

Saint Margaret Parish

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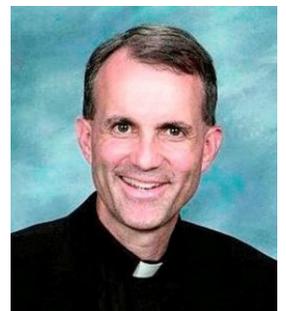
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From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

As we begin 2019, I extend to all of you my prayerful best wishes for a Blessed and Happy New Year. We can always look forward with hope because of our faith in God's love for us and his providential presence in our lives.

This year in our Parish we are trying, in particular, to be more aware of the Lord's presence in the Eucharist. Our Parish theme for the year is "The Eucharist: Our Strength and Our Joy." Our adult faith formation series on the Mass this past Fall helped us appreciate the great gift of the Eucharist and the importance of availing ourselves of this gift by attendance at Sunday Mass. Father Dan Joyce, SJ, preached our Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions in November to further enlighten and inspire us on the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and the power of the Mass to transform our lives. On January 26, we will host an



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FROM THE PASTOR

MONSIGNOR PAUL DOUGHERTY

Appreciation Dinner for our volunteers. Father Dennis Gill, the Rector of the Cathedral and the Director of the Office for Divine Worship in the Archdiocese, will speak to us at the Dinner on the Eucharist.

Our Adult Faith Formation team will conduct additional sessions during Lent and in the Spring. We hope you can make some time to be present in order to grow in your understanding of the beauty and depth of our Catholic faith. The Church's failures regarding the abuse of children were also evident this year. I pray that the Lord can help us to be instruments of renewal by committing to our own growth in holiness, integrity and goodness before the Lord. Our greatest source of renewal is the Eucharist by which the Lord feeds us, fills us with His life, and unites us more closely to Himself.

It is our desire, too, to begin some Youth Ministry to our high school aged students. Robert Cermignano, our Coordinator of Parish Services, will be initiating that this year. It is my sincere hope that the Lord will touch the hearts of our young people and help them to experience the strength and peace that come from a strong relationship with the Lord. We are grateful for our School and Parish Religious Education Program and the many ways they help to educate our children in their faith. We renew our commitment this year to continue to make our School and PREP sources of grace and divine guidance for our youth.

Beginnings are always times of opportunity and grace. May 2019 be a year when we look to open our hearts and minds to the many ways in which God is leading us closer to him and to one another in our families and our parish.

May God Bless us all.

Sincerely in our Lord,

Monsignor Paul Dougherty

PARISH FAMILY SPOTLIGHTS



Mike, Katharine, and Sarah Worth at Christmas Mass 2018. Mike and Sarah Worth are Directors of Music for St. Margaret Parish. Katharine is a 7th Grade student at SMS and a Cantor for Masses.

The Worth Family

How does your Catholic faith impact your family identity?

We are a family of musicians. We believe our talents are gifts from God and the best way to use those gifts is to use them in service to God and His people. As Music Ministers for St. Margaret Parish, we use our gifts to try and enrich the prayer experience for our fellow parishioners at Mass. Even Katharine is an active full-time Cantor! We also choose to send Katharine to St. Margaret School to embrace the value of a Catholic education outside of the home.

What are your favorite parts about St. Margaret Parish?

We love the strong sense of community at St. Margaret Parish and its people and the ability to see them around town wherever we go. Katharine loves our parish school and that so many of her friends from the parish live within walking distance of our home.

The Chmielewski Family

How does your Catholic faith impact your family identity?

We have volunteered for the PREP and Continuing Faith Formation (CFF) programs when our children attended, because we value the Christian educational opportunities, and they give us an opportunity to help our children and their peers grow in their faith. We also practice prayers before meals to express our gratitude to God.

How do you participate in the life of St. Margaret Parish?

In addition to attending Mass weekly, Bess has been a member of the parish Pastoral Council for over 10 years and offers her opinion and volunteers her time to support the parish. As a family we are hosting a neighborhood open house with Monica Lu Romeo in January to help strengthen our community.

What are your favorite parts about St. Margaret Parish?

We love the community we have built, and we are especially grateful for the Blessing of the Pets each fall, as we are dog owners!



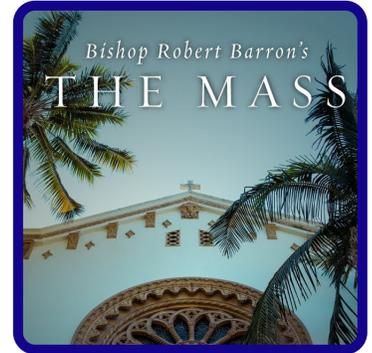
Bess, Victor, Marlene, and Rich Chmielewski at Lincoln Financial Field. Bess is a member of our Pastoral Council and her kids participated in our PREP program. Rich assists our 7th Grade PREP Class.

A LOOK BACK

FALL 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Series on the Eucharist

In the Fall of 2018, the St. Margaret Parish Adult Faith Formation Team held a nine week series on the Eucharist. Bishop Robert Barron's new six-part series, "The Mass" taught participants how the Mass resonates with a call from God and how we intimately join Jesus through the Holy Eucharist. The next two weeks uncovered the beauty and mystery of Eucharistic miracles that occurred in Argentina, Poland, and Italy. The series culminated with an evening of Eucharistic Exposition in preparation for our 40 Hours Devotion.



Bishop Robert Barron of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles

40 Hours Devotion



Daniel Joyce, SJ

St. Margaret Parish held its annual 40 Hours Devotion in November. Daniel Joyce, SJ, presented each evening on "The People of Christ Empowered by the Eucharist to Grow in Faith and Face Any Challenge." Daniel Joyce's service with the Jesuits and his commitment to the Eucharist helped our parish family embrace the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Highlight: Class Masses

Three Class Masses increased involvement within the liturgy among our young parishioners. Over 20 students from our 3rd grade school, 7th grade school, and 7th grade PREP classes served as Greeters, Readers of the Word, Gift Bearers, and Ushers on three different Sundays in the fall. Join us on Sunday, January 13 at 10:00 AM for our 3rd Grade PREP Class Mass!



3rd Grade students from our November 4 Class Mass

Christmas



St. Margaret Parish has participated in the past two Dickens' Festivals

Advent and Christmas were great seasons for St. Margaret Parish, which spread Christmas cheer to the community of Narberth by participating as a vendor and scavenger hunt host in the annual Dickens Festival, hosting a Christmas Concert, and providing a Christmas ornament to all parish families during the Christmas Masses. Thank you to all volunteers who helped us remember the true spirit of Christmas this year!

SPRING 2019

EVENTS & LENT SCHEDULE

St. Margaret Parish has a busy winter and spring schedule focusing on community and Lent!

Hospitality Sundays

Join us for breakfast and community after the 7:30 AM and 10:00 AM Masses on the following Sundays:

January 20 * February 17 * March 17 * April 14 * May 19

The Narberth Diner will cater the 10:00 AM Breakfast on April 14



Bagels, coffee, and donuts are available for breakfast!

Highlight: Volunteer Thank You Dinner

St. Margaret Parish will hold a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, January 26 to thank volunteers for their service to our parish. The evening begins with Mass and a blessing at 5:15 PM and Dinner from 6:30-8:30 PM. Volunteers have received invitations to this dinner.

New Youth Group for High School Students

Led by three young adults, the first Youth Group for high school students kicked off on Sunday, January 13 with breakfast, games, and small groups to design a service project. The group is open to any high school student from any parish. Contact Robert Cermignano for more information.

Lent

Lent is a busy season at St. Margaret Parish. It begins on Ash Wednesday in March and concludes with our Easter Triduum Services and Masses from Thursday, April 18 through Easter Sunday, April 21.



Ash Wednesday Masses (March 6)

7:00 AM, 12:05 PM, 4:00 PM (Service), 7:00 PM

Soup & Stations (Fridays in Lent)

Adoration at 6:00 PM, Stations at 7:00 PM, Dinner to follow

Poor Man's Supper & Prayer Walk*

Wednesday, March 24 and April 10 at 7:00 PM | Annex

Easter Triduum & Easter Sunday

Holy Thursday & Easter Vigil, 7:30 PM | Church

Good Friday, 3:00 PM & 7:30 PM | Church

Easter Sunday, 7:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM | Church

*Subject to change. More information available on our website.

PREP

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

PREP has been abuzz with activity since September, with over 188 students from grades 1 through 7 participating. For the first time ever, PREP has two classes in each of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. We are grateful to the many parents and volunteers who serve as teachers, classroom aides, and hall monitors and are fortunate to have a school facility large enough to accommodate growing numbers.

Sacraments

In November, Bishop John McIntyre confirmed 45 children from our parish and school. Parents of our current 2nd grade students also met and learned about the sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion. Sr. Ann Heath, IHM, from Immaculata University, discussed how to best prepare their children for the sacraments.



Bishop John McIntyre confirmed 45 young parishioners in November

Highlight: Continuing Faith Formation

Our CFF program for confirmed 7th and 8th grade students met for the first time in December to celebrate the Immaculate Conception and fulfill their Holy Day obligation by participating in the vigil Mass. CFF will meet every first Friday of the month from 6:30-8:30 PM in the Antioch Annex.

Advent Prayer Service & Christmas Pageant

On December 16, PREP held its annual Advent Prayer Service and Christmas Pageant. The brief, traditional church service was followed by a breakfast social at the SMS cafeteria. As parents and staff met, children participated in a community service activity by writing Christmas cards to our troops overseas. Thank you to volunteer teacher Pat McGrath for organizing this effort!

Winter and Spring 2019 Events

The new year promises to be a busy time for PREP families with First Penance and First Holy Communion, an enhanced Children's Liturgy of the Word that involves Monsignor Dougherty joining the rotation, and our Sunday Pre-School Program held from 10:00 to 11:00 AM every Sunday in the St. Margaret School cafeteria for children ages 3-7.

Save the Dates

First Penance
Thursday, March 14

First Holy Communion
May 4, 11, & 19

ST. MARGARET SCHOOL

FAITH - CHARACTER - ACADEMICS

Highlight: Teacher of the Year Winner

Ms. Dolores Lopresti, the second grade teacher for St. Margaret School, was the honorary recipient of the Teacher of the Year Award for Montgomery County in 2018. Ms. Lopresti has spent over forty years at St. Margaret School and has blessed each and every one of her students.



Ms. Dolores Lopresti received the 2018 Teacher of the Year Award for Montgomery County.

2018-2019 Student Council Members Elected

St. Margaret School students elected their representatives for the 2018-2019 student council.



The SMS 2018-2019 Student Council

Andrew Coyne, President

Maggie Iannone and Ella Rumsey, Vice Presidents

Frankie Bryne & Vivian Morse, Yearbook

Matt Malone & Jack Stead, Liturgies & Assemblies

Amelia Bagnell & Maya Walker, Publicity & Public Relations

Shannon Gabor & Brook Olender, Sam Kleiner & Matt Norton, Service

Clubs and Events

Reading Olympics is underway for the 2018-2019 academic year!

Congratulations to our **CYO Varsity Soccer Team**, which finished 5-1-1 in their inaugural season. Thank you to all coaches, players, and parents who made this a wonderful season!

Over 30 students participated in our **Chess Club!**

Peri Berman, Larry Davidson, and Beth Mirzai directed the annual **Christmas Show** to highlight the talents of our students and to bring joy to the community!

2018 Walk-a-Thon



Students participated in our annual Walk-a-Thon in October!

We congratulate the families of these children who were baptized during the months of September, October, November, and December:

Cameron Rose Smore
Madison Patricia Barnett
Jameson Welby Gilbert
Ava Marie Dress
John Mayfield Lupton

Richard Victor Zeller IV
Luca Michael Dillon
James Timothy Hartley
Ila Margaret Bognanno
Riley Moore

Patrick Bua

We remember the families of the members of our parish family below who passed away during the months of September, October, November, and December:

Mary Regina Reaph
Anna Fisher
Elizabeth Louise Markey
Thomas Mithcell
Jean Sharkey Funkhouser
Rita A. Paddick

Louise Leto
James J. Clark, Jr.
Victoria Donohue
John "Jack" Binstead
Michael J. McCarrie, III
Mary T. Giuliani

Carolyne C. Cobaugh

We bless your name, O Lord, for sending your own incarnate Son, to become part of a family, so that, as he lived its life, he would experience its worries and its joys. We ask you, Lord, to protect and watch over these families, so that in the strength of your grace its members may enjoy prosperity, possess the priceless gift of your peace, and, as the Church alive in the home, bear witness in this world to your glory. Amen.

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Visit us online

Visit our website at www.saintmarg.org for the most current parish news, schedules, and events

Receive Weekly Updates!

Email faith@saintmarg.org to sign up for our weekly email blasts, providing information on our Parish!

Sign Up for Parish Giving

Online giving is available for St. Margaret Parish!
Visit parishgiving.org to sign up today!