

ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH PARISH

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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.



BAPTISM OF THE LORD JANUARY 12, 2020



*"This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased."* MATTHEW 3:17

Schedule of Masses

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

Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass - 7:00 PM
7:00 AM, 12:05 PM and 7:00 PM
(schedule subject to change on certain Holydays.
Check website for final schedule)

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.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Last November my Alma Mater, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Overbrook PA issued its glossy journal simply called "The Brook." It featured several profiles of the new priests ordained from there the previous spring. Reading through them offered proof positive that each young man had a pivotal moment when a person or event in his life ultimately led to his decision to be a priest. I believe that most of us have experienced such moments in our own lives whatever our calling is.

It is fair to say that Jesus had one of these at His baptism in the Jordan that fateful day. It was pivotal for Him. We cannot know just how His divine nature intermingled with His human nature. But if Jesus truly was "like us in all things but sin" then He could not have known His future any more than we do. So it took a great amount of trust for Him to approach the Baptist and ask for baptism. What would happen to Him? What would follow?

We could say that for John the Baptist to accede to Jesus' request also took a certain trust, because he intuitively knew that Jesus did not need any baptism meant to wash away sin. In Him there is no sin. So Jesus had to convince John that the ritual was necessary in order to fulfill what He called "righteousness." We could take that word to mean "the proper order of things."

The occasion also offered up a "theophany," or manifestation of the Divine. So Jesus heard the heavenly "Voice" of His Father and the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove over Him. Pivotal event indeed! So we rightly celebrate this happening not only as a milestone in Our Lord's life and the launch of His unique mission as an adult, but also as the "closing of the curtain" on yet another Christmas season in our lives, where we focused on Jesus as a Babe in a manger.

This then becomes an opportune time for us to ponder the great gift our parents gave us in our own baptism. No matter how far we have journeyed in faith from that long ago day, or how we just began to travel from the 2019 Easter Vigil, this was the true sacramental beginning of that journey.

Our parents believed this to be true, and they fulfilled their duty in passing on the treasure of the faith to us. How well we have lived it, however, is a fit subject for review. As much as they loved us, neither our parents nor anybody else will be with us when our face to face appointment with our just Judge comes due. By then we will have built our profile. That is why we should not only celebrate our own baptism by which we became part of Christ, but also today renew those promises our godparents once made for us.

I was deeply impressed by the decision of my close bishop friend who chose to add the date of his baptism on the reverse side of his ordination commemorative card. You don't often see that, but it was a bit of evangelization done right at the start of his new high calling. Certainly a pivotal moment for him.

Jim Eliot, a dedicated missionary in Ecuador who was killed by the Auca Indians in 1956, said of his baptismal calling: "Father, make of me a crisis man. Bring those I contact to a decision. Let me not be a milepost on a single road; make me a fork, that men must turn one way or another on facing Christ in me." I might add that would be a pivotal moment.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, January 13

7:00 AM Nafeh Aziz Almemar

TUESDAY, January 14

7:00 AM Robert Neely

WEDNESDAY, January 15

7:00 AM Suzanne F. Vaccaro

THURSDAY, January 16

7:00 AM Ardelle & Colleen Quinn

FRIDAY, January 17

7:00 AM Msgr. James J. Flood

SATURDAY, January 18

8:00 AM Leonard Piracci

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

Weekend Mass Schedule January 18-19

(Priest scheduled is subject to change)

Saturday, January 18

Confessions 4:00 - 4:45 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

5:15 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

Sunday, January 19

7:30 AM - Msgr. Dougherty

10:00 AM - Fr. Guckin

11:30 AM - Fr. Pesarchick

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekend of December 29, 2019:	\$ 7,291
Including Electronic Funds Transfer	\$ 671
Mail In:	\$ 1,460
Parish On Line:	\$ 1,085
Envelopes:	178
Collection for the Solemnity of Mary	\$ 2,583

The Weekend of December 30, 2018: \$10,101.

Weekend of January 5, 2020:	\$ 18,466
Including Electronic Funds Transfer	\$ 671
Mail In:	\$ 5,360
Parish On Line:	\$ 2,335
Envelopes:	230

The Weekend of January 6, 2019: \$17,401

Christmas Collection 2019: \$59,406

Christmas Collection 2018: \$49,861

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

From the Pastor

The Baptism of the Lord – Today we celebrate the end of the Christmas Season. We celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas with great joy because he has come among us as our Savior. Today we celebrate on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord how the Lord begins his public ministry of teaching, healing and offering himself up out of love for us through his passion, death and resurrection. The glory of Christ coming as man was so that he could reveal to us the Father's love for us and save us from our sins. With the Baptism of the Lord his hidden life ends and he begins to reveal the full glory of his mission to save us. At the Baptism of Our Lord, the Father proclaimed that Jesus is his beloved Son and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Lord in the form of a dove. Through our baptism we become adopted children of God in Christ and the Holy Spirit comes to dwell within us. By virtue of our Baptism the saving grace of Christ is poured into us. As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord we rejoice in our own baptism by which the Lord who was born as a man has brought us salvation and filled us with his life.

Christmas Collection – Thank you for your donations to our Christmas Collection. Our total is almost \$60,000. Last year's total was about \$50,000, so I am very grateful for your increased generosity.

Liturgy Committee – We will meet on Tuesday, January 14, at 6:00 pm in the rectory.

Parish Pastoral Council – The Council will be meeting on Wednesday, January 15 at 7:00 pm in the Antioch Annex.

March for Life – The March for Life will take place in Washington, D.C., on Friday, January 24. This annual March proclaims the right to life of the unborn. Our Parish will be joining with Our Lady of Lourdes Parish to provide transportation to the March. The bus will leave from Our Lady of Lourdes in Overbrook at 7:00 am and should arrive at the Basilica in Washington to allow you to participate in the Mass for Life, which is celebrated prior to the March. There is no cost to ride the bus, but you will be asked to consider making a free will offering. A sign-up sheet is available in the vestibule for anyone who wishes to ride the bus, or you can contact Peggy Walsh at walsh.peggy71@gmail.com or at 267-241-3516.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – Our Parish is hosting an Appreciation Dinner for all our Parish volunteers on Saturday, January 25, following the 5:15 pm Mass. Dinner will be served and Deacon Mike Pascarella will speak briefly on this year's Parish theme of "Family: a Communion of Life and Love." We will conclude by about 8:00 pm. If you are a Parish volunteer and we overlooked sending you an invitation, you can contact our Coordinator of Parish Services, Nicole Bazis at faith@saintmarg.org or at 610-664-3770 ext. 20.

Reboot Revisited: Friendship in the Lord – Chris Stefanick told us that one important way of nurturing our life in Christ is through friendship. I have often heard my parents comment that many of their good friends in life came through the Parish to which we belonged. They are grateful for the good friends they met through Church who shared their faith and their values. These friends have been a great source of comfort, joy and inspiration throughout the years. May all of us be grateful for the friends in faith the Lord has given us and do what we can to nurture and develop good friendships in the Lord.

Church Teaching: The Baptism of Our Lord – Our Lord voluntarily submitted himself to the baptism of St. John, intended for sinners, in order to "fulfill all righteousness." Jesus' gesture is a manifestation of his self-emptying. The Spirit who had hovered over the waters of the first creation descended then on the Christ as a prelude of the new creation, and the Father revealed Jesus as his beloved Son. (from the Catechism of the Catholic Church)

Spiritual Thought – Do not fear what may happen tomorrow. The same loving Father who cares for you today will care for you tomorrow and every day. Either he will shield you from suffering or he will give you the unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, then, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginings. (St. Francis de Sales)



Our *Tuesday Morning Bible Study* group will resume on **January 21 at 9 AM** in the Antioch Annex.

We will continue with our study of the Gospel according to John and the Johannine letters. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Bill Meagher at 610-664-1195 or wmeag8406@aol.com.

A Little Humor – A person called QVC late one night. A customer service representative answered and asked, "Would you like to purchase something tonight?" The caller responded, "No thanks, I'm just browsing."



Happy New Year from the Faculty and Staff at SMS

A new decade lies ahead of us. When we look back over the last ten years, we recognize the many innovative paths education has taken. Some truly benefit our children and some approaches need to be measured and tested. The research over the decade has informed our instruction, in areas of technology, academics, social and emotional learning and behavior. We will continue to remain current and advance SMS using those findings that contribute to our mission. One constant path is our journey in faith and our commitment to educating our children to be leaders and stand firm in the gospel message.

Blessings of Hope for you and your family as we continue to dream, believe and discover our potential as witnesses of Mercy and God's Love.

SPOTLIGHT AT SMS


Congratulations to Grade 8, Charlie Voss, who received a Piarist School Scholarship to Devon Prep and a scholarship to Archbishop Carroll. We are very proud of Charlie.

SMS KIDS CARE PROJECT

On Tuesday, December 17th, the 3rd graders participated in Christmas food basket deliveries to 15 homebound parishioners of St. Margaret's. Each basket contained food for Christmas dinner, a poinsettia, sweet treats and handmade cards. The recipients were very appreciative of the gifts and the visit! A special thank-you to Mrs. Lorine for leading the students to make cards and assemble the gift bags. And thank you to the many 3rd-grade parents who contributed items for the gift bags and drove the students to make these special deliveries!

THANK YOU!

A special thank you from Philly's Stars for collecting so many wonderful coats, hats, scarves, and blankets for the homeless. On Christmas Eve, The Fisher, Kleiner, O'Connell and Beck Families were able to hand them out to almost 100 people in need. Thank you SMS Students and Parents for all your support.



Purses for Mercy Hospice

As part of the Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service, the 7th graders of SMS and Prep are invited to participate in a morning of service. On January 20th, we will be in the Annex packing purses for the residents of Mercy Hospice. We are asking members of the community to assist our drive by donating gently used purses, as well as new toiletries, hygiene products, baby items, linens, women's socks and underwear. A box will be in the vestibule for drop-off at any time.



Mount Saint Joseph Academy

The Mount, a Catholic preparatory school for girls, invites all interested 7th grade girls to

The 7th **Grade Practice Test (Pre-HSPT)** to be given on

Saturday, March 21, 2020
8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

The Pre-HSPT is a 7TH grade edition of the actual Scholarship/Entrance Exam given to eighth grade applicants

Registration is available *online only*. Register at:
www.msjacad.org/practicetest

You will receive registration confirmation via email.



Devon Prep
Entrance Test Dates

Middle School: February 15,
 and March 28

Practice Tests offered in the Spring
 Go to www.devonprep.com to register.

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY

Week of January 12, 2020
Robert Ritzco 610-649-3973
Please call as early in the week as possible.



St. Margaret School
Walk in Wednesdays 9am-11am

Serving this parish and area Catholics, we welcome 4 year olds to our PK through 8th Grade parish school. All other grades for 2nd to 7th will be considered on an individual, as available basis. Please call for more information.

Our mission to engage our Catholic faith throughout learning remains instrumental in forming our student's lives through virtues and giving to others. Each Wednesday from December through February, we welcome prospective parents to visit while school is in session. Tours begin at 9 am and 10 am. Please join us early for a wonderful opportunity awaits your family. Visit www.smsnarberth.org or call 610-349-7747.

Tax Credits in Pennsylvania

Do you pay the State of Pennsylvania over \$1000 per year in state income taxes? If so, you can take advantage of the EITC/OSTC program to donate that \$1000 to Saint Margaret School and receive a PA tax credit of \$900. So you give Saint Margaret School \$1000 at an out-of-pocket cost to you of \$100. Does this sound interesting? For more email info@smsnarberth.org. We are happy to share more information and count on this support for our school each year.



We welcome into the Church

Cecilia Mae DeCristofano
daughter of William and Nora
DeCristofano

Congratulations to the family on the Baptism of their child,



Please remember in your prayers the souls of Rosemary Healy and Samuel Malandra who recently passed away. May they rest in peace and their loved ones be comforted.



ONLINE GIVING - Saint Margaret Parish has arranged a secure method of online giving. You can set up 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/StMargGiving>.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Fulfilling the Church's mission of mercy and the gospel call to love others as we love God, The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) collection funds Catholic agencies that work for the benefit of our brothers and sisters around the world. In providing humanitarian aid, resettling displaced individuals and families, and advocating on behalf of victims of atrocities such as human trafficking, the organizations supported by the CRS collection act from their belief that every individual is an equal heir of Christ's love and care.

The annual Catholic Relief Services collection challenges American Catholics to put their faith into action and to see "Jesus in disguise" in the faces of the poor, and to support ongoing efforts to respond to their needs. The funds collected support vital Catholic programs that share in the Catholic mission of promoting the sacredness of human life. A small amount from the collection is retained by the Archdiocese to help cover local efforts to promote the collection.

The collection will be taken up in the parishes of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia the weekend of January 18 and 19, 2020. The American Catholic community, and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in particular, have always responded very generously to this annual collection.

I am grateful to you for your compassionate response. May you be blessed for your faithfulness to living the Gospel and recognizing Jesus in those in need.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!



Retrouvaille of Delaware Valley offers hope for married couples experiencing loneliness, boredom, misery, or frustration in their marriage. Couples learn valuable communication skills and rediscover intimacy. **Our next program in this area will be held on the weekend of February 21-23, 2020, at the Family Life Center in Malvern.**

For more information, call 215-766-3944 or 1-800-470-2230.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

MAIN LINE SINGLES DINNER CLUB
(AGES 52-66)

Catholic men & women are cordially invited to join "The Main Line Singles Dinner Club" to share common interests and dine together twice a month. Our next scheduled events are:

- Sunday, January 19 at 6:15 PM - Xolo Tacos Restaurant, 14 N. Merion Ave., Bryn Mawr.
- Sunday, February 2 at 5:00 PM - "Super Bowl House Party" at a member's home in Havertown.

For more info call Barb 610 896-6542. Catholic men are encouraged to participate.

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, January 16, 2020 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 Maryann 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 12.



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