

SAINT MARGARET OF ANTIOCH CHURCH

January 1, 2023

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

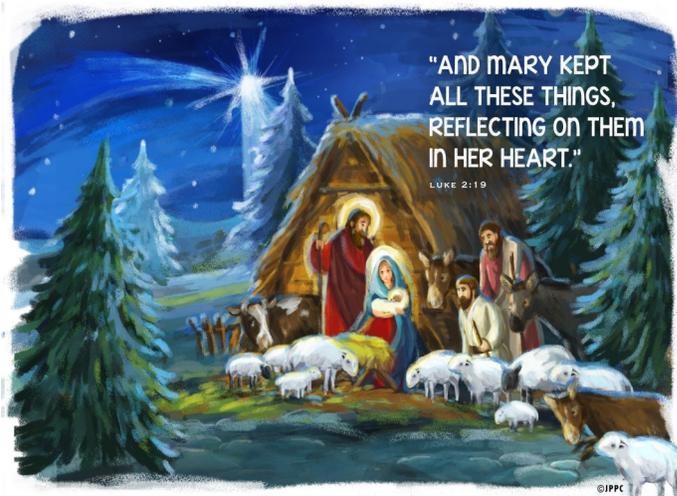
Safe Environment Coordinator
Mrs. Stephanie Seal
sseal@smsnarberth.org

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

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



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.

REFLECTION on the GOSPEL

Have you “pondered” anything lately? That means, have you thought really deeply and long over certain happenings in your life? That could refer to conversations, concepts presented to you, or any number of ideas that came to your mind. True pondering requires a prior attention, a certain “full bore” listening to someone else, and not any distracted half-hearing.

For example, a known dullard of your acquaintance might have been boring you to death describing his medical experiences so that your mind drifted and you started planning your lunch as he rattled on. You certainly were not pondering.

Another non-example of pondering might be your strong focus on the wrecks of a highway accident and the distraught faces of the victims by the road, so much so that you missed the warning about a dangerous physical problem your doctor just pronounced. You were not pondering over the doctor’s words.

But there was that announcement by your doctor amid what you thought was a routine examination when she said: “Such and such is a quite common occurrence for someone your age.” “Wow! What does that mean, and have I suddenly arrived at that age?” Later, driving home or sitting in your recliner, you start to ponder. You ponder over that and what it means for your immediate future and beyond.

Pondering admittedly takes up time and leads to an inner perspective of mind and heart about this adventure we call “life.” Well did St. Luke write about Our Blessed Lady’s reaction to news about her Son as reported by local shepherds.

Mary knew nine months prior that her Child was unique and special. After all, wasn’t that what the Archangel who called himself Gabriel had told her? Then there were the difficult moments when she had to break the news to St. Joseph. Now, after the Child’s birth, still more angels had “gone public,” as we might say, with their news about the Child for the unsuspecting shepherds. Mary did not cry or protest, much less contradicted the shepherd-reporters. She just pondered.

We are amid the fast-paced days of the Christmas season. Celebrating, visiting one another, strengthening family ties. This past week, the Liturgy put us on an emotional “roller coaster” attached to Christmas week. St. Stephen’s martyrdom gave us a jolt on the 26th. Two days later, the awful slaughter of the Holy Innocent babies by King Herod’s brutes. All that and more.

So I pondered a bit myself this past week. That led me to ask you to “steal” some moments in the weeks ahead and many more times in the New Year, to ponder what happens to you. It’s one healthy and spiritually profitable way to do what Our Mother Mary did all her earthbound days enroute to heaven.

God love you and give you His peace all through 2023!

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, January 2

7:00 AM Stanley Weglos

TUESDAY, January 3

7:00 AM Nina Delece

WEDNESDAY, January 4

7:00 AM Alan Wayne Hash

THURSDAY, January 5

7:00 AM George Stuhl

FRIDAY, January 6

7:00 AM Michele Carson

SATURDAY, January 7

8:00 AM Sune Svensson

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

THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2023



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
WILL BURN IN MEMORY OF
THE KIENLEN FAMILY.**

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Weekend of December 18, 2022: \$ 10,955

Collection in Church:	\$ 4,565
Electronic Funds Transfer:	\$ 454
Mail In:	\$ 2,907
Parish On Line:	\$ 3,029
Envelopes:	165

Weekend of December 19, 2021 \$ 10,915

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

Msgr. Dougherty

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

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God – Today’s Feast celebrates Mary’s cooperation in God’s plan of salvation. Her “yes” to being the mother of Jesus was an important part of God’s plan. Mary’s example reminds us that as human beings we have an important role to play in God’s salvific plan. The Lord invites us to cooperate with him in bringing his saving grace to the world. We ask Mary to intercede for us so that we can emulate her heartfelt agreement to the will of God so that we can be instruments of his peace and light in our days.

World Day of Peace for Prayer – Today is also the World Day of Prayer for Peace. Jesus came to earth as the Prince of Peace. As we honor the Christ child in this Christmas Season, we join our heart and minds in praying that his peace will prevail in our world. So many places, like Ukraine, are torn by the ravages of war. May we ardently pray and work that the peace of Christ may come to all.

Octave of the Nativity of Our Lord – In addition, today is the Octave of the Birth of Our Lord. The eight days from Christmas through January 1 are a time of heightened celebration and importance in the Church Year. During the Octave we contemplate in a special way the mystery and magnificence of the Birth of our Savior. The Lord became man so that he could share his life and love with us and lead us through this life to the joys of eternal life. May our hearts be filled with joy this day as we complete the remembrance of the Octave and allow the wonder of Christ’s love to sink deeply into our minds and hearts.

A New Year – As we begin a New Year it is always a time to renew our hope and commitment. We look to the future with hope because of our faith that the Lord is always coming into our lives to draw us more closely to him. We believe in Divine Providence, that God is with us in every circumstance to bless our lives and fill us with his grace and mercy. May 2023 be a time in which we all grow in faith, hope and charity as we recognize God’s presence in our lives and seek to serve him faithfully.

Liturgy Committee – The Committee will meet at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, January 4 in the Annex.

Youth Group – The Youth Group for teens in grades 8-12 will be gathering on Friday evening, January 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Antioch Annex. Dinner will be provided. We invite out teens to join us for this time of fellowship and faith.

Feast of St. John Neumann – Thursday, January 5 is the Feast of St. John Neumann, a former Bishop of Philadelphia, who was instrumental in establishing and promoting Catholic Schools in our Archdiocese. As our School celebrates its 100th Anniversary, we will gather for Mass on that day to express our gratitude for the gift of our School and to ask God, through the intercession of St. John Neumann, to continue to bless and guide us in the years ahead.

Forthcoming Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, January 10 – Adult Faith Formation Meeting at 6:00 pm in the Rectory
Wednesday, January 11 – Campaign Committee at 7:00 pm in the Antioch Annex
Thursday, January 12 – Vocations Committee at 7:00 pm in the Antioch Annex

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – Mark your calendars. Dinner will be on Saturday, February 4 at 6:30 pm in the Antioch Annex.

Come and See Weekends at St. Charles Seminary:

For High School Men – January 28-29, 2023 and February 25-26, 2023
For Post-High School Men – February 10-12, 2023 and March 10-12, 2023

To register, visit Heedthecall.org/ComeandSee or contact Father Friel at fr.dfriel@archphila.org

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 Kingdom of God – While it is all too obvious that in our current world the Kingdom has not been fully established, our communion with the Lord shows that the Kingdom of God is not simply something we await at the end of time. The Kingdom is already present, if not in its fullness: the kingdom has come in the person of Christ and grows mysteriously in the hearts of those incorporated into Him, until its fulfillment when he comes again in glory. The mystery of the Kingdom remains present in the Church because she is joined to Christ as the members of a Body are to their Head. In the communion which is the Church, the Kingdom of heaven, the Reign of God, already exists and will be fulfilled at the end of time.

God has not only called us out of sinful indifference to do whatever we can to contribute to the coming of the Kingdom; through Christ he has given us the grace we need to do this. The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church explains: “Men and women who are made ‘new’ by the love of God are able to change the rules and quality of relationships, transforming even social structures. They are people capable of bringing peace where there is conflict, of building and nurturing fraternal relationships where there is hatred, of seeking justice where there prevails the exploitation of man by man. Only love is capable of radically transforming the relationships that men maintain among themselves.”

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 7

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

Sunday, January 8

7:30 AM - Fr. DePrinzio
10:00 AM - Fr. Moriconi
11:30 AM - Fr. Pesarchick

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

Nothing is hidden from the Lord Jesus. Let us then do everything in the knowledge that he is dwelling within us, so that we may be his temples and he may be God within us. (St. Ignatius of Antioch)

A LITTLE HUMOR

A synonym is a word you use when you can't spell the other one.

PARISH NEWS

We welcome into the Church

CALVIN LAWRENCE SCAVETTE

son of

Alyssa & Adam R. Scavette

*Congratulations to the family
on the Baptism of their child.*



PARISH WEBSITE: www.saintmarg.org



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



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



Please remember in your prayers the soul of **Thomas Lyons**, who has recently passed away. May he rest in peace and his loved ones be comforted.

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



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 using the parish code WRVZND. *Not every parish offers a subscription to FORMED so take advantage of this opportunity!*

EVENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

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.



Stay Connected....
Follow Archbishop Perez
[@ArchbishopPerez](https://www.instagram.com/ArchbishopPerez)



Spiritual Support for Addiction: Hope in Christ

You are not alone! The Church desires to be close to her children who are struggling with addiction and to bring them the healing power of Jesus Christ's love. The Hope in Christ: Spiritual Support for Addiction webpage provides a central location for Catholic resources, ongoing support, testimonies and events that are happening throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to spiritually support you in your journey towards recovery. Visit archphila.org/hope for details and new postings.

SAINT MARGARET SCHOOL

Magical Christmas at SMS



Mercy Neighborhood:

One of SMS's most beloved traditions returns. Each year, we asked our SMS students from PK-8 to send in \$2.00. With this collection, we 'adopt' a Mercy Neighborhood

family; we take their list and purchase presents with the funds and fulfill their Christmas gift wishes. We celebrated TAG day by allowing students to wear dress down clothes. All of the SMS students show great support of this great cause!

Polar Express:

Last week, our Saint Margaret School students celebrated an afternoon with a Polar Express Day. HSA President (Gina Yost) and VP (Anja Turner) served hot chocolate with a candy cane. Students wore their PJS and watched the movie The Polar Express in their classrooms. Our students just love this SMS tradition.

Saint Margaret School and its community wish you a very blessed New Year.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January

educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

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 will be Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 7 PM 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.