

SAINT MARGARET OF ANTIOCH CHURCH

February 5, 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.
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Coordinator of Parish Services,
Sr. Mary Ann Clarahan, RSM
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Parish Business Manager
Mr. Cliff Coombs
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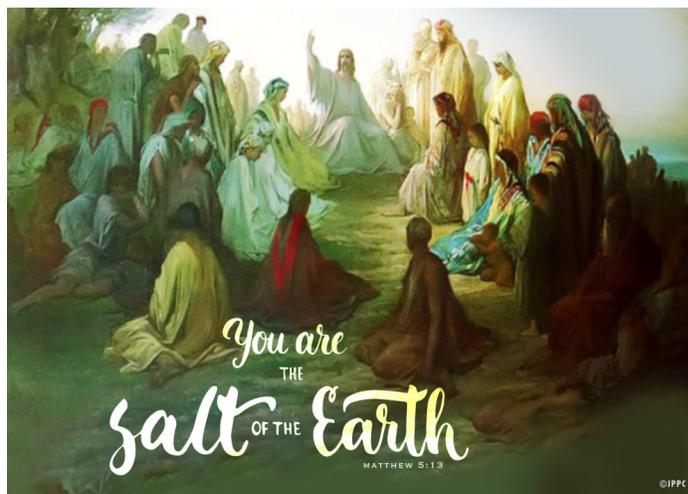
Safe Environment Coordinator
Mrs. Stephanie Seal
sseal@smsnarberth.org

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

May I ask you: "How do you take a compliment? I specify one delivered to you in person, and not electronically via email or text. It may take a minute to fashion a reply because, at least for the majority of us, compliments received are rare.

I remember a conversation I had with a good Church worker back around Christmastime. After recalling an episode or two from his unwritten record, he said, "know Father, people are always ready to complain about something, but never to praise or even thank you for your work." Enough said.

An old-fashioned reaction to praise comes right out of the script of an old Western movie, when a pretty lady compliments the hero. It went something like this: "Aw shucks, ma'am, tweren't nuthin." In other words, denying that whatever we did or said was good and deeply appreciated. It's false humility to deny the truth. A simple but humble "thank you" is always best to respond, unless one wants to add praise to God.

In today's Gospel passage, coming early in St. Matthew's account of the Sermon on the Mount, we find Jesus complimenting His hearers. Using references to two well-known entities of the time, He told them they were both "salt and light." An explanation of terms is needed here.

First, regarding salt. In those ancient days, long before refrigeration was even an idea, salt was a principal preservative for foods. It still is these days. Note the sodium percentage on the labels. Foods are often designated "low salt" for the sake of people with health issues. Certain foods are prized for having "no preservatives." But back in biblical times, salt was precious. So prized that a Roman soldier would receive a portion of his pay in salt. Hence the Latin derivative turned into our modern English word "salary."

In considering "light" as a compliment, think of an ordinary one room Palestinian home in those days. It existed in a world "lit only by fire." A burning oil lamp made ordinary life possible after dark. So, to be called a "light" in such a world was indeed a high compliment. Of course, Our Lord was referring to spiritual darkness above all. How to shed that kind of light is clearly offered in today's passage from Isaiah, which Matthew knew so well. He provides half a dozen ways to do so.

These often dull and dreary February days lend themselves to some healthy introspection. How consistent has our fidelity to Jesus and His Way been? Stripped of excuses, we can honestly take inventory. We can measure our progress on the path to Heaven.

In the end, I think the greatest compliment we can hope for will hopefully be given us by a smiling Jesus standing at Heaven's Gate. He will call us by name and say "Welcome home!" Meanwhile, here below, it is helpful to believe this closing thought about where else God dwells. *God has two dwelling places: one in heaven and the other in a meek and thankful heart.*"

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, February 6
7:00 AM Joel Rodgers

TUESDAY, February 7
7:00 AM Michael L. Morroney

WEDNESDAY, February 8
7:00 AM James Pishock

THURSDAY, February 9
7:00 AM William Greene

FRIDAY, February 10
7:00 AM Joan Ryan

SATURDAY, February 11
8:00 AM David Wong

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

THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5, 2023



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
WILL BURN IN MEMORY OF
NICHOLAS CIPRIANI.**

THE STEWARDSHIP REPORT

<u>Weekend of January 29, 2023:</u>	\$ 8,434
Collection in Church:	\$ 4,867
Electronic Funds Transfer:	\$ 454
Mail In:	\$ 783
Parish On Line:	\$ 2,330
Envelopes:	176

The Weekend of January 30, 2022 \$ 6,453

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

Msgr. Paul V. Dougherty

CHURCH HOURS

**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**

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

Blessing of Those in Consecrated Life – The Church asks us to offer special recognition and prayers today for those living the consecrated life. February 2, the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, has been designated by the Church as the World Day for Consecrated Life. On the occasion of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, Simeon rejoiced to see Jesus and proclaimed him to be the light for the world. Those living the consecrated life are called to bring the light of Christ to the world through their commitment to the Lord by living the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. On this Sunday, February 5, near the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, at the 10 am Mass we will be blessing those living the consecrated life. The Sisters of Mercy, who have their motherhouse in Alma, Michigan, and are living at the convent on the grounds of St. Katherine Day School for children with disabilities, which is located in Wynnewood, will be present for the blessing. The Sisters serve in various assignments in the Archdiocese. Some Sisters of Mercy, whose motherhouse is in Merion, and who live nearby in Bala Cynwyd, will also be present for the blessing, as well as Sister Mary Ann Clarahan, a Sister of Mercy who works as our Coordinator of Parish Services. We are grateful to all of these Sisters and to all who are living consecrated lives for their love for God and their dedicated service to the Church. We are blessed by their presence among us.

Finance Council –The Council will meet on Wednesday, February 8 at 7:00 pm in the Antioch Annex.

Uniting for Ukraine – The Archdiocese of Philadelphia is inviting people to assist Ukrainian people who have relocated to the Philadelphia area. We were asked by the Archdiocese to include the following in our Bulletin: There is a way you can help! You can change people’s lives by becoming a sponsor and join others by forming a Welcome Circle. Welcome Circles are groups of 5 or more adults who agree to support Ukrainians to rebuild their lives right here in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and feel at home in their new communities. If interested in hearing more, contact us at 267-351-6035 or email bwood@chs-adphila.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: Food for the Journey – The lives of the saints and blessed show us the importance of the Eucharist on our journey as disciples of Jesus. Many testify to the power of the Eucharist in their lives. We see the fruits of Holy Communion in their lives of faith, hope and charity. It was their intimate union with Jesus in Holy Communion and frequently their prayer before the Blessed Sacrament that nourished and strengthened them in their journey to heaven. They teach us that growth in the Christian life needs the nourishment of Eucharistic Communion, the bread for our pilgrimage until the moment of death, when it will be given to us as viaticum.

Blessed Carlo Acutis, a young Italian teenager, who died at the age of fifteen and was beatified in 2020, used to say: “The Eucharist is my highway to heaven.” Blessed Carlo attained sanctity at such a young age because the Eucharist was at the center of his life. He attended Mass daily and prayed each day before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration. He discovered the joy of friendship with Jesus and brought that joy, the joy of the Gospel, to others. He was an apostle of the Eucharist through the internet. He said: “To always be united with Christ: This is my life’s program.”

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 11

4-4:45 Confessions—Msgr. Dougherty

5:15 PM - Msgr. Dougherty

Sunday, February 12

7:30 AM - Msgr. Dougherty

10:00 AM - Fr. Pesarchick

11:30 AM - Fr. DePrinzio

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for all that He, in his goodness, sends to us day after day. (Saint Gianna Molla)

A LITTLE HUMOR

Children keep a family together, especially when one can't find a baby-sitter.

PARISH NEWS

We welcome into the Church

MACKENZIE CLAIRE JORDAN

daughter of

Christine & Thomas Jordan

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



**Knights of
Columbus®**

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2023 Free Throw Championship sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of Saint Margaret / Our Lady of Lourdes parishes.

The competition will be **Sunday, February 12 from 1pm to 4pm** at the Saint Margaret School gymnasium in Narberth.

Snacks, desserts, and drinks will be provided to the participants. Winners will be given the opportunity to progress to the regional level of the competition. No advance sign up needed. The event will be an "open house" format, so children can arrive anytime from 1-4pm to participate.

All children should be accompanied by an adult.



FOOD COLLECTION WEEKEND!

Next weekend is our monthly food collection weekend (February 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.



As a member of Saint 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!**



Casseroles for St. John's Hospice

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



Tax Information: To properly claim your donations to the Church, the IRS may require a donation receipt. To request your information go here <http://tinyurl.com/stmargtax> or contact the rectory during normal business hours, 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>.

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

EVENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE



A Baby's Breath www.ababysbreath.org is looking for a few more volunteers. If you would like to devote your sacrifices to "...helping a mother to see her child

take his/her first breath," we would love to have your time and talent.

To sign-up, go to our website and click on Volunteering (<https://ababysbreath.org/volunteering/>) pick your center, and evaluate your skills to offer. We also advertise the specific jobs needs. God Bless and thank you.

OFFICE of the ARCHBISHOP

Dear Friends in Christ,

The World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life will be celebrated throughout the Universal Church on Thursday, February 2, 2023. In the Church of Philadelphia our parishes will mark this important occasion at Masses during the weekend of February 4-5, 2023. It is a time for all of us to offer prayers of thanksgiving and petition for all those who have made commitments to the Consecrated Life and their vital service to God's people.

As we have been invited by Pope Francis to pursue the Synodal Path of Missionary Discipleship, we recall that discipleship is with Jesus Christ and His Cross. The Cross is not something that happens when all is completed; each day we know a sacrifice and those who have been called to the Consecrated Life know this clearly. We are all called to greater righteousness in order to be more closely aligned with charity and in friendship with God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church speaks of the Consecrated Life in this way: "From the God-given seed of the counsels a wonderful and wide-spreading tree has grown up in the field of the Lord, branching out into various forms of the religious life lived in solitude or community. Different religious families have come into existence in which spiritual resources are multiplied for the progress in holiness of their members and for the good of the entire Body of Christ." (CCC 917) We need to keep this teaching in mind as we honor those in Consecrated Life.

In speaking about the Consecrated Life, Pope Francis tells us, "Though it is true that this mission demands great generosity on our part, it would be wrong to see it as a heroic individual undertaking, for it is first and foremost the Lord's work, surpassing anything which we can see and understand" (EVANGELII GAUDIUM, para 12, Pope Francis). The mission of Consecrated Life is realized in its missionary responsibility, in union with the Church, and for the sake of the Kingdom!

May all who have made a commitment to Consecrated Life through the priesthood, religious life, consecrated virginity, secular institutes, societies of apostolic life, and the eremitical life, continue to be enriched by Jesus Christ and to respond generously to their vocations.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,
Most Reverend Nelson J. Pérez, D.D.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

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 23, 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.