

# ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH PARISH

208 N. Narberth Avenue  
Narberth, PA 19072  
610-664-3770, Fax 610-664-5001  
Web site: [www.saintmarg.org](http://www.saintmarg.org)  
Email: [office@saintmarg.org](mailto:office@saintmarg.org)

**Msgr. Paul V. Dougherty,**  
Pastor, Ext. 12  
[pastor@saintmarg.org](mailto: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](mailto:mjohnston@smsnarberth.org)  
610-664-2640

**Director of Religious Education, Ext.16**  
Mrs. Mary Anne J. Monroe, M.A.  
[prep@saintmarg.org](mailto:prep@saintmarg.org)

**Coordinator of Parish Services, Ext. 20**  
Miss Nicole Bazis, MATS  
[faith@saintmarg.org](mailto:faith@saintmarg.org)

**Parish Business Manager, Ext.17**  
Mr. Cliff Coombs  
[busmgr@saintmarg.org](mailto:busmgr@saintmarg.org)

**Safe Environment Coordinator, Ext. 21**  
Mrs. Beth Mirzai  
[safe@saintmarg.org](mailto:safe@saintmarg.org)

**Administrative Assistant, Ext. 10**  
Maryann Cassidy (Mon, Tues, Wed)  
Mrs. Teresa Myers (Thurs, Fri)  
[office@saintmarg.org](mailto:office@saintmarg.org)

**Director of Music - Mr. Michael Worth**  
[saintmargmusic@gmail.com](mailto:saintmargmusic@gmail.com)  
267-304-6490

**Scrip Sales**  
**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**  
**FROM 9AM TO 4:30 PM IN THE RECTORY**  
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**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.



## *THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH DECEMBER 29, 2019*



### 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.

## THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Last October I was honored by an invitation to preach at a suburban Philadelphia parish for its annual Forty Hours Devotion. I was warmly received by the pastor and his staff. I soon learned from the parish secretary that she and others on the staff had all attended the parish school together. That coincidence added to their camaraderie at the lunch table. That same secretary had opined that for them "this town is the center of the universe."

That description of a certain beloved place could easily have applied at a unique time to a tiny, dusty village called Nazareth. It was God's choice for at least 30 years as "the center of the universe." We know why. But that very idea would have been laughable to Our Lord's contemporaries. For all its subsequent fame and ultimate glory, little Nazareth is not even mentioned in the whole Old Testament. As for that prophecy we read today, scholars tell us that St. Matthew was using a little creative imagination based on texts that only hinted at the town's name.

On this Holy Family Sunday, dare I take that heartfelt description of a town and apply it to our families? They are, or should be, the center of our little universes, should they not? I know that's a risky thing to say, seeing how so many families struggle these days. Just staying in touch is sometimes difficult. Staying together often develops into a challenge.

Yet all those obstacles are not insuperable. This is especially so when we meet them with good will and open minds, topped off by the attitude Jesus taught by word and example about our dealings with other residents of our planet. Add to that St. Paul's "recipe" for right relations in this weekend's Second Reading.

We know that even the Holy Family had its difficulties. There were those inconvenient travel orders given to St. Joseph which he met with his exemplary obedience. The burden was shared by a pregnant Blessed Mother. Later, both parents were faced with the fright and temporary helplessness of a lost child. Then came that boy Child's upsetting question: "Did you not know that I had to be about My Father's business?" To these we add the presumed early death of St. Joseph. Then there were the seven sorrows foretold by Simeon of Mary, leading to her place at the foot of the Cross.

One substantial help for all our families amid the present social upheaval in our Western culture is that attributed to the late Father Patrick Peyton: "The family that prays together stays together." It's not an outdated slogan. I even spotted that recently on a roadside billboard. I believe it's worth a try. To which I add that that's the real beauty of a family at Mass.

While we all work to heal our center, there's always humor to soften the edges of the effort. Here is a sampling of family-based humor from three past comedians. From the late Bob Hope: "I grew up with six brothers. That's how I learned to dance—waiting for the bathroom!" Buddy Hackett: "As a child, my family's menu consisted of two choices: take it or leave it." And finally Sam Levenson: "The reason grandparents and grandchildren get along so well is that they have a common enemy."

Today, take some time to enjoy being part of a family.

## Mass Intentions

### MONDAY, December 30

7:00 AM Sally Thomas

### TUESDAY, December 31

7:00 AM Robert & Louise Urbani

5:15 PM Falcone, Gaudini, & Myers Family

### WEDNESDAY, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

7:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Mischler Family

10:00 AM Kozak, Schmader & Brandau Families

11:30 AM Dougherty Family

### THURSDAY, January 2

7:00 AM Robert Neely

### FRIDAY, January 3

7:00 AM Virginia Machado

### SATURDAY, January 4

8:00 AM Rev. Stephen Dougherty

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



**THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 29, 2019**  
**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**GEORGE CONSTANTINE.**

### Weekend Mass Schedule January 4-5

*(Priest scheduled is subject to change)*

#### **Saturday, January 4**

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

5:15 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

#### **Sunday, January 5**

7:30 AM - Fr. De Prinzio

10:00 AM - Fr. Guckin

11:30 AM - Fr. Dougherty

### THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

<b>Weekend of December 15, 2019:</b>	<b>\$ 13,512</b>
<b>Including Electronic Funds Transfer</b>	<b>\$ 671</b>
<b>Mail In:</b>	<b>\$ 5,607</b>
<b>Parish On Line:</b>	<b>\$ 760</b>
<b>Envelopes:</b>	<b>209</b>

**The Weekend of December 16, 2018: \$8,921.**

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

**Msgr. Dougherty**

## **From the Pastor**

**Holy Family Sunday** – Today is Holy Family Sunday. The Church designates this Sunday after Christmas as a time to remember and celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Joseph and Mary, and to recommit ourselves to the importance and sanctity of family life for each of us. Jesus came among us a member of a family. By assuming membership in a family Jesus has consecrated family life. It was in a family that the Lord learned the ways of God and grew in wisdom, age and grace. It is in our families that we learn the meaning of love, life, forgiveness and commitment, and grow in the ways of goodness and holiness.

Our Parish theme for this year is “Family: a Communion of Life and Love.” God himself is family of three divine person united as one God. Our families are called to imitate the life of the Trinity. We are separate and distinct persons in our families, and we are called to respect and honor the individuality of one another. But we are called to freely give the gift of ourselves to one another in love. Through this gift of self to one another we become united as one in a bond of family love and commitment, a bond that requires sacrifice but brings a contentment that runs deep and true.

In one of the Scripture stories in the life of Jesus, he cured a sick man, and the man wanted to travel with the Lord and his apostles, but the Lord told him to go home to his family and proclaim there the good things of God. Our first responsibility in serving others is in our homes. My mother was fond of telling us, “Charity begins at home.” How true! We renew our commitment today to make our families places of charity, forgiveness, peace and joy through our love for one another.

**Wednesday, January 1 is a Holyday of Obligation** – We will be observing the Sunday Mass schedule. There will be a 5:15 pm Mass on Tuesday evening, December 31, and Masses at 7:30, 10:00 and 11:30 am on Wednesday, January 1. We celebrate four significant events and matters on January 1: the Octave of the Nativity of Our Lord; the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God; the World Day of Prayer for Peace; and the beginning of a New Year. That is certainly much to celebrate but all four aspects of the day do fit nicely together and can be wrapped together as one.

The Octave of the Nativity of Our Lord celebrates the eighth day after the Birth of Christ. The two great feasts of Christmas and Easter honor such great events in the life of Christ, namely his birth and his rising from the dead respectively, that the Church designates an eight day period after each of these feasts as special days of giving glory and honor to God. January 1 is the eighth day after Christmas and is thus marked as the Octave of the Nativity. It is given special recognition because it is the culmination of the eight days of heightened celebration of the Birth of Jesus.

Because the Birth of Christ could not have happened without the gracious consent of Mary to God’s will for her to be his mother, we also honor Mary on this Octave as the Mother of God. Mary is the perfect example of someone who welcomed Christ into her heart and made him the center of everything. Honoring Mary focuses us on our role in celebrating Christmas, to allow Christ to come into our lives and to place our faith and trust in him as our Lord and Savior.

Christ came among us to bring us his peace. Peace cannot prevail in the world unless it reigns in each of our hearts. And the way to peace is through Christ. He comes as the Prince of Peace. Through union with him we come to know the love of God for us and experience a peace the world cannot give. We bring this gift of peace to our world through our prayers and actions. It is fitting that on the Octave we renew our desire to bring the gift of peace given to us by Jesus to all the world by our prayers, words, and actions.

January 1 is also the beginning of a New Year, a time to start fresh and begin anew, to contemplate the past and move forward with renewed life and strength. Jesus is the God of new beginnings. He always sets us free from past sins and mistakes to go forth and grow and mature in heart mind, body and soul. Having celebrated that Jesus is with us always to lead and strengthen us, we go forth into a New Year with confidence and resolve to unite ourselves to him and walk in his ways.

**Holy Hour for Vocations on Sunday, January 5** – Prayer accomplishes much. On Sunday, January 5, there will be a Holy Hour for Vocations at St. Colman, Ardmore at 1:00 pm. Other Churches in the various regions of the Archdiocese will be celebrating Holy Hours as well. We are uniting our minds and hearts in asking the Lord to provide vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the service of his people. Those called to these vocations help to nurture our faith and lead us closer to the Lord. Come and join in prayer that those who are called may respond with generosity and devotion.

**Trivia Night** – Saturday, January 11, will be the Annual Trivia Night. It is sponsored by the Home and School Association but all are welcome to participate. It is always a fun night. Get some folks together and come out for an enjoyable evening.

**Church Teaching:** – The Holy Spirit prepared Mary by his grace. It was fitting that the mother of him in whom the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily should herself be full of grace. She was, by sheer grace, conceived without sin as the most humble of creatures, the most capable of welcoming the inexpressible gift of the Almighty. (from the Catechism of the Catholic Church)

# St Margaret School



*To All of our friends and family of St. Margaret,  
Wishing you the gift of Peace  
To soothe your soul and smooth your way...  
Wishing you the gift of Joy  
To brighten up your life each day...  
Wishing you the gift of Faith  
To see His Promise shining clear  
Wishing you the love of Christ  
To guard and guide you through the coming year  
Wishing you all the wonderful gift of Christmas*

*Mrs. Johnston and the Faculty at St. Margaret School*

*Happy 2020 NEW YEAR – may it be filled with much joy and happiness!*

## **SMS UPCOMING EVENT –**

**Gather all your friends for a fun event.**

**St. Margaret Trivia Night 2020 (Antioch Annex)**

**Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Join us for a chance to win the coveted Golden Brain Trophy!**

### **Lankenau Ministry**

Next Sunday, January 5, is St. Margaret's weekend to take Holy Communion to the sick at the Lankenau. Group A is assigned but Group B is also welcome. If you cannot come this weekend, please try to exchange with someone. It is very important to get a replacement.

### **HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY**

**Week of December 29, 2019  
Robert Ritzco 610-649-3973  
Please call as early in the week as possible.**



Please remember in your prayers the soul of **Helen Sharkey** who recently passed away. May she rest in peace and her loved ones be comforted.

**A Little Humor** – Words of a father: Before I was married I had three theories about raising children. Now I have three children and no theories.



**WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH**  
*Piper Jones Pronchik and Remy Joseph*  
**Pronchik, daughter and son of**  
**BAPTISM Christopher and Marguerite Pronchik.**

**Congratulations to the family on the Baptism of their children,**

**Spiritual Thought** – Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do. (Saint John XXIII)



**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>.



**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](http://www.smsnarberth.org) or call 610-349-7747.



**Teaching Opportunities**  
**The Archdiocese of Philadelphia is hiring teachers for the 2019-2020 school year.**

Mathematics, Science, and Special Education teacher candidates are invited to apply for substitute and permanent positions to teach our high school students. Please visit [www.AOPcatholicsschools.org](http://www.AOPcatholicsschools.org) to review information about our schools, the Office of Catholic Education, and Academic Criteria for Teaching Competencies. For questions, concerns, or to forward application documents please contact Barbara Guiliano, HR Assistant for secondary schools, at [bguiliano@archphila.org](mailto:bguiliano@archphila.org).



**Choirs at the Cathedral**

The Cathedral and Archdiocesan Choirs will be holding open auditions starting in January 2020. Please

contact [cangelini@archphila.org](mailto:cangelini@archphila.org) to set up an appointment time.

Choirs include: the Archdiocesan Children's Choir (ages 7-18), the Archdiocesan Adult Choir, and the Cathedral Choir. For more information on these choirs, please visit:

<http://cathedralphila.org/music/choirs-at-the-cathedral-basilica/>.

**Pray for Vocations**

January 5, 2020

Parishes across the Archdiocese of Philadelphia will gather as a community of faith. See [heedthecall.org/holyhour](http://heedthecall.org/holyhour) for times and locations. In our area, the Holy Hour will be held at 1:00 PM at St. Colman Church in Ardmore.



**Project Rachel: Healing after Abortion**  
**Peace Starts Here**

*Prayer - Jesus, Healer of Wounds and Source of Mercy, your hands embrace and welcome little*

*children. As we look on your hands painfully nailed to the cross, extend your Divine Mercy to the tens of millions of women and men in our nation who are wounded from their participation in abortions. Help us as a Church to recognize the unique pain that abortion brings to individuals, families and our society. May the wounds of your hands on the Cross remind us each day of your steadfast love for us as we seek to build a culture of life and be faithful instruments of your hope and healing.*

Project Rachel is a collaboration of The Office for Life and Family and Catholic Social Services. For more information, call 1-844-772-2435 or email [ProjectRachel@chs-adphila.org](mailto:ProjectRachel@chs-adphila.org).

**Young Adult Retreat**  
**February 7 - 9, 2020**



**Marianist Family Retreat Center**  
**Cape May Point, NJ 08212**

Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions. Eucharist and lots of fun!

Cost: \$135 per person, double occupancy

**Register at:** [www.capemaymarianists.org](http://www.capemaymarianists.org) or call 609-884-3829.

**Some financial aid is available.**



**Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Help-Line**

Do you need help accessing services and supports for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? A collaboration of Catholic Social

Services - Developmental Programs, The Office for Persons with Disabilities and the Schools of Special Education of the Archdiocese is offering this convenient help-line to assist families connect to disabilities services provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

**To reach the Help-Line, call:** 484-472-5041 or email: [IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org](mailto:IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org).

### **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](mailto: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](http://www.twitter.com/ArchPhilly)

[www.youtube.com/user/CatholicPhilly](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://catholic.com/radio)



Looking for local Catholic news?

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](http://CatholicPhilly.com/newsletter).