

ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH PARISH

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Narberth, PA 19072
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Pastor Emeritus

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Rev. Kevin DePrinzio, O.S.A.

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Mrs. Teresa Myers (Thurs, Fri)
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Director of Music - Mr. Michael Worth
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267-304-6490

Scrip Sales

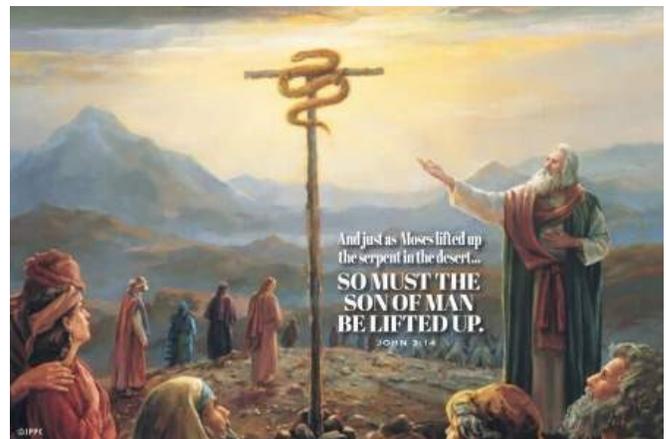
MONDAY TO FRIDAY
FROM 9AM TO 4:30 PM IN THE RECTORY

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.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 14, 2021



Schedule of Masses

Saturday Evening Vigil: 5:15 PM
Sunday: 7:30, 8:45, 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.

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Allow me to present some facts about an event coming next Saturday, March 20. That will be this year's date for the Vernal Equinox. At precisely 5:37 AM that morning, when most of us will probably be enjoying a Saturday sleep-in, the Northern hemisphere of our home will be at the one or two moments in the year when our sun will be exactly above the Equator. As a result, day and night will be of equal length. More importantly, that will be the official arrival of Spring 2021. "Vernal" meaning "fresh or new." The days will be noticeably longer than the nights. The new season will usher in all the joys of extended light after a long winter's darkness.

May I ask you now to make a spiritual application? Apply all this to Our Lord's teaching we hear of today to what He told the significant Jewish leader Nicodemus. The man was obviously attracted to Jesus and His teaching and he wanted more in a private session. Yet he cowardly came at night, such was his fear that others might easily spot him in daytime.

In today's Gospel passage Jesus speaks of "the light that came into the world," without telling Nicodemus it is He. But He quickly adds the sad fact that "people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil." In all honesty, haven't we thought of ourselves as being in that group? Preferring the protection of darkness, even that of secrecy, rather than exposure of any kind?

Recall that infamous day a bit over 2 months ago when our Nation's Capitol became "a crime scene." On any given day, we agree that a brazen crime is made worse if it is committed "in broad daylight." The boldness adds to the evil.

Lent is our opportunity to make reparation for all of our dark deeds. We want to straighten out our relationship with the Lord. We have the advantage of knowing from our Bibles and from consistent Church teaching that God indeed loves us, and was willing to die for our reconciliation with Him. The wisdom of our Church's lived experience is such that she knows we would have had to invent a Lent if she had not already done so. Just like this Lent, now, in the year 2021.

Not to take advantage of this Lent here and now seems like the height of foolishness, does it not? Making a good confession is an essential part of the process, and we know that. Above all "be not afraid," as our great John Paul urged us at his installation as pope. Lenten reform is really not as complicated as the timing of the Vernal Equinox. God is simple, holy, and loving of you all the time. Take advantage of it and enjoy the sunshine. God love you and give you His peace.



St. Margaret Church is open from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 6:30 PM on Saturday, and 7:15 AM to 1:30 PM on Sunday.

- MONDAY, March 15**
7:00 AM Joseph Bizzarri
- TUESDAY, March 16**
7:00 AM Irene Novack
- WEDNESDAY, March 17**
7:00 AM Bob Neely
- THURSDAY, March 18**
7:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory
- FRIDAY, March 19**
7:00 AM Helen C. O'Rourke
- SATURDAY, March 20**
8:00 AM Victoria Donohoe



THE WEEK OF MARCH 14, 2021
THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN
IN MEMORY OF MARY PHAM.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR THIS SUNDAY
ARE IN MEMORY OF
THE CASEY AND ROVNER FAMILIES.



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

Weekend Mass Schedule March 20-21
(Priest scheduled is subject to change)

Saturday, March 20
Confessions 4:00 - 4:45 PM - Fr. Pesarchick
5:15 PM - Fr. Pesarchick

Sunday, March 21
7:30 AM - Msgr. Dougherty
8:45 AM - Fr. Cossavella
10:00 AM - Msgr. Dougherty
11:30 AM - Fr. DePrinzio

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekend of March 7, 2021:	\$ 14,057
Collection in Church:	\$ 3,814
Electronic Funds Transfer:	\$ 591
Mail In:	\$ 6,355
Parish On Line:	\$ 3,297
Envelopes:	168

The Weekend of March 8, 2020: \$8,376

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

Parish Theme for 2020-2021

Rejoice in Hope; Endure in Affliction; Persevere in Prayer

From the Pastor

Search Committee – The Search Committee for a new principal has been established and has already gathered for an organizational meeting. The members are: Monsignor Dougherty (Pastor), Steve DiRico (President of the School Advisory Board), Stephanie Seal (President of the Home and School Association), John Shea (Chair of the Finance Committee of the School Advisory Board), Helen McLean (Principal of St. Andrew School, Drexel Hill), Joseph Jackson (School Parent and member of the School Advisory Board), Tracy Gabor (School Parent, Teacher, and Alumna), Donna Magee (Teacher), Ellen Thorburn (Teacher), and Anne McCarthy (School Parent). The opening has been posted and applications are due by March 19. The Committee will be meeting after that date to interview candidates for the position.

Looking upon the Crucifix – The crucifix is a powerful symbol of our faith. The sight of Jesus suffering on the cross stirs deep emotions and conveys remarkable truths. The suffering of Jesus stirs up remorse and repentance in our hearts because we see the pain and anguish caused by sin. But the suffering of Jesus also evokes much gratitude and love for the Lord because we see the infinite extent of his love for us. As we contemplate the suffering and death of Jesus this Lent and Holy Week may our hearts be stirred to turn away from sin and to well up with a renewed love and devotion for Jesus our Lord.

Consecration to St. Joseph – Pope Francis has designated the year from Dec. 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021 as the Year of St. Joseph. We will be giving you the opportunity to make a Consecration to St. Joseph on May 1. The consecration requires thirty-three days of prayerful preparation. Books are available in the vestibule of Church to guide you through this process of consecration. It will require about 20 minutes of your time each day from March 30 to May 1. Each day you will offer prayers and reflect on readings focused on St. Joseph. I hope you plan to be part of this consecration in order to receive its special blessings and the spiritual growth it brings. All of the prayers can be said individually on your own, even the consecration to St. Joseph on May 1. In order to give you the opportunity to share with others who will be making the consecration, we will have meetings available on Zoom each Wednesday evening in April at 7:00 pm. You can contact Nicole at faith@saintmarg.org or at 610-664-3770 to sign on to obtain the Zoom link. Also, if you wish, you can join us on Saturday, May 1 at the 8:00 am Mass, during which we will make the consecration to St. Joseph together as a community. Pick up one of the books in the vestibule and be part of the consecration to this great saint who had such a special relationship with the Lord Jesus and can bring us closer to him.

Novena to St. Joseph – To celebrate the Year of St. Joseph, you are encouraged to make a novena of prayer for his intercession, beginning on March 19, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Spouse of Mary, and then on the nineteenth of every month thereafter through November 19, 2021. Copies of the prayers to be offered are on the tables in the vestibule. Please take a copy and join in praying this Novena each month. Our unity with St. Joseph will unite us more closely to Jesus and bring us many spiritual blessings.

Catholic Charities Appeal 2021 - This year's Appeal is underway. Lent is a particularly good time to practice almsgiving and give to charities. The Catholic Charities Appeal helps the Archdiocese to serve many needy people in our area. Your generosity provides for elderly priests, children with disabilities, the undernourished, and many others who need help. Please be generous to this very important Appeal. Donations can be made by using the return envelope mailed to your home with the Appeal. Return envelopes are available in the vestibule too. Or you can donate online at catholiccharitiesappeal.org.

Pastoral Council Meeting – The Council will meet on Thursday, March 18 at 6:00 pm by Zoom.

Interfaith Bible Text Study—St. Margaret Parish has been invited by Har Zion Temple, Penn Valley, and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Narberth, to participate in a three-night (virtual) interfaith text study. The remaining two sessions will be held on Thursday, March 18 and Wednesday, March 31. The group will meet on Zoom from 7 pm to 8:15 pm. The theme for this scripture study is “Liberation & Freedom.” Seats for each congregation are limited, so please email Nicole at faith@saintmarg.org to claim your spot and receive the Zoom information.

Stations of the Cross – Every Friday evening in Lent at 7:00 pm in Church. Come and join us for these prayerful reflections on the suffering and death of Christ. We walk with the Lord in his suffering and are drawn to him because of his infinite love, a love revealed to us by his suffering and death for our salvation.

Lenten Morning of Recollection – We invite you to a Lenten Morning of Recollection in Church on Saturday, March 20. Join us for the 8:00 am Mass, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00 am. Father Sean Loomis, the Chaplain for the Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese and Parochial Vicar at Annunciation B.V.M. Church in Havertown, will speak at 9:00 am on the obedience of Christ to the Father and the freedom that obedience brings. Confessions will be heard from 10:00 – 10:45 am, and then we will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The talk by Fr. Loomis will be livestreamed.

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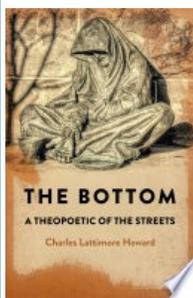
From the Pastor
continued

Lenten Discussion on Homelessness on Tuesday, March 23 – Lent is a time of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. What better time to address Homelessness? Please join us on Tuesday, March 23 at 8:00 pm for a zoom discussion of Rev. Chaz Howard’s new book, “The Bottom: a Theopoetic of the Streets.” It is available at the rectory for \$20 (\$5 of which will be donated to St. Margaret’s), and most booksellers. Contact Nicole at faith@saintmarg.org to register for the Zoom link.

Year of St. Joseph – Saint Maximilian Kolbe states, “With the exception of our loving Blessed Mother, St. Joseph stands above all the saints.” Other than Mary, no saint has a closer and more loving relationship with Jesus than St. Joseph. Through his intercession for us, his example, and his loving communion with us, St. Joseph leads us into a deeper love for the Lord Jesus. The goal of our faith is to be united with Christ, so that as St. Paul says, “It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.” St. Joseph has a special power to bring us into a deep and loving union with Jesus our Lord and Savior.

Church Teaching: The Mass as Communion with Christ and One Another – It is important to be ever mindful that communion with Christ is deeply tied to communion with our brothers and sisters. The Sunday Eucharistic gathering is an experience of brotherhood, which the celebration should demonstrate clearly, while ever respecting the nature of the liturgical action. All this will be helped by gestures of welcome and the tone of prayer, alert to the needs of all in the community. The sign of peace – in the Roman Rite significantly placed before Eucharistic communion – is a particularly expressive gesture which the faithful are invited to make as a manifestation of the People of God’s acceptance of all that has been accomplished in the celebration and of the commitment to mutual love that is made in sharing the one bread. (from the Apostolic Letter “Keeping the Lord’s Day Holy” by Saint John Paul II)

Spiritual Thought – To reform. Every day a little. This has to be your constant task if you really want to become a saint. (St. Josemaria Escriva)



Does COVID have you tired of being stuck at home? Now imagine you lost your home. Lent is a time for **PRAYER, FASTING and ALMSGIVING**. What better time to address *Homelessness*? Please join us on Tuesday, March 23 at 8 PM for a zoom discussion of Rev. Chaz Howard’s new book, *The Bottom: A Theopoetic of the Streets*. It is available at the rectory for \$20 (\$5 of which will be donated to St. Margaret’s), and most booksellers. For the zoom link, email faith@saintmarg.org.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

AND OTHER ACTS OF PENANCE FOR LENT

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are fourteen years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021, on all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday (with the exception of Friday, March 19th, The Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary). Further, all persons eighteen years of age and older, up to and including their fifty-ninth birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

All are encouraged to participate in Operation Rice Bowl which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world.

A Little Humor – A linguistics professor is lecturing. “In English,” he says, “a double negative forms a positive. But in Russian, a double negative is still a negative. However, there is no language in which a double positive forms a negative.” A student at the back of the room snorts, “Yeah, right.”



We welcome into the Church

Mark Gabriel Slama
son of
Kimberly and Edward Slama

Congratulations to the family on the
Baptism of their child.



Please remember in your prayers the soul of James Sizer who recently passed away. May he rest in peace and his loved ones be comforted.

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY
Suspended until further notice.



St Margaret School

In February, our students celebrated Black History Month through projects, stories and special lessons. Our 1st grade students completed a Bottle Biography project on prominent African-Americans throughout history. Their biographies included Martin Luther King, Jr., Bessie Coleman, Harriet Tubman, Shirley Chisholm and more. The projects are proudly on display in our first floor hallway for all our students to see. Thank you to our 1st grade teachers, Mrs. Lazur and Ms. Thorburn, for bringing this fun project to our 1st graders.

Coming up in March, SMS is hosting an Easter Fundraiser featuring Nothing Bundt Cakes! 8 inch bundt cakes will be available for \$20 and can be picked up on Wednesday, March 31st. For order forms and more information, please email the Office at smsnarberth.org.

We are excited to announce that our students will begin full-time 5 day in-person instruction at SMS on Friday, March 19th. We are very proud of the efforts of our teachers, staff and families to keep our community healthy and to enable our students to attend school in-person.

If you have a child in grades Pre-K-8 and are interested in learning more about St. Margaret's School, our education, our wonderful teachers and staff and our community, please contact Anne Becker at info@smsnarberth.org.



Thank you for Poor Box Donations

On behalf of the entire *Saint John's Hospice* family, we thank you for your generous gift of \$400. We are extremely fortunate to have thoughtful donors, like you, who help to provide a beacon of hope to all who come through our doors. Thank you so much for your patience and kindness as we navigate through these times of great uncertainty.

We are humbled by your support for your fellow brothers in need and are so thankful to you for all that you continue to do. Your generosity to Saint John's Hospice is greatly appreciated. May God bless you and your families in 2021.



Thank you to the St. Margaret Community for your generous response to our most recent blood drive. We were able to collect 56 pints of blood when our goal had been 42! Amazing! The blood collected because of your efforts, will go on to help save the lives of 168 local hospital patients.



TRYING NEW FOODS IN TIMOR-LESTE

Timor-Leste has the highest rate of child malnutrition in Asia, and many children suffer from stunting, which makes a big impact on a child's growth and future. Home gardens and fishponds are helping families provide better nutrition for their children. What do you eat to stay healthy? What can you do to ensure children have enough food to thrive? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Rice Bowl Lenten Almsgiving

PLEASE NOTE: The collection date for our in-church Rice Bowl donations has been changed to Easter Weekend, April 3 and 4. Rice Bowl donations may be made in two ways this year: collected in the Church on Easter Weekend OR donate online using our parish's unique CRS website: <https://crs.donordrive.com/participant/st-margaret-church>.

Thank you!



St. Margaret School

St. Margaret School is welcoming applicants for the fall of 2021-22. Apply early for our 4 year old prekindergarten, and Full Day Kindergarten to secure a seat. Our goals include in person learning, while keeping your children safe with high academic standards. Applications for grades 1 to 7 are considered on an individual basis. For more information email info@smsnarberth.org.



Online Giving - Saint Margaret Parish has arranged a convenient and 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>.

This is an easy way to continue to support your parish both during the COVID-19 pandemic and going forward. Thank you!



Tax Information for 2020: To properly claim your donations to the Church, the IRS may require a donation receipt. To request your information go here <http://tinyurl.com/stmargtax> or contact the rectory during normal business hours, 610-664-3770.

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 12:30 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 Wednesday, March 17, 2021 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/ArchbishopPerez>

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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