

SAINT MARGARET OF ANTIOCH CHURCH

November 27, 2022

PASTORAL STAFF

Msgr. Paul V. Dougherty,
Pastor
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
tpower@smsnarberth.org
610-664-2640

Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Mary Anne J. Monroe, M.A.
prep@saintmarg.org

Coordinator of Parish Services,
Sr. Mary Ann Clarahan, RSM
services@saintmarg.org

Parish Business Manager
Mr. Cliff Coombs
busmgr@saintmarg.org

Safe Environment Coordinator
Mrs. Stephanie Seal
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Administrative Assistant,
Nicole Bazis, OFS (Mon, Tues, Wed)
Mrs. Teresa Myers (Thurs, Fri)
office@saintmarg.org

Director of Music - Mr. Michael Worth
saintmargmusic@gmail.com
267-304-6490

Rectory Office Business Hours
Monday - Friday 9:00AM to 4:30PM
610.664.3770 • office@saintmarg.org

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



MASS SCHEDULE

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 DAYS 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)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSTION

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.

BACKGROUND on the GOSPEL

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centered on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know *that* our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

 **PARISH WEBSITE:** www.saintmarg.org

 **FACEBOOK:** [stmargnarberth](https://www.facebook.com/stmargnarberth)

 **INSTAGRAM:** [stmargnarberth](https://www.instagram.com/stmargnarberth)

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, November 28
7:00 AM Dennis D'Souza

TUESDAY, November 29
7:00 AM Louise & Robert Urbani

WEDNESDAY, November 30
7:00 AM James Bracken

THURSDAY, December 1
7:00 AM John Le

FRIDAY, December 2
7:00 AM Robert Cosgrove

SATURDAY, December 3
8:00 AM George Malseed

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



THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27, 2022

**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
WILL BURN IN MEMORY OF
SHIRLEY A DOUGHERTY.**

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

DUE TO THE EARLY TRANSMISSION OF THE BULLETIN THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT WILL BE IN THE NEXT BULLETIN.



CARITAS CHRISTI DUCIT

• The Love of Christ Leads •

“Our food is to do the will of the one who saved us and to complete his work on earth.”

From the Pastor

Advent – Today we begin the Season of Advent, the beginning of a new Church Year and a time of preparation for the celebration of the solemn and joyful feast of Christmas. Advent is from two Latin words meaning “to come toward.” We celebrate our coming toward the celebration of Christmas and are reminded that our relationship with Christ is characterized by the Lord coming toward us and our responding by coming toward the Lord. The Lord took on flesh and was born on earth at Bethlehem. He came to save us from sin. He is always coming toward us to bring us the gift of his saving grace. He comes to us especially in the Eucharist, and also in the daily events of our lives to be with us and help us on our journey through life. He wants us to come toward him and open our hearts to his presence and life. We look forward to the day when he will come again to usher in a new heaven and earth of everlasting joy and we await his coming in the fullness of glory by welcoming him each day into our lives and serving him with all our hearts.

School Advisory Board Meeting – The Board will meet on Thursday, December 1 at 7:00 pm in the Antioch Annex.

Youth Group – The Group for teens in grades 8-12 will meet again on Friday, December 2 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in the Antioch Annex. About 25 teens have been attending and enjoying their time together sharing food (dinner is provided), faith and fun. Come and join us.

Winter Wonderland – The St. Margaret Home and School Association is sponsoring a Winter Wonderland from 10:00 am – 12 noon on Saturday, December 3 in the School parking lot. Come and enjoy games and activities for the children and families.

Retirement Fund for Religious – Next weekend’s second collection will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This important annual collection helps to meet the needs of our elderly and sick religious who have served us so well for so many years. Our religious communities face many challenges in meeting the medical and continuing care needs of their members. Many of the communities are not adequately funded for retirement. Your support of this Fund is a valuable way of providing them with the assistance they need.

Advent Men’s Retreat Day – The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a retreat day for men on Saturday, December 10 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Breakfast and lunch are provided. You can call (610-664-3770) or email (office@saintmarg.org) the rectory to indicate your desire to attend. The cost is \$30.

Choir Concert – Our Choir will be offering their Christmas Concert on Friday, December 16 at 7:00 pm. Come and enjoy beautiful music that will touch your spirit and bring you closer to our Lord. This is a great chance to help your Advent stay focused on Christ.

Blood Drive – There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive in our School cafeteria on Thursday, December 22 from 2 – 7 pm. Sign up to give at www.redcrossblood.org and search by Sponsor Code: SMRCCNarberth or call 1-800-RedCross.



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.

CHURCH TEACHING

The Eucharistic Revival is a three-year period of helping people to grow in their understanding of and appreciation for the celebration of the Eucharist. This Revival has been called for by the bishops of the United States and began on June 19, the Solemnity of the Holy Body and Blood of Christ. As part of this effort to help you learn more about the Mass and participate more fully in it, I am including in the Bulletin each week a brief teaching on the Eucharist from a document entitled "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church," which was prepared by the bishops to guide the Revival.

The Eucharist and the Transformation of Society – We all need to be consistent in bringing the love of Christ experienced in the Eucharist not only to our personal lives, but also to every dimension of our public lives. It is the role of the laity in particular to transform social relations in accord with the love of Christ, which is carried out concretely in actions that work for the objective common good. Lay people, conscious of their call to holiness by virtue of their baptismal vocation, have to act as leaven in the dough to build up a temporal city in keeping with God's project. Consistency between faith and life in the political, economic and social realms requires formation of conscience, which translates into knowing the Church's social doctrine. Lay people who exercise some form of authority have a special responsibility to form their consciences in accord with the Church's faith and the moral law, and to serve the human family by upholding human life and dignity.

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

Give of your superabundance to children. Fill your hearts with the love of God, and then you will always be able to instill it into them. If we are united to God, we shall be able to do wonders for them. (St. Madeleine Sophie)

A LITTLE HUMOR

Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

PARISH NEWS

Blood Drive

Donors needed! You're invited to donate blood at our upcoming blood drive. Please invite friends and family and sign up below. Just one donation can save 3 lives!

Register at: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zip>

Sponsor code = SMRCCNarberth



Blood Drive **St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church**

Cafeteria
227 N. Narberth Avenue
Narberth, PA 19072

Thursday, December 22, 2022
2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Our beloved parish tradition, the Saint Margaret Giving Tree, is back up in the sanctuary! There are four types of tags available to take: the name of a child and their Christmas wishes, a monetary donation to Housing for Guatemala, gift card donations to the Narberth Food Bank, and gift card donations to Mercy Ministries. Instructions for preparation and delivery can be found on the back of each tag. If you are selecting a child's wishes, please write your name and contact information on the sign-up sheets. Gift cards are available to purchase at the rectory on weekdays from 9 am–4:30 pm. Thank you!

SCRIP Holiday Order Forms

The Saint Margaret Home & School is once again having the holiday SCRIP sale! Many gifts cards are available to purchase. Order forms are available to download on the church and school websites as well as in the back of church and at the rectory. Gift cards make great stocking stuffers! Get your order in today.



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 Nicole at the rectory, 610-664-3770



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 left sidebar or <https://tinyurl.com/StMargGiving>.



As a member of St. Margaret Parish, you have **FREE ACCESS** to the many resources on **FORMED**, for example their special section of video content on the lives of the saints and audiobooks to listen to while in the car. Sign up today at [FORMED.org](https://formed.org) using the parish code WRVZND. **Not every parish offers a subscription to FORMED so take advantage of this opportunity!**

SAINT MARGARET SCHOOL



Poinsettia & Wreath Sale

St Margaret School is sponsoring a Poinsettia and Wreath Sale at Taddeo's Greenhouse. You may shop at Taddeo's on Fri. Dec 2-Sun Dec 4. You may also preorder and have it delivered here at SMS. Pickup location is at the Cafeteria Doors on Dec 2nd and 3rd. SMS will receive 10% of weekend sale orders and online orders. See all the info in today's family envelope.

Click the link below to order.



OFFICE of the ARCHBISHOP

Philly Adoration for Vocations

When: Thursdays, 9 am—5 pm

Where: Sacred Heart Chapel, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary (100 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, PA)

Held each Thursday between 9 am and 5 pm in Sacred Heart Chapel at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Catholics are invited to spend time before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament praying for vocations and ask Him to bless His Church with many holy vocations. We encourage everyone to pray that those whom the Lord is calling will have the courage to respond to His invitation. To sign up for a day/time to pray, visit [Heedthecall.org/Phillyadores](https://heedthecall.org/Phillyadores). For more information, email Phillyadoration@gmail.com. Specific details will be emailed to all adorers on the Wednesday before the scheduled prayer time.

More info: <https://heedthecall.org/events/phillyadores/>

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for November

children who suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

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 letters of eligibility to serve as godparent or sponsor.

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. 112. 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 15 2022, at 7:00pm in the Rectory.](#)**

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Those 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**.

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, at least 16 years of age, and have received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). Please call or email the rectory for an appointment with Msgr. Dougherty if you need a certificate.

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.

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 Saint Margaret Church and others. E-mail your prayer requests or if you want to join the **Prayer Circle at cbuhn@yahoo.com**.

REMEMBER THOSE YOU LOVE

Sanctuary or Altar Candles

For a donation of \$10 the candles will burn for a week for your intention or in memory of a loved one.

Altar Flowers

Another memorial opportunity is to have flowers placed on the altar for a donation of \$100

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 the rectory.

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. Saint 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 call 610-664-3770, Ext 112.