

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 8, 2019



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.
prep@saintmarg.org

Coordinator of Parish Services, Ext. 20
Miss Nicole Bazis, MATS
faith@saintmarg.org

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

Safe Environment Coordinator, Ext. 21
Mrs. Beth Mirzai
safe@saintmarg.org

Administrative Assistant, Ext. 10
Maryann Cassidy (Mon, Tues, Wed)
Mrs. Teresa Myers (Thurs, 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: 5:15 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

We dare not deny the necessity of honesty in any spiritual self appraisal we may undertake, much less one guided by a trusted spiritual advisor.

We come face to face this second Sunday of Advent 2019 with the man of the season: John the Baptist. Honesty personified is he. Complete with his unusual wardrobe, fortified by his strange diet, yet striking the pose of a prophet. He challenges the religious leaders of his people. In a scene ripe for cinema, he confronts the Pharisees and Sadducees, who have come to throw down the gauntlet. St. John takes the initiative. He stops the line, stares right at the intruders, and calls them a "brood of vipers."

Right then and there, we could say that John is never getting a dinner invitation from any Pharisee or Sadducee. John couldn't care less. He knows they are phonies with no real interest in repentance because they believe themselves to be the truly righteous ones. John even denies their pedigree as "children of Abraham." He knows his honest appraisal of the two groups could be the first step toward their true reform. He wants them prepared to meet the Messiah who is already in their midst and soon to appear.

As we prepare each Advent to celebrate the anniversary of our Savior's birth among us, twinning His divinity with our humanity, we need to prepare ourselves spiritually. That starts with repentance for all those deviant decisions we have made in the last year that amount to acts of self-worship. Another word for them is sin. No one is going to call us a "brood of vipers," except perhaps the voice of conscience.

That's a good thing, if we will allow ourselves to hear it above the cacophony of the American "pre-Christmas Christmas" of these early December days. Imagine your soul as a stable that needs cleaning. We are about to make way for the little King coming to us there. Peruse the calendar of saints and you'll discover how nearly all of them spent their lives "cleaning up" for their ultimate home with Him.

Of course I must admit that sometimes our preparation for change is misunderstood. A fellow priest told me this one. *"Ever since my brother was very young, our Mother tried to get him to clean his room or at least make his bed—usually to no avail. When he was preparing to leave home to attend college, he knew his pending departure was upsetting her, so he took the time to tidy the bed before he left. To his surprise Mom became even more emotional. "Look," she wailed tearfully, "he's just like a stranger already!"*

Weekend Mass Schedule December 14-15

(Priest scheduled is subject to change)

Saturday, December 14

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

5:15 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

Sunday, December 15

7:30 AM - Msgr. Dougherty

10:00 AM - Fr. Pesarchick

11:30 AM - Fr. DePrinzio

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 9

7:00 AM Peter Read

TUESDAY, December 10

7:00 AM Living & Deceased Members of
Cain, Stevens & Cronin Families

WEDNESDAY, December 11

7:00 AM Evelyn Kazeniak

THURSDAY, December 12

7:00 AM Simpson & Molyneaux Families

FRIDAY, December 13

7:00 AM Joseph S. Cain

SATURDAY, December 14

8:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory



THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 2019

.FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR THIS
SUNDAY ARE IN MEMORY OF
JOHN LE.

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

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

<u>Weekend of November 24, 2019:</u>	\$ 9,037
Including Electronic Funds Transfer	\$ 671
Mail In:	\$ 385
Parish On Line:	\$ 1,780
Envelopes:	216

The Weekend of November 25, 2018: \$9,121

<u>Weekend of December 1, 2019:</u>	\$ 14,049
Including Electronic Funds Transfer	\$ 671
Mail In:	\$ 2,620
Parish On Line:	\$ 745
Envelopes:	212

The Weekend of December 2, 2018: \$11,749

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

From the Pastor

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Since December 8 fell on the Second Sunday of Advent this year, the celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been transferred to Monday, December 9, but it will not be a Holyday of Obligation. Mass will be offered at 7:00 am on December 9 in honor of the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

Synopsis of Pastoral Council Meeting of November 21 – Council Members are: Nicole Bazis, Bess Combs-Chmielewski, George Gazella, Marybeth Hagan, Robert McCairns, Mary Anne Monroe, Bruce Fay, Martha Ortiz, Monica Romeo, Teresa Albers, and April Gordon. 1) Announcements were made regarding some forthcoming dates: the Advent Day of Recollection on Dec. 7, the Schola Concert on Dec. 13, the Blood Drive on Dec. 23, Trivia Night on January 11 and the Volunteer Dinner on January 25. 2) Current Capital Improvement Projects, including the Pointing of the South Wall of the Church and a new Sound System for the Church were announced and discussed. 3) Nicole Bazis reported on her use of Social Media to advertise Parish events, her plans for the Youth Group, a possible online Parish Directory, Hospitality Sunday on the Third Sunday of every month after the 7:30 and 10:00 am Masses, and a Project for Martin Luther King Day. 4) Some preliminary architect plans and drawings for a possible renovation of the Antioch Annex to include a warming kitchen, an additional bathroom, and some small group meeting rooms through the use of moveable partitions were reviewed and discussed.

Advent Confessions – Monsignor Dougherty and another priest will be available for Confessions on Wednesday, December 11 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. A few priests will also be available for Confessions on Thursday, December 19 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Knights of Columbus – Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 pm.

St. Margaret Schola Christmas Concert – This year's concert will be on Friday, December 13 at 7:00 pm in the Church. Come and enjoy the beautiful and spiritually uplifting music of our Schola.

Blood Drive – St. Margaret Parish will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday December 23 in the School Cafeteria. from 2:00 to 7:00 PM. 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 **SMRCCNarberth**, 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.

Volunteer Dinner – Save the Date. Parish volunteers will be invited to a Volunteer Recognition Dinner on Saturday, January 25 from 6:15 to 8:00 pm. Plan to join us for a pleasant dinner and the enjoyment of each other's company.

Fall Census and Appeal – I want to make one last pitch for the return of the Fall census envelope you received early in September. Your response helps us to keep our records updated and your donation is a great help in providing the resources for fulfilling our mission.

Spiritual Thought – Mary is and remains the handmaid of the Lord who does not put herself at the center, but wants to lead us towards God, to teach us a way of life in which God is acknowledged as the center of all there is and the center of our personal lives. (Pope Benedict XVI)



*Advent Taizé Prayer
For Young Adults*
December 17, 2019 from 7 PM - 8 PM
Sisters of Mercy Convent
5015 Montgomery Ave, Merion, PA

The worship service includes repetitive prayers, music, and silence, and is based on prayer that was begun by an ecumenical community in Taizé, France.
Light refreshments to follow. RSVP
tsaetta@mercymidatlantic.org.

Church Teaching: Family Life – It is here in the family that the father of the family, the mother, children, and all members of the family exercise the priesthood of the baptized in a privileged way by the reception of the sacraments, prayer and thanksgiving, the witness of a holy life, and self-denial and active charity. Thus the home is the first school of Christian life and a school for human enrichment. Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, generous – even repeated – forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one's life. (from the Catechism of the Catholic Church)



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



St Margaret School

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Congratulations to Ava Kennedy (Grade 8) who received a scholarship to Merion Mercy Academy.

SAVE THE DATE - The SMS Christmas Concert, which will include our SMS Band, Senior and Junior Choir, and Grade 8 Christmas Play, will take place on Wednesday evening, December 18 at 7 pm. We welcome all Alumni back to SMS! On December 19 at 1:30 pm, Grades 1 and 3 will be singing Christmas carols. Join us at these concerts to get in the Spirit of the Season!

WALK IN WEDNESDAY AT SMS - Come in for a tour any time between 9 - 11 am, December 11, or 18 (Walk in any Wednesday). **Learn More About St. Margaret School: www.smsnarberth.org.**

2019 CHRISTMAS SCRIP – BUY YOUR GIFT CARDS AT SMS - On our website - www.smsnarberth.org - you will see an order form for Christmas Scrip. Orders will be collected between **now and Friday December 13**. 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. You may also order on line: www.shopwithscrip.com. Register and join the existing St. Margaret account by using the code **6EL64A3F6L55**. Physical cards will be mailed to the rectory, available for pick up. Questions on ordering: Email Pooja Garg - Pooja.m.garg@gmail.com.

If would like to donate your scrip credits to a SMS family, or have any questions, please call the school office (Mrs. D at 610-664-2640 or email office@smsnarberth.org.) Thank you for all your support!

JOIN THE SAINT
MARGARET'S
CHURCH
COMMUNITY FOR
OUR ANNUAL:

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Friday, December 13th at 7:00PM

Saint Margaret's Church

208 N. Narberth Avenue

Narberth, PA 19072

Join us after the concert for light refreshments and merriment.

Support Local Musicians &
Celebrate the Season!

Free Will Offering



We welcome into the Church

Emmett Colt Tanker

son of Ryan and Nicole Tanker

Nicholas Terence McKeever

son of Matthew and Rita McKeever

Ryan Joseph McElrone

son of Paul and Kiera McElrone

Congratulations to the families on the
Baptism of their children.



Upcoming Retreats

December 12: Spirit Power retreat for men and women. Directed by Marty Rotella, Fr. Stephen DeLacy, Anna Iatesta and Christine Cullen, the theme for the retreat is "The Fearless Voice of Mary." A popular annual retreat, this joy-filled day will be celebrated on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

December 13-15: An Advent Retreat with Fr. James Blount, SOLT. Consecration to Our Heavenly Father and St. Joseph, Our Foster Father. **Healing the Father Wounds.**

For more information and to register, call 610-644-0400 or visit www.malvernretreat.com.

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY

Week of December 8, 2019

Pam Owsik 610-659-7021

Please call as early in the week as possible.

A Little Humor – After an election in which he had retained his seat in Parliament, a reporter asked Winston Churchill, "I presume we may expect you to continue to be subservient to the powerful interests that control your vote." Churchill replied, "I'll thank you to keep my wife out of this."



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

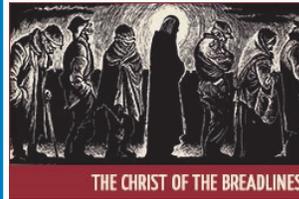
Mercy Neighborhood Ministries,
Narberth Food Bank and
Housing for Haiti

You will be able to drop off your wrapped gift (s) to the Antioch Annex Sunday, December 15 between 7:30 AM and 7:00 PM.

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

Scrip Cards or checks (made payable to St. Margaret Church) for Mercy Ministries and Narberth Food Bank may be dropped off at the rectory.

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



Thank you from
Saint John's Hospice and
the Good Shepherd
Program
*Where homeless men find
dignity, respect
and new beginnings*

Dear St. Margaret's,

On behalf of the entire Saint John's Hospice family, thank you for your generous gift of \$960.00. We are extremely fortunate to have thoughtful donors, like you, who help us serve people experiencing homelessness in Philadelphia.

Your contribution plays an integral part in providing services such as 200 hot lunches each weekday; a mailing address for 2,000 individuals; showers, toiletries, and clothing for 150 men every week; case-management and medical care for three hours every weekday; and shelter for 27 men experiencing chronic homelessness every night of the year. Your compassion is also the reason that we are able to provide housing, clothing, food, and case-management for 52 men living in our residential programs.

Through your support, we are able to ensure that every man who comes to our door leaves with dignity, respect, and opportunities for new beginnings.

Thank you for all that you do. Your generosity to Saint John's Hospice is greatly appreciated.

God Bless!

HOLIDAY ETHICAL TRADE SALE

DECEMBER 7 and 8
CRAFTS - COFFEE
CHOCOLATE - TEA !!!



The holidays are fast approaching! Our parish Peace and Justice Committee will once again host a Catholic Relief Services Holiday Ethical Trade Sale of lovely crafts, coffee, tea, chocolate and hot chocolate in the school cafeteria after all Masses on the weekend of Dec. 7 and 8. These products make great Christmas gifts! Proceeds benefit the poor of the world.

Benefits of Buying Ethical Trade

- Guarantees fair wages to disadvantaged artisans, farmers and workers.
- Provides the technical and financial assistance that poor people so desperately need but so rarely get in the conventional trading system.
- Makes a strong connection with hardworking but impoverished workers around the world.
- Returns human dignity to people just like us.

We hope to see you at the sale!

St. John's Hospice - Casseroles for St.

John's Hospice, Recipe #2, will be collected Wednesday morning of this week, December 11, 2019, between 9 and 9:30 AM at St. Margaret School Parking Lot. Pans are available in the vestibule if you would like to participate.



If you or someone you know is curious about religious life, visit www.sistersofmercy.org.



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>.



American Red Cross

Red Cross Blood Drive - There will be an American Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by St.

Margaret Church on Monday, December 23, 2019, from 2:00 to 7:00 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 www.redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor keyword **SMRCCNarberth**, or call 1-800-Red-Cross. Save time and pre-register at www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass. Also, if you would like to volunteer to assist at the Blood Drive, you can contact Tina Braun at christinabraun2002@yahoo.com

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 19, 2019 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.



Catholic Answers Live - #1 Catholic Radio Show. Monday - Friday, 6-8 PM.

One great program. Many ways to listen! catholic.com/radio



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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.