as easy as email - sign up for the free, twice-weekly email newsletter of CatholicPhilly.com, official news website of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Sign up at CatholicPhilly.com/newsletter.