



Parish Update



A Weekly Newsletter of St. Margaret Mary Parish

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2015

Who begins anything at the END OF THE YEAR?! Well... Pope Francis does... and as a Christian you are invited to begin a new year of mercy which has been ushered in by Pope Francis. Like anything new, we should spend some time figuring out what this Year of Mercy is about. What is mercy about? What does it mean to extend mercy to others? To receive mercy from others?

Look in this week's e-mail for opportunities to feel God's mercy and to explore extending his mercy to those in your household and all those with whom you interact.

NEW ITEMS:

- **First Wednesday with the Homeless**
- **Parking for KUDU**
- **Baby Basics**
- **First Friday Adoration**
- **Senior Citizens' Diner**
- **Pumpkin Run Results**

PREVIOUS ITEMS:

- **Advent at Home**
- **Caroling for Haiti**
- **Advent Wreath Lighting**
- **Haiti Alternative Gift Program**
- **Beloved**
- **Caroling for Haiti**
- **Christmas Store**
- **Blood Drive**
- **Ten Thousand Villages**
- **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**
- **Taizé Prayer**
- **Women's Advent Breakfast**
- **Family Promise/IHN**
- **Incense during Advent**

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

- [Mass & Devotion Times - Click Here](#)
- [Daily Readings - Click Here](#)

Monday, November 30

To the Heart of Discipleship, 8:45 am
Novena, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, December 1

Men's Bible Study, 7:00 am
Lord Have Mercy! Book Discussion, 10:00 am
Purls and Prayers, 10:00 am
Sewing Ministry, 1:00 pm

Wednesday, December 2

Cooking for the Homeless, 8:30 am
Playgroup, 10:00 am
Making PB&J for the Homeless, 2:30 pm
Holy Hour for Vocations, 3:00 pm
Edge Middle School, 6:30 pm
SMM Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 pm

Thursday, December 3

Living Liturgy Group, 9:00 am
Women's Bible Study, 9:30 am
Centering Prayer Group, 10:30 am
Adoration, 7:00 pm

Friday, December 4

First Friday Adoration 8:30 am – Noon Sat
Spiritual Reading Group, 10:00 am
Crafting for Teens/Seniors, 12:30 pm
Beloved: Marriage Enrichment, 7:00 pm

Saturday, December 5

Diaper Ministry, 1:30 pm

Sunday, December 6

Toy Collection for Christmas Store
Blood Mobile, 8:45 - Noon
Journey 2Gether Middle School, 10:45 am
Faith Formation Classes, 10:45 am
Just Girls Teen Planning, 7:00 pm

Monday, December 7

Heart of Discipleship, 10:00 am
Cancer Support Group, 10:00 am
Novena, 7:30 pm

Question of the Week

Mercy will be a quality on which we will be judged. Am I ready?

“Religion teaches us that we are a part of the whole, a thread in the fabric of God's creation, a note in the symphony of life. Faith is the ability to see ourselves as joined to others by God's love.”

- Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Mercy is more than forgiveness. It includes reaching out in solidarity with those around you to meet them in their suffering, sadness, loss and anxiety. Are you ready?

New Items:



First Wednesday Ministry with the Homeless

Wednesday, December 2 in the PH Kitchen

Cooking beginning at 8:30 am

Sandwich making at 2:30 pm

This week more than ever cooks and sandwich makers are needed to provide dinner for people staying at the Coalition for the Homeless. Come this Wednesday to lend a hand, to give hope and sustenance to the Lazarus at our gate. Mary Ann Gilbert, maryann@stmargaretmary.org, 407-628-1324.



Parking for KUDU

PARK JOYFULLY to attend Winter Park's "Christmas in the Park." Please park in the St. Margaret Mary Church parking lot on December 3rd to attend "Christmas in the Park" and benefit the orphans at the Home of the Holy Angels in Uganda. Volunteers will be collecting a \$5 donation from each car parked to help the orphans. Of course, evening Mass attendees and those parking for church business need not donate if they don't wish to do so. Thank you for your support.



Baby Basics

Saturday, December 5th from 1:30 to 3:30 pm

We need a hand. If you can count to 140, Baby Basics can use your help! 140 is the number of diapers used in two weeks by the littlest babies, those wearing Newborn and size one. We can use your help on the first and third Saturdays of the month to unpack shipping cases, count diapers, assist families to their cars, move diapers to storage, and break down cartons for recycling.

It's a perfect ministry for families! To volunteer, please contact Sharon Anderson, Peggy Canary, macanary@aol.com.



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

This Friday is First Friday: a time for Adoration. Come spend some precious alone time with our Lord or bring your sister, spouse or friend and spend a few minutes in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel. Friday after 8pm Mass thru Saturday 8:00 am Mass.



St. Margaret Mary Senior Citizens' Dinner

Tuesday, December 15th at 5:30 pm

Mark your calendar for this very special evening to honor our senior citizens. A delicious dinner will be served in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, December 15th. All are invited to attend.



Pumpkin Run Results!

On November 14 runners, sponsors and donors worked together to bring in over \$14,000 for the SMM and the St. Stephen Haiti Ministries. We thank the 355 registered runners (the most ever) plus our generous sponsors and donors. God bless you all!

Previous Items:



Advent at Home

If you are interested in an Advent kit including prayers for individuals, families, and items to make an Advent wreath, call the Family Life Office at 407-645-0284 or email lori@stmargaretmary.org.



Advent Wreath Lighting

Would you like to assist in the liturgies during Advent by lighting a candle of the Advent wreath at the beginning of Mass?

Please contact Lisa Weis at lisa@stmargaretmary.org or 407-647-3392 ext. 266 with your name, phone number, email and preferred Mass time. The remaining weekends of Advent are: December 5/6, December 12/13, and December 19/20.



Haiti Alternate Gift Program

Give a Meaningful Gift this Christmas! Beginning this weekend you can once again give a meaningful gift at Christmas through the Haiti Alternate Gift Program. Send the animal card of your choice to friends and family via our parish web site (www.stmargaretmary.org)

These cards are available at varying prices on line, at the parish office during the week, and after weekend Masses December 6 and December 13. Thank you!



Beloved

The next session of BELOVED is this Friday, December 4, 7-9pm.

Session is titled: "Building A Thriving Marriage." Here is a preview of what we will discuss:

What would happen to your marriage if you became more aware of yourselves, did the work of marriage, made a point of being together more, pursued virtue more passionately, and learned to be more patient with each other? How good could you be together? What might be some of the results? All couples, engaged and married are invited to this exciting session. RSVP by Tuesday, December 1st to lori@stmargaretmary.org.



Caroling for Haiti Saturday, December 5th

Having a Christmas party? Invite the 6:00 pm Mass Choir and friends to stop by and lead your guests in singing Christmas carols for about 20 minutes. All we ask is for a donation for Haiti. Call today. Best times get booked quickly. Contact Andrea Cavallere at: andrea@stmargaretmary.org or (407) 739-3698.



Christmas Store

St. Margaret Mary and All Saints Episcopal thank you for sharing your blessings this year through our Thanksgiving Store and invite you to do so at our Christmas Store. New toys will be collected the weekend of Dec. 5/6.

[Click here](#) to see our suggested toy list for 9-12 year olds

[Click here](#) to see our volunteer opportunities list

Thank you for your many years of great generosity in support of this meaningful ministry.



Blood Drive

Sunday, December 6th from 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

Jump on the Big Red Bus and give the gift of life. One donation can save up to three lives. Please bring photo ID.

Why give blood?

There is no substitute for human blood. When you donate blood, you are making an immediate contribution to the health and welfare of your community. Blood is needed by patients facing planned and unplanned medical procedures, trauma victims, cancer patients and premature babies. Your donation will help an ill or injured patient within a few days. The turn-around is that fast, the need is constant.



Ten Thousand Villages

Sunday, Dec. 6th from 10:30 am to 6:00 pm

Ten Thousand Villages (fair trade establishment on Park Ave) is once again hosting a shopping benefit to support our Haiti mission. Come shop for art, jewelry, toys, home goods and more, created in sustainable ways worldwide to help support local communities, including many in Haiti. The store donates 20% of the sales to SMM Haiti Outreach. Anyone available to help host the event for an hour, please contact Mrs. Bretz, bretzk@mmknight.org



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Vigil Mass, Monday, December 7, 5:30 pm (followed by Taizé Prayer).

Masses, Tuesday, December 8, 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 6:30 pm



Taizé Prayer

Monday, December 7 at 7:00 pm in the Church

Immerse yourself in this opportunity to connect with God through prayer and song in a unique environment of soft candle light and traditional icons.



Women's Advent Breakfast

Friday, Dec. 11, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.- Parish Hall

Guest Speaker: **Amanda Livermore**

Amanda is the Director of Mission Effectiveness for Bishop Moore Catholic High School. In this role, she is able to celebrate and strengthen the Catholic Identity of Bishop Moore through ministry with students, parents, teachers, and service within the community. Over the last ten years, she has worked for the Diocese of Orlando in Youth and Young Adult Ministry as well as Missions. She received her Masters in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University with a focus on Spirituality. These experiences help shape her own vocation as wife and mother of two children, Isabel and Sammy.



Family Promise/IHN is coming!!

Check your calendar today!

December 20-27 four homeless families with children will be staying on the second floor of our Family Life Building. If you would like to help by staying with the families while they are here, by setting up or taking down their living spaces, or by doing laundry, please contact Georgia Langdon, 407-628-0283 or langdongal@aol.com. If you would like to help by cooking dinner, please contact Melissa Bunkers, melissawbunkers@gmail.com or 407-484-5116. Thank you!



Incense at Advent

"Let my prayer arise before you like incense..."

Please be aware that incense will be used at some of our upcoming Masses. For those of you who have allergies or a sensitivity to incense, you may want to consider participating at the 8:00 am Sunday Masses, when incense will NOT be used.

Incense will be used during Sundays of Advent (November 28-29, and the first three Sundays of December) and at the following Christmas Masses: 9:00pm, 11:00 pm on Christmas Eve, and 9:30am and 11:00am on Christmas Day.

Parish Vision Statement

Called into relationship by the Holy Spirit and
Centered in the Eucharist

St. Margaret Mary Parish is a welcoming community,

Sent by Christ to serve.