

ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH PARISH

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Pastor Emeritus

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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.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 6, 2020



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

This weekend we have our annual encounter with that strange man with an even stranger message. The Church wants us to hear from him each Advent season, so he becomes in fact "the man of Advent": John the Baptist. His is a call to lift our minds and hearts up from undue concern about earthly prep for Christmas 2020 and consider the superior importance of spiritual preparation for the next coming of Christ.

After all, the ultimate reason for Christmas is the Incarnation, the taking on of a human nature of the Son of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. He truly becomes the "Emmanuel" foretold by the prophets, a title which means "God with us."

In this early part of Advent, the focus turns to the matter of Christ's second coming because that event should have a profound personal impact how we live each day. The first Coming, we know, is all joy and glory to God in the highest. That's as it should be, as we note God's eternal plan slowly coming to fruition with the birth of the holy Babe. The second coming is described in more frightening terms because then this Babe will have matured and will be coming as our Judge. That will also mark the end of the universe as we know it. So that inescapable moment of judgment we each face could well have a background we can only imagine. Frightening beyond words.

As if to shake us out of the sentimentality associated with Christmas, the Church presents us with Mark's gospel, where he hurries past the birth tale to Jesus' adult baptism in the Jordan. It marks the beginning of Our Lord's brief time being personally present as God's best emissary. Jesus launches His "campaign" if you will. We will come back to this event in a few weeks to mark the liturgical end of the Christmas season early next year.

Meanwhile, we must be careful not to turn John the Baptist into a kind of campaign manager. Rather, is he Our Lord's precursor, the one who gets us ready to hear the Good News? Salvation history has come to its final chapter, after centuries of hoping for it. Thus does John the Baptist straddle both biblical testaments as the last prophet of the Old and the first of the New. The era of ultimate choice has arrived, and John is the first to make it known. In blunt terms, it is between Jesus and Satan.

Satan, you ask? Oh yes, he's still around and very real. He is evil personified. We may not automatically think that way but every one of our sins is a vote cast for the evil one. This culture of ours has found a somewhat sleazy way out of living by objective morality by making everything subjective. So somebody might justify drinking too much at a Christmas party by thinking he/she deserves it "because 2020 has been a very bad year." We should wonder just how such an excuse would hold up on Judgment Day. Tough and sober truth.

God love you and give you His peace.

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY
Suspended until further notice.

MONDAY, December 7

7:00 AM Martin Doherty
7:00 PM Vigil Angelo & Kathleen Bovo

TUESDAY, December 8

7:00 AM Scorzetti Family
12:05 PM Immaculata Bizzarri
7:00 PM Frank Farrow

WEDNESDAY, December 9

7:00 AM Marcel Montagne

THURSDAY, December 10

7:00 AM Mary Box

FRIDAY, December 11

7:00 AM Evelyn Kazeniak

SATURDAY, December 12

8:00 AM Mark Vita



THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2020
THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN
IN MEMORY OF THE SCORZETTI FAMILY.

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

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekend of November 22, 2020: \$ 10,158
Collection in Church: \$ 4,371
Electronic Funds Transfer: \$ 665
Mail In: \$ 1,008
Parish On Line: \$ 4,114
Envelopes: 157

The Weekend of November 24, 2019: \$9,037

Weekend of November 29, 2020: \$ 7,152
Collection in Church: \$ 2,924
Electronic Funds Transfer: \$ 665
Mail In: \$ 1,493
Parish On Line: \$ 2,070
Envelopes: 147

The Weekend of December 1, 2019: \$14,049

**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

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection – The Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be this weekend. There is an envelope in your packet for this Collection. Please place it, or any donation for this purpose, in the special collection basket in the vestibule of Church for this Fund. This important Collection helps to support the many elderly religious who served the Church so well for so many years.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Tuesday, December 8 – Masses will be celebrated at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 7 and at 7:00 am, 12:05 pm and 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 8. We honor Mary, who by the grace of God was conceived without sin in order to be a spotless vessel for Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Mary's untainted nature gives us great hope. She is the sign that God's grace has a profound effect upon us and cleanses us from sin. We hope one day to be cleansed of all sin in the kingdom of heaven. Mary is the guide to our heavenly home. She shows us how to give ourselves completely to God so that his love can cleanse and perfect us.

Advent Morning of Recollection, Saturday, December 12 – Father Thomas Whittingham, the pastor of Saint Katharine Drexel Parish in Chester, PA, will be with us on Saturday morning, December 12, the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, as we celebrate an Advent morning of recollection. Father will speak on the topic of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 9:00 am, followed by questions or sharing. From 10:00 – 11:00 am we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions will be heard. Join us to help make your Advent a time of spiritual renewal.

Advent Confessions – In addition to the regular times for Confessions, they will be heard on Wednesdays, December 9, 16 and 23 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a wonderful way to prepare our hearts to welcome the Lord by being forgiven for our sins and renewing our commitment to Jesus.

Blood Drive at St. Margaret's on Monday, December 21 from 2:00 – 7:00 pm – The Red Cross will be in our School cafeteria. Be the lifeline patients need. Give blood. All donors will be tested for Covid-19 antibodies. Results can be found online or in the app in 7-10 days. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1- 800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SMRCCNarberth to schedule an appointment. For eligibility to donate questions, call 866-236-3276.

Parish Theme for This Year (“Rejoice in hope; endure in affliction; persevere in prayer.”) – The Blessed Mother is a primary figure in the celebration of Advent. She awaited the birth of our Savior with joyful expectation. Advent is the Season of joyful hope. It is a Season of watchful waiting. A fundamental attitude of a disciple of our Lord is always to be waiting in hope for his saving presence to come into our lives, sometimes dramatically, but most often in quiet and ordinary ways. Wait with Mary in joyful expectation for the Lord to come to you.

Church Teaching: The Resurrection and the Lord's Day – The resurrection of Jesus is the fundamental event upon which Christian faith rests. It is an astonishing reality, fully grasped in the light of faith, yet historically attested to by those who were privileged to see the Risen Lord. It is a wondrous event which is not only absolutely unique in human history, but which lies at the very heart of the mystery of time. In fact, “all time belongs to Christ and all the ages,” as the evocative liturgy of the Easter Vigil recalls in preparing the paschal candle. Therefore, in commemorating the day of Christ's resurrection not just once a year but every Sunday, the church seeks to indicate to every generation the true fulcrum of history, to which the mystery of the world's origin and its final destiny leads. It is right, therefore, to claim, in the words of a fourth century homily, that “the Lord's Day” is “the lord of days.” Those who have received the grace of faith in the Risen Lord cannot fail to grasp the significance of this day of the week with the same emotion which led Saint Jerome to say; “Sunday is the day of the resurrection, it is the day of Christians, it is our day.” For Christians, Sunday is the fundamental feast day, established not only to mark the succession of time but to reveal time's deeper meaning.

A Little Humor – Husband: I accidentally handed my wife a glue stick instead of a chap stick. She still isn't speaking to me.

Spiritual Thought – So much toil and effort is expended today in mastering and advancing human knowledge that our age glories – and rightly – in the amazing progress it has made in the field of scientific research. But why do we not devote as much energy, ingenuity, and enthusiasm in the sure and safe attainment of that learning which concerns not this earthly, mortal life but the life which lies ahead of us in heaven? Our spirit will rest in peace and joy only when we have reached that truth which is taught in the gospels and which should be reduced to action in our lives. This is a joy which surpasses by far any pleasure which can come from the study of things human or from those marvelous inventions which we use today and are constantly praising to the skies. (Saint John XXIII)



Scouting for Food
No Contact Food Drive

Thank you to all who donated to the Scouting for Food event on Saturday, November 21st. We donated 1247 non-perishable items, 4 turkeys, 3 packages of diapers and some school supplies to the Narberth Food Pantry and Grace Lutheran Church in West Philly! We truly appreciate your support!

Weekend Mass Schedule December 12-13
(Priest scheduled is subject to change)

Saturday, December 12

Confessions 4:00 - 4:45 PM - Msgr. Dougherty
5:15 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

Sunday, December 13

7:30 AM - Msgr. Dougherty
8:45 AM - Fr. Pesarchick
10:00 AM - Msgr. Dougherty
11:30 AM - Fr. DePrinzio

1:00 PM Baptism - Msgr. Dougherty
1:30 PM Baptism - Msgr. Dougherty



FOOD
COLLECTION
WEEKEND!

Next Weekend is our monthly food collection weekend (December 12 & 13). This program collects non-perishable foods each month for the Archdiocesan Community Food Distribution Centers Program. They provide food for 40 Food Cupboards throughout the Philadelphia area. All items should be brought to the school Cafeteria next weekend. Thank you for your generous support of this program.

Casseroles for St. John's Hospice

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



You can also support the efforts of St. John's Hospice to continue to provide life-sustaining support to those experiencing homelessness by donating at:

<http://saintjohnshospice.org/>

Martin Saints Classical High School



Admissions Open House:

December 10, 2020 @ 7pm

7th Grade Visitation: March 30, 2021

Guest Student Visit: Contact our admissions counselor, Ms. Lindmeier, to schedule a visit during the school day.

Location: On the campus of Holy Martyrs Church, 120 Allison Road, Oreland PA 19075.

www.whymsc.org

Come be "fully alive" with us!

Any questions?

Contact: Ms. Laura Lindmeier to RSVP
(lindmeier@martinsaintsclassical.org)

The Institute for Christian Formation

Launching in January 2021 at

St. Charles Borromeo Seminary

For Adults, 18 and above (HS diploma required)

Deepen your relationship with Jesus and live out committed discipleship in Him in a 2-year non-degree, non-credit Experiential Faith Formation program. For more information about this exciting new spiritual formation opportunity which will renew hearts and minds in Christ, please call 610-785-6287, email sts@scs.edu or visit <https://www.scs.edu/ICF>.



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.

SCRIP Holiday Sales

Support our school by buying your holiday gift cards through our SCRIP program. Holiday order forms are in the vestibule or can be downloaded from the church website.



Art for Everyone Main Line Art Center

We are offering new tuition free classes to kids and adults this winter who are experiencing economic hardship during the pandemic. The goal is to offer a fun, relaxing and therapeutic creative experience during this stressful and unprecedented time.



Classes are offered both online and onsite. Spaces are first-come-first serve, and you can sign up online or give us a call. If these classes fill we also have a free scholarship application to any class we offer.

For more information or to sign up, please visit mainlineart.org or call 610-525-0272.



St. Margaret Parish Blood Drive Monday, December 21, 2020, 2PM - 7 PM

St. Margaret School Cafeteria

Sign up at redcrossblood.org/give.html using sponsor code **SMRCCNarberth** or **call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**. Due to social distancing, appointments are needed, so please sign up for an appointment today. Save time and pre-register the morning of at www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass. If you have any questions, or need assistance in scheduling an appointment, email Christina Braun at christinabraun2002@yahoo.com or call her at 610-952-5766. For eligibility questions, please call 866-236-3276. Long-sleeved Red Cross t-shirt, while supplies last. All donors will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies and will be able to receive the results.

Donors are needed!

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.



Spiritual Adoption Program

What is the Spiritual Adoption Program?

It is very simple. Participants in the Spiritual Adoption Program promise to pray for nine months for a baby in danger of abortion. While this child will remain unknown to his or her "spiritual parent," God knows who the child is. Many people have found that naming "their child" helps to keep them focused on the reality that their prayers are helping to save a particular baby from the harm of abortion. This can be done in a parish or school setting, with age appropriate materials. To learn more, visit www.spiritualadoption.org.

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of [baby's name] the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion."

- Prayer of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen



Nightly Rosary to End Coronavirus CONTINUES!

Until further notice, the rosary will continue Monday through Thursday at 8:00 PM in English using the link found at phillyevang.org/rosary/. For details about joining the rosary in Spanish on Thursdays, please email pherrera@olguadalupe.org.



Please remember in your prayers the souls of Nancy O'Donnell and Robert McLaughlin who recently passed away. May they rest in peace and their loved ones be comforted.



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!

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 17, 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/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.



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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