

ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH PARISH

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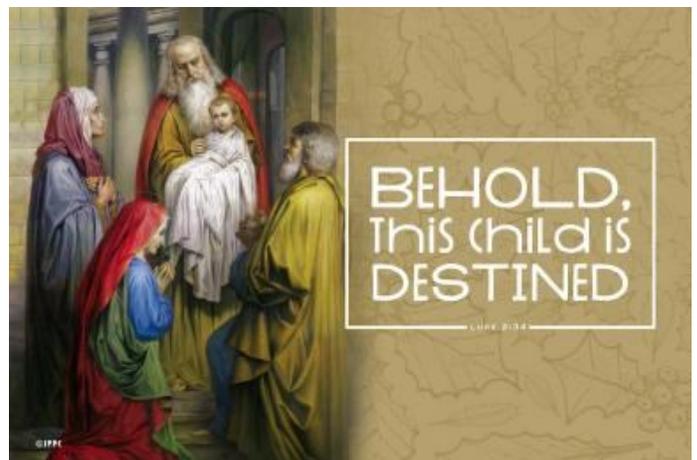
Scrip Sales

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

Rectory Office Business Hours
Monday - Friday 9:00AM to 4:30PM
CLOSED WEEKENDS
Any requests for the weekly Bulletin should
be submitted by
Monday, 12:00 Noon.



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH DECEMBER 27, 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

To be cute about it, I quote here an American humorist by the name of Evan Esar (d. 1995): "Family: A social unit where the father is concerned with parking space, the children with outer space, and the mother with closet space."

Whether Mr. Esar was fully correct or not, there is a grain of truth in what he wrote, and there is always some truth in wholesome humor.

However, for my purpose I prefer this statement of Sir Winston Churchill about the nature of family. "There is no doubt that it is around family and the home that all the greatest virtues ...are created, strengthened, and maintained."

Over this holiday time of year we are most likely to be with family, either literally or virtually because of the virus. We can verify Sir Winston's observation. Family also gives us the answers to most of life's important questions.

Do you think the young Jesus had questions? Certainly He must have, because remember He took on a human nature "like ours in everything but sin." What is one of the principal ways we learn? Through answers to questions. Through that triple-spoke process of lessons taught, example given, and experience lived, Our Lord and Savior indeed grew in wisdom and grace.

I think it is an important detail that all this happened in the little village of Nazareth. It was located on the edge of the empire, far from the high society and corruption of Rome. So insignificant was it that it is nowhere even mentioned in the whole Old Testament. Great things can happen in humble places, as our family homes most often attest.

Could Our Lord have had better teachers in how to handle life than Mary and Joseph? Hardly. Without any advanced degrees after their names, we can say with conviction that both Christ's parents had "PhD's" in holiness. Mary who was declared "full of grace" by an archangel, and Joseph remembered as a "just man" in the Scriptural sense cannot be excelled at their task. The Holy Spirit has decided not to tell us if any peers taught Jesus things, but we can imagine they too played a part, for better or worse, in His human upbringing. So we stand back for a time from all our concerns to admire and celebrate this Holy Family. We can see the necessity of these thirty or so years to prepare Our Lord for His incomparable mission.

That brings up the subject of our mission. Obviously it begins in our family circle, but it has to expand from there if we are to take our Baptismal and Confirmation promises seriously. That means doing our part to tell the waiting world all about Jesus and His Good News, even if the world neither acknowledges nor cares that it is waiting. Waiting for something, or more accurately, Someone, beyond its own calculations to give it purpose. Taking up the admonitions of Sirach and Colossians, which we read this weekend, is a good place to begin. After all, that's our way to heaven. Here is George Bernard Shaw's take on family: "A happy family is but an earlier heaven." Think about that! God love you and give you His peace in 2021!

MONDAY, December 28

7:00 AM Stan & Evelyn Kazeniak

TUESDAY, December 29

7:00 AM Daniel Pfister - 1st anniversary

WEDNESDAY, December 30

7:00 AM Robert & Louise Urbani

THURSDAY, December 31

7:00 AM Albert Sborlini

5:15 PM Vigil Falcone, Gaudini & Myers Families

FRIDAY, January 1 Solemnity of Mary,

The Holy Mother of God

7:30 AM Ignacio S. Jose, Jr. (living)

8:45 AM The Dougherty & Davis Families

10:00 AM Deceased & Living Members of the Mischler Family

11:30 AM Ardelle & Colleen Quinn

SATURDAY, January 2

8:00 AM Charlotte Croce

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 December 13, 2020: \$ 10,126

Collection in Church: \$ 3,256

Electronic Funds Transfer: \$ 665

Mail In: \$ 3,725

Parish On Line: \$ 2,480

Envelopes: 168

The Weekend of December 15, 2019: \$13,512

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

Msgr. Dougherty



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!

Parish Theme for 2020-2021

Rejoice in Hope; Endure in Affliction; Persevere in Prayer

From the Pastor

Holy Family Sunday – In the Liturgical Year of the Church the Sunday after Christmas is designated as Holy Family Sunday. As we celebrate this Feast, we are reminded of the importance of family life in our growth and development as human beings and as Christians. Jesus was born into a family and it is there that he experienced the goodness of Mary and Joseph and the many blessings of family life. The presence of Jesus in a family consecrates family life as a sacred place where God meets man. Our first experience of the love of God comes to us through our family. The family is a school of love that teaches us the virtues of patience, kindness, and mutual forgiveness. Today we thank God for all the good that has come to us through our family and we recommit ourselves to loving one another in our families. Since we are limited human beings, family life is not always perfect, but the image of the Holy Family inspires us to persevere in loving one another as we strive to imitate their mutual love and support. The Church describes the family as the domestic Church, the place where we first come together with others to share our faith in God and to pledge our love to one another. One of the foremost ways we express our faith as disciples of Jesus is by loving our families and mutually supporting one another in our quest for holiness of life. May the Lord bless all our families and help us to work daily to emulate the goodness of the Holy Family so that we can grow together in Christian joy, peace and love.

Octave of Christmas –The eight days from Christmas Day, December 25, to January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, are referred to in the Church calendar as the Octave of Christmas. The word “octave,” rooted in the Latin word for the number eight, refers to a grouping of eight. These eight days are all days of great solemnity for the Liturgy. The Birth of Our Lord was an event of such great magnitude that it cannot be solemnly celebrated in only one day. The Church sets aside eight days during which we contemplate the mystery of God’s love expressed for us in the incarnation of his Son, Jesus becoming man for our salvation. I have always found this week after Christmas to be a particularly joyful time. We rest in the Lord and rejoice in the coming of our Savior. Our hearts are moved by Jesus’ love for us and we pledge anew to serve him gratefully as his disciples. May this octave of Christmas allow you to appreciate the depth of God’s love for you and to place your faith in the Lord as the way to real peace and everlasting life.

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God – January 1 is a day that has multiple meanings in the Church Year. We celebrate Mary, the Mother of God. We recall that her “yes” to the Lord made possible his birth as our Savior, the Word made flesh. The celebration of Mary’s welcoming Jesus into her life as her Son inspires all of us to welcome the Lord into our lives, to say “yes” to his presence within us, to trust in him, and to do his will. January 1 is also the day on which we commemorate the circumcision of Jesus, the day on which he received his name, Jesus, which means Savior. It is a day to celebrate our faith that the Lord is the way to salvation. Since January 1 is the beginning of a new calendar year, the Church has also designated this day as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. Jesus came among us to bring us peace. We pray that the world will be a place where war and division are overcome and peace reigns.

Parish Theme for 2020-2021 (“Rejoice in hope; endure in affliction; persevere in prayer.”) - The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives the following definition of the theological virtue of hope: “Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in God’s promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit.” Hope trusts that God has planned for us a place in heaven, a place of eternal joy and peace. Our hope extends beyond what this world can offer. Our hope is rooted in the trust that in this life the Lord gives us the means of attaining eternal happiness. He is with us on our journey and we can rely on him. In the midst of the struggles of life, we can have hope that the Lord is leading us to a place where there is no more sin or suffering. We place our hope in our loving God and rely on him to step-by-step lead us to everlasting peace.

Spiritual Thought – Father, love me whom you have created. Come to me with your Son, and with the Holy Spirit who is the bond of love between you. Set up your abode with me. (Venerable Emmanuel D’Alzon)

A Little Humor – There are three kinds of people in the world. Those that are good at math and those who aren’t.

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 2021 NEW YEAR – may it be filled with much joy and happiness!

St. Margaret's School will hold virtual classes the week of January 4-8, 2021, and return to in-person learning on Monday, January 11, 2021.

Church Teaching: Day of Rest – In the first place, Sunday is the day of rest because it is the day blessed by God and made holy by him, set apart from the other days to be, among all of them, “the Lord’s Day.” In order to grasp fully what the first of the biblical creation accounts means by keeping the Sabbath holy, we need to consider the whole story, which shows clearly that every reality, without exception, must be referred back to God. Time and space belong to him. He is not the God of one day alone, but the God of all the days of humanity. (from the Apostolic Letter “On Keeping the Lord’s Day Holy,” by Saint John Paul II)

 Thank you to all the parishioners who donated 40+ boxes of food and hygienic supplies to this month's Food Collection. The soup and cereal, pasta and peanut butter, and all the other items will help stock our Archdiocesan Food Cupboards, which are seeing a record number of visitors now. Your generosity is very appreciated! Our next collection is January 9-10.



Lankenau Ministry continues to be suspended due to COVID 19 until further notice.



Come and See Events begin in January 2021 and are designed for young men (high school age and above) who are discerning the priesthood.

Come and See Events are available for high school men (single day program) and post-high school men (overnight). These events are held monthly between January and March 2021. Specific dates are listed below - to register for one of these events, please visit Heedthecall.org/comeandsee or contact Fr. DeLacy at fr.sdelacy@archphila.org.

High School Days of Discernment

Sunday, January 17, 2021
Saturday, February 20, 2021
Saturday, March 13, 2021

Post-High School Overnights

January 22-23, 2021
February 26-27, 2021
March 19-20, 2021



Mass Schedule For the Solemnity of Mary

(Priest scheduled is subject to change)

Thursday, December 31

5:15 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

Friday, January 1

7:30 AM - Msgr. Dougherty

8:45 AM - Fr. Pesarchick

10:00 AM - Msgr. Dougherty

11:30 AM - Fr. DePrinzio

Weekend Mass Schedule January 2-3

Saturday, January 2

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

5:15 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

Sunday, January 3

7:30 AM - Fr. DePrinzio

8:45 AM - Msgr. Dougherty

10:00 AM - Fr. Pesarchick

11:30 AM - Msgr. Dougherty



project rachel

Peace starts here

**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.



**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.**

HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY

Suspended until further notice.

A Prayer to Combat the Coronavirus Pandemic

Most Merciful and Triune God,
We come to You in our weakness.
We come to You in our fear.
We come to You with trust.
For You alone are our hope.
We place before You the disease present in our world.
We turn to You in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home.

Stabilize our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in Your care.

Jesus, I trust in You.
Jesus, I trust in You.
Jesus, I trust in You.



***Nightly Rosary to End
Coronavirus
CONTINUES!***

Through January and
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.

***NEW HORIZONS VIRTUAL CENTER
For Seniors***

The Staff of New Horizons is here to help you, comfort you
and connect you to needed services, while also providing
engaging and fun wellness programs. For more information
and a schedule of activities, please visit
www.newhorizonsseniorcenter.org or call 610-664-2366.



***If you or someone you
know is curious about
religious life, visit
www.sistersofmercy.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 Wednesday, January 13, 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.



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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