



Parish Update



A Weekly Newsletter of St. Margaret Mary Parish

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2016

“It gets so busy this time of year, you would think it was the end of the world.”

As far as we know, the end of the world is not coming soon... or maybe it is. The Advent season is a time to contemplate the coming of Christ in his glory. And while we remember his coming into the world as a babe child to share the good news of God's kingdom with us, we enter into the season with joyful anticipation of his coming again.

So let us this be our constant question as we go through all the busyness of our holiday preparations, “For what am I truly preparing?”

Look in this week's email for opportunities that will help prepare you for the most important things in life.

NEW ITEMS:

- Homeless Heart Concert
- First Friday Adoration
- Christmas Store
- Disability Support Group for Parents
- Beloved
- Annual Seniors' Advent Dinner
- Haiti Christmas Livestock Program
- Food Pantry
- Playgroup

PREVIOUS ITEMS:

- Epiphany Celebration for Haiti
- Retirement Fund for Religious
- Bridging the Color Divide
- Taizé Prayer
- Women's Advent Breakfast
- Young Adult Retreat
- Caroling for Haiti
- Great Generation Outing
- Women's Bible Study
- Use of Incense
- Advent Wreath Lighting

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

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

[Daily Readings - Click Here](#)

Monday, November 28

Ignatian Prayer – Men, 6:30 pm
Epiphany Celebration for Haiti Mtg, 6:30 pm
Novena 7:00 pm
Inquiry into the Catholic Faith, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, November 29

Men's Bible Study, 7:00 am
Purls and Prayers, 10:00 am
Bridging the Color Divide, 6:30 pm
Ignatian Prayer – Women, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, November 30

Ignatian Prayer – Women, Noon
Ignatian Prayer – Women, 6:00 pm
AMPLIFY, High School, 6:30 pm
Homeless Heart Concert, 7:00 pm

Thursday, December 1

Living Liturgy Group, 9:00 am
Women's Bible Study 9:30 am
Centering Prayer 10:00 am
REVIVE, Middle School, 6:30 pm
Adoration, 7:30 pm

Friday, December 2

First Friday Adoration, 8:30 am – Sat. Noon
New Hope, 6:00 pm

Saturday, December 3

Adoration, until Noon

Sunday, December 4

Second Sunday of Advent
Family Faith, 10:45 am
Faith Formation, 10:45 am
Confirmation Preparation, 4:15 pm
Ignatian Prayer – Women, 4:15 pm
Just Girls Teen Planning, 7:00 pm

Monday, December 5

Ignatian Prayer – Men, 6:30 pm
Taize Prayer, 7:00 pm
Inquiry into the Catholic Faith, 7:00 pm

New Items:



6th Annual Homeless Heart Concert **Wednesday, November 30th at 7:00 pm** **At St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church** **FINAL OPPORTUNITY**

It's become a highly anticipated event - now in its 6th year. The Homeless Heart Christmas concerts raise funds to support family stability programs. This year we are proud to host, performing together for the FIRST TIME Maureen McGovern, Florence LaRue of the Fifth Dimension and Freda Payne. Tickets are \$35 for general admission, \$55 for preferred section. Sponsorships are available by contacting Chris Gardner at (321) 228-7825 or chrisg@condevfl.com. Tickets are available in the Parish Office or online at www.HomelessHeart.org. For a press release describing this exciting event: [Click Here](#)



First Friday Adoration

Friday, December 2nd after 8:00 am Mass through Saturday Noon

Come spend some precious alone time with our Lord or bring your children, friend or spouse and spend a few minutes in quiet prayer.



Christmas Store

St. Margaret Mary Church and All Saints Episcopal Church
invite you to share your blessings this year through our
Christmas Store

A special thank you to our parishioners for your food donations and support of our annual Thanksgiving Store. This year 375 local families requested assistance. Your overwhelming generosity made it possible for them to buy the items they needed for Thanksgiving at a price they could afford.

Please remember to bring your toys for the Christmas Store to next weekend's Masses (December 3/4) as we continue this special ministry. For more information, visit the SMM website at: <http://stmargaretmary.org/thanksgiving-and-christmas-stores/> or contact Anne Domescek at 407-252-3926 or stores@stmargaretmary.org

New clothing is purchased for the 500 children. Parishioners are asked to provide the toys. Bring your new \$20 unwrapped toy or book(s) to the Family Life Center before Mass. Please choose not to bring dolls, stuffed animals and avoid all guns and violent toys when making your toy selections.

If you wish us to purchase your toy, please direct your donation to the parish office and mark it "Stores".



Support and Prayer for Parents with a child or young adult with disabilities

Thursday, December 8, 7-8:30 pm

Please consider joining fellow parishioners, for an hour of fellowship and prayer. As a group, we hope to encourage one another as we share the joys and challenges that we experience as we are called by God to this extraordinary ministry. For more info or to RSVP please contact Trina at: tcassidy@cfl.rr.com or call 321 282 8506



Beloved: "Entering the Story of Marriage."

Friday, December 9, 7-9pm.

This session offers a time to think about the marital love between Adam and Eve and challenges couples to build greater trust and unity in their relationship. Please RSVP by Monday, December 5 online at www.stmargaretmary.org/beloved.

SORRY: NO BABYSITTING AVAILABLE THIS MONTH.



Annual Seniors' Advent Dinner

Tuesday, December 13

Doors Open at 5:30 pm; Dinner served at 6:00 pm in our Family Life Center Parish Hall. Come enjoy an evening of good food, great music, entertainment & much more. This annual event is a gift from the St. Margaret Mary Catholic School and is free of charge.

NO RSVP NEEDED—JUST COME AND BRING A FRIEND!



Haiti Christmas Livestock Program

Gift cards supporting the livestock program will be available for purchase this Advent to support our sisters and brothers in Haiti in the wake of the devastating hurricane. Please consider an alternate Christmas gift to support our Haiti Ministries. Cards will be available after Masses the weekends of Dec 3-4 and Dec 10-11, at the church office, and online at www.stmargaretmary.org/HaitiGiftProgram



Food Pantry

This week please shop for jelly, soup, pancake mix and syrup, and bottle water. And, of course, any of the buy one-get one specials at your local store. Please bring your donations to the parish hall when you come to Mass or bring them directly to the Pantry during the week.



Playgroup

Every Thursday 10-noon in the nursery

For all moms/dads with babies or toddlers who want to meet others and play in a safe fun environment! For more information contact Claudia at cvzeliadt@gmail.com.

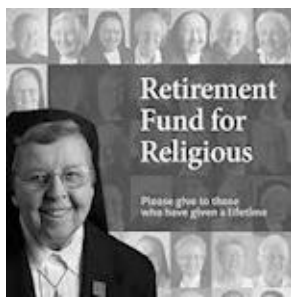
Previous Items:



Epiphany Celebration for Haiti Meeting Monday, November 28th at 6:30 pm

The Haiti Ministry of St. Margaret Mary Parish will host a Celebration of Epiphany with a display of Christmas Crèches from around the world during the weekend of January 7th and 8th. In addition to the crèche display, baked goods will be on sale.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Sandy Dooley at sldooley@live.com or come to the general meeting on November 28th in the Antioch Room on the second floor of the parish center. At this meeting you will learn more details about the event and have the opportunity to choose the area in which you would like to volunteer.



Retirement Fund for Religious The Weekend of December 3rd and 4th

Our senior religious sisters, brothers and religious order priests, numbering 33,000 across the nation, have offered their lives in service and prayer. They have educated the young, cared for the sick, and spoken for the oppressed. Many continue to serve. Others need assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide nursing care, medications, and other necessities. Please be generous.



A Walk through the West Side **Sunday, December 4th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm**

Join the Bridging the Color Divide Committee for our third event to create cross-cultural dialogue and honor the history of the West Winter Park community. Local historians will lead our walking tour to celebrate and preserve the richness of our local neighborhood.



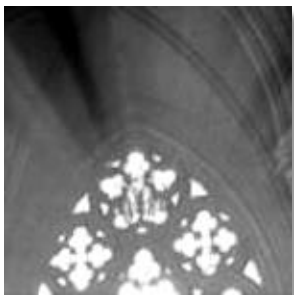
Taizé Prayer is a time of meditation and prayer that utilizes music and silence in a uniquely beautiful environment. The simple, repetitive songs and an ample silence are means for the gathered assembly to experience and respond to the Word of God.

As a parish, we have begun the first season of *With All Your Heart*, titled *Heart to Pray* by exploring various forms of prayer and examining our own prayer lives. Taizé Prayer offers a communal, participatory, yet contemplative form of prayer that allows us to quiet our busy minds and hearts so that we may spend quality time focused on our relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.



Womens' Advent Breakfast **Friday, December 9th at 8:30 am**

Our presenter will be Sr. Jean Riggs, S.F.C.C., a chaplain in the Orange County Sheriff's Office. The meeting will be in the Parish Hall. No reservations are needed. Please bring a covered dish of egg casserole, sweet bread or fruit to share.



Young Adult Retreat **Saturday, December 10th from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm**

"Waiting in Joyful Hope," a retreat for young adults, will be at Annunciation Catholic Church, 1020 Montgomery Road in Altamonte Springs. Both young men and young women, 18 to 40 years are welcome. The day includes Mass with Bishop Noonan, workshops, brunch and Adoration. Meet priests and religious sisters from a variety of communities and learn more about discernment. Baby sitting available. There is no cost. Please contact Kimmy Zeller at: (407) 246-4910 or kzeller@orlandodiocese.org.



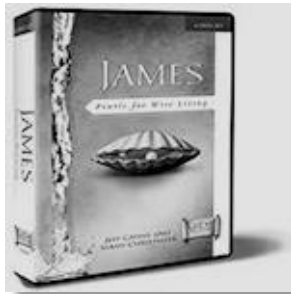
Caroling for Haiti **Saturday, December 17th**

Having a Christmas party? Invite the 6pm 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: (407) 739-3698 or andrea@stmargaretmary.org. And if you would like to join us caroling, we would love to have you.



Great Generation Outing **Sunday, December 18th from 10:30 am to 6:00 pm**

Miracle of 34th Street, the Musical. Our bus departs from the former K-Mart Plaza on 17-92. The first stop is lunch at Shiloh's. Then we visit the Titusville Play House located in historic Parish Theater. For further information contact Rose Walleze at (407) 645-4521 or Miriam Timmes at (407) 644-6208.



Women's Bible Study **Thursdays, January 12th to March 30, 2017 at 9:30 am**

We shall explore *James: Pearls for Wise Living*. We know it is difficult to live a Christian life in a secular society. James offers a wealth of practical solutions for handling and even sanctifying everyday circumstances. Join us for this valuable study of one of the most practical books of the Bible.

You must be registered before beginning this study. To register or to obtain more information, please contact Kristie Altman at: (407) 647-5171 or Kristie@stmargaretmary.org. You will receive instructions for registering online. Thank you.



Use of Incense

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

In coming months, incense may be used at many of the holy days (Immaculate Conception, 12/7-8), at the Advent Masses (11/26-27, 12/3-4, 12/10-11, 12/17-18) and at the following Christmas Masses: 9:00pm and 11:00pm Christmas Eve, 10:00am and 12:00pm Christmas Day.

For those of you who have allergies or a sensitivity to incense, you may want to consider participating at the 8:00 am Mass, when incense will NOT be used.



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 with your name, phone number and preferred Mass time. The four weekends of Advent are November 26/27, December 3/4, December 10/11 and December 17/18.

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.