

ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH PARISH

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Narberth, PA 19072
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Web site: www.saintmarg.org
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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 5, 2021



Msgr. Paul V. Dougherty,
Pastor, Ext. 112
pastor@saintmarg.org

Rev. Robert J. Chapman,
Pastor Emeritus

Weekend Assistants:
Rev. Robert Pesarchick
Rev. Kevin DePrinzio, O.S.A.

Summer Resident
Rev. Christopher Moriconi

Principal, St. Margaret School,
Miss Theresa Power
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Director of Religious Education, Ext.116
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Parish Business Manager, Ext.117
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Safe Environment Coordinator, Ext. 121
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Administrative Assistant, Ext. 110
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, 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

I imagine him to be a perfectionist. His Greek is the most refined of all four Evangelists. He notices small details about matters, such as Jesus' sweat in Gethsemane becoming "like drops of blood." Then there is the testimony of St. Paul that he was a doctor (Col. 4:14). Some commentators hold that he was Our Lady's doctor, based on information he gives us that only she would know. Author Taylor Caldwell calls him a "Dear and Glorious Physician" in her novel of that title. I refer to St. Luke. His gospel is my favorite, and that ranks him high on my list of people I hope to meet in heaven, presuming I get there.

In today's excerpt from Luke, Chapter three, I always conjure up the feel of a drum roll as I read his precise list of "who was who" in the list of rulers active at the time that the Word of God comes to John the Baptist. Thus began the quiet revolution that ultimately changed the world. Up until then, the world was controlled by the forces of the evil one, imprisoned in a dungeon of despair. Heaven's gates were locked shut due to sin.

The proclamation of John was about to set the world spinning in a different direction. God's plan is to be set in motion. His divine Son is about to exit His three decades of voluntary seclusion.

John, the last prophet of the Old Testament and the first of the New, reaches back to claim Isaiah's words as his own description as "a voice crying out in the desert." His preaching urges anyone who hears him to "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths." What a confident announcement! People could only wonder "Is this the end of our long wait for redemption and relief?"

All of this brings you and me to Advent 2021. It is the season for us to recall those four centuries Israel waited for her Redeemer. An opportunity to fast before the feast. To do a little penance as our prep for the Feast of Christmas as we do it more intensely during Lent as prep for Easter.

Advent and Christmas will find us this year still suffering from the effects of the gray ghost of Covid hovering over us. Yes, we still live in a politically divided country. We are members of a weakened Church from various scandals. Obviously we need this Advent season to uplift us. To regain a Faith perspective that reminds us that "this too shall pass."

May I humbly suggest that we take new notice during the next few weeks of little details in life that St. Luke the doctor and evangelist did? The gifts of family and friends that are with us all year? The anticipation of children counting off the days before Christmas? The smile on the face of a supermarket cashier? The frost on the pumpkin? The satisfaction of a good football win? The unexpected Christmas card? The making of a conscience-clearing confession?

Here's one more detail that rings true for many of us that I found: "One of the nice things about Christmas is that you can make people forget the past with a present."

God love you and give you His Advent peace.

MONDAY, December 6

7:00 AM Jack Binstead

TUESDAY, December 7

7:00 AM Mike Marconi
7:00 PM Stephen Gallagher

WEDNESDAY, December 8

7:00 AM The Scorzetti Family
8:45 AM School Mass
12:05 PM Immaculate Bizzarri
7:00 PM Mary Pham

THURSDAY, December 9

7:00 AM Fred Matarazzo

FRIDAY, December 10

7:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, December 11

8:00 AM Evelyn Kazeniak



THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 2021
THE SANCTUARY CANDLE WILL BURN
IN MEMORY OF
THE HOA LE 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 21, 2021: \$ 10,306
Collection in Church: \$ 4,806
Electronic Funds Transfer: \$ 580
Mail In: \$ 1,106
Parish On Line: \$ 3,814
Envelopes: 202

The Weekend of November 22, 2020: \$10,158

Weekend of November 28, 2021: \$ 10,048
Collection in Church: \$ 5,338
Electronic Funds Transfer: \$ 580
Mail In: \$ 1,800
Parish On Line: \$ 2,330
Envelopes: 181

The Weekend of November 29, 2020: \$7,152

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



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.

Parish Theme for 2021-2022
Caritas Christi Ducit (The Love of Christ Leads)

From the Pastor

Second Sunday of Advent – As we celebrate this Second Sunday of Advent, we stir up in our hearts a deep desire for our Savior. In our weakness and sinfulness, we need the Lord. Advent fosters in our hearts a longing for the Lord to come to us and fill us with his strength and peace. We cry out, “Come, Lord Jesus” and we live in joyful hope that he does indeed heed our call and come to be with us and fulfill our every need.

Nothing Compares to Being There – Our Church attendance was over 400 last Sunday. This is the first time we exceeded 400 since the pandemic began. It is gratifying to see our community gathering together in fuller numbers. As we gather for the Eucharist each Sunday, we experience the mutual support in faith of one another. We gather as one body, the Body of Christ, with Jesus himself as our Head. He feeds us with the bread of life, his own Body and Blood, so that we can be united with him and one another in a communion of love and life. Our worship together is the source of our nourishment in the life of Christ and our way to grow in Christian charity.

Holyday of Obligation: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – On Wednesday, December 8, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 7 and at 7:00 am, 8:45 am (School Mass), 12:05 pm, and 7:00 pm on Wednesday, December 8. We celebrate that Mary was conceived without stain of original sin on her. God preserved her from sin so that she might be a worthy woman to be the Mother of God. Mary’s special relationship with Jesus makes her an exemplary model of a holy life, a loving companion for us on our journey of faith in Jesus Christ, and a powerful intercessor on our behalf. God’s power in preserving Mary from sin gives us hope that God can overcome the sin in our lives and help us to grow in holiness.

Advent Morning of Recollection – On Saturday, December 11, we will observe an Advent morning of recollection. We will gather in Church at 9:00 am for a brief prayer service, and then go to the Annex to view some short videos on three youthful and inspiring people: Blessed Carlo Acutis, Blessed Chiara Badano, and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. Come and join us as we learn about the holiness of their lives and share our faith and friendship in the Lord. We will conclude with some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament in Church from 10:15 am to 11:00 am. Confessions will be available during that time.

Red Cross Blood Drive – We are hosting a Drive on Wednesday, December 22 from 2:00 – 7:00 pm in the School cafeteria. The need for blood is great during the holidays. Please consider being a donor. Information on how to register is below in this Bulletin.

Thanksgiving Collection – Our collection on Thanksgiving always goes to a local charity. This year we collected \$439 and will send it to The Interfaith Hospitality Network, an organization that assists with the homeless in our area.

Summary of Finance Council Meeting on November 17 – Members of the Finance Council are: Msgr. Dougherty, Theresa Power, Cliff Coombs, John Braun, Lyle Nehls, Martha Ortiz, John Shea, Anne Becker, Christopher Klock, Michelene Fliszar, and Nicole Bazis. 1) Collections have been in line with the budget. At this point we are on target to finish with a slight surplus for the Parish. 2) Parish savings will continue to be invested in CDs. 3) The School staff continues to meet with the Archdiocesan Strategic Planning Assistance Team to track income and expenses and to make plans for the future. 4) We discussed a possible raise to the wages paid to the CARES (after School program) staff. 5) Capital projects involving the sound system in the gym, a digital organ for Church, and snow guards for the Church roof were discussed. 6) We will continue pointing some parts of the Church that have not yet been done. 7) Improvements to the Antioch Annex are being pursued. 8) The Archdiocese will be conducting a routine auditing of the finances of the Church and School.

Weekend Mass Schedule December 11-12

(Priest scheduled is subject to change)

Saturday, December 11

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

Sunday, December 12

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

Spiritual Thought – A heart filled with joy is more easily made perfect than one that is sad. (Saint Philip Neri)



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

Church Teaching: The Eucharist, a Sharing in the Risen Life of the Lord – Christ’s passover includes not only his suffering and death, but also his resurrection. This is recalled by the assembly’s acclamation following the consecration: “We proclaim your resurrection.” The Eucharistic Sacrifice makes present not only the mystery of the Savior’s passion and death, but also the mystery of the resurrection which crowned his sacrifice. It is as the living and risen One that Christ can become in the Eucharist the “bread of life,” the “living bread.” (from the encyclical letter of Saint John Paul II entitled “On the Eucharist in Its Relationship to the Church”)



St Margaret School

KIDS CARE NEWS

SMS Kids Care Club oversees the selection and implementation of all of the community service projects that our St. Margaret students participate in during the school year. Once again this year: SMS students donated a portion of their Halloween candy to a most wonderful organization, *The Mercy Neighborhood Ministries* in Philadelphia. Our collection box is located outside the school office. Thanks for your support!

THANKSGIVING KIDSCARE PROJECT

Wow! What a fantastic job the entire school did to donate 1,228 non-perishable food items and 5 turkeys to **Mercy Neighborhood Ministries** for the Thanksgiving Food Drive! A BIG Thank You and great job to the 2nd grade class for creating the wonderful posters to announce our food drive! There was a tied score for the most donations. Congrats to grades 4 and 1A! **Sharing with others who are in need is a way of giving thanks for what we have.**



FOOD COLLECTION WEEKEND!

Next Weekend is our monthly food collection weekend (December 11 & 12). This program collects non-perishable foods each month for the Archdiocesan Community Food Distribution Centers Program. They provide food for 50 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.



Blood Drive
St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church
St. Margaret School Cafeteria
Wednesday, December 22, 2021
2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: **SMRCCNarberth** to schedule an appointment. Eligibility Questions?...call 866-236-3276.

Donors Needed!



Casseroles for St. John’s Hospice

Recipe # 2 will be collected Wednesday morning of this week, December 8 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/>

A Little Humor – There should be a home exercise video for parents where all the lunges are just you going around the house and picking up juice box straw wrappers.

SCRIP



*Giving gift cards this year?
 Please consider buying your gift cards through the Saint Margaret Home and School Scrip program. **Order forms are available in the vestibule.***



The Future of Catholic Preaching

As a final examination in their Homiletics courses, students at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary will give a “public” homily about the Epiphany. We invite any parishioners to join us as the “real life” congregation to whom they will preach. The task is easy: just come to the Seminary and listen to the student preachers, then offer a helpful critique of one affirmation and one recommendation.

Join us on any one of three nights: December 13 (Mon) or 15 (Wed) or 16 (Thur). We begin at 7pm and will conclude around 9pm. RSVP to Fr. Thomas Dailey, OSFS at tdailey@scs.edu and let us know which evening you’d like to join us. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Retrouaille Marriage Program

Rediscover the Love in your Marriage

Retrouaille is a lifeline for marriages - a program to help couples heal and renew their hurting marriages.

The Retrouaille Program is for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationship.

- A Marriage program that helps couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship.
- A Christian marriage program, Catholic in origin, where couples of all faiths or no faith background are encouraged to attend.
- Primarily a practical program to improve communication, build stronger marriages, and help couples reconnect.
- Presenters are not trained marriage counselors, but rather couples sharing their personal stories of marital struggles and the tools they used to rediscover their love.

Please visit Helpourmarriage.org to learn about the program, find upcoming weekends and register.



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>.

**HELPING OTHER PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY
Suspended until further notice.**

Sponsored by the Office of Consecrated Life

Monsignor John M. Savinski
Saint Joseph in Advent
Saturday, December 11, 2021
Drexel Hall at the
Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul



All are invited/lunch provided
RSVP: sr.gbraccio@archphila.org
215-587-3795



MANDOLIN AND ORGAN CONCERT

December 5, 3:00 P.M.

Saint Colman Parish in Ardmore will be hosting an organ and mandolin concert in the church Sunday, December 5 at 3:00 P.M.

The concert is free and will feature a variety of music, including Christmas selections.

All are invited to an enjoyable afternoon of beautiful music.



Holiday Food Drive

For over 25 years, NDS has hosted its holiday food drive to counter hunger in the five-county area during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Last year, approximately 15,600 pounds of non-perishable food was collected through this effort.

Those interested in helping our neighbors in need can support NDS’ Community Food Program by purchasing items online now through Friday, January 7 at <https://yougivegoods.com/holidayfood2021>.

All goods donated will help stock the shelves of NDS’ network of 50 food cupboards throughout the Greater Philadelphia region for the fall and winter months including five food cupboards operated by Catholic Social Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia (CSS); five soup kitchens; and numerous outreach programs.

***Nightly Rosary to End Coronavirus* WILL CONTINUE UNTIL DECEMBER 8, 2021!**



With the added intention of praying for renewal in our Church, the Archdiocesan rosary will continue in English at 8PM, Monday through Thursday, until the end of the ***Year of St. Joseph***, December 8, 2021. Join with the link found at phillyevang.org/rosary/.

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 Thursday, December 9, 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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