



Parish Update



A Weekly Newsletter of St. Margaret Mary Parish

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2016

Sometimes Advent is seen as a Little Lent. While there should be time for quiet reflection and an examination of our consciences, the season of Advent is one where joyful anticipation reigns. Not to be confused with joyfully anticipating unexpected gifts. Rather, we are joyfully awaiting the coming of our Lord... AGAIN!

We watch with eager hope for the second coming of our Lord, as we celebrate his birth in Bethlehem. We joyfully wait for something we know is coming. And we prepare ourselves and the world around us for that event.

Look in this week's email for opportunities to prepare the world and yourself for the joyful coming of our Lord.

NEW ITEMS:

- **Prayer: Our Deepest Longing**
- **Christmas Store**
- **Peace and Justice Ministry**
- **Playgroup**
- **Girl Scout Gold Award**
- **Wedding Ceremony in Haiti**
- **Youth Ministry Rome Pilgrimage**
- **Advent Video**
- **Adult Confirmation**
- **Special Needs Ministry**
- **"Lord Teach Me to Pray"**

PREVIOUS ITEMS:

- **Taizé Prayer**
- **Haiti Christmas Livestock Program**
- **Disability Support Group for Parents**
- **Women's Advent Breakfast**
- **Beloved**
- **Young Adult Retreat**
- **Annual Seniors' Advent Dinner**
- **Caroling for Haiti**
- **Great Generation Outing**
- **Women's Bible Study**
- **Use of Incense**

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

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

[Daily Readings - Click Here](#)

Monday, December 5

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

Tuesday, December 6

Men's Bible Study, 7:00 am
Purls and Prayers, 10:00 am
Fusion Class, 3:00 pm
Ignatian Prayer – Women, 6:30 pm
Confirmation Elective, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 7

Cooking for the Homeless, 8:30 am
Playgroup, 10:00 am
Ignatian Prayer – Women, Noon
Make Sandwiches for the Homeless, 2:30 PM
Just Girls, 4:00 pm
Serve the Homeless, 5:30 pm
Vigil Mass Immaculate Conception, 5:30 pm
Ignatian Prayer – Women, 6:00 pm
AMPLIFY, High School, 6:30 pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 pm

Thursday, December 8

Immaculate Conception Mass, 8:00 am
Living Liturgy Group, 9:00 am
Women's Bible Study 9:30 am
Centering Prayer 10:00 am
Immaculate Conception Mass, 6:30 pm
Adoration, 7:30 pm

Friday, December 9

Women's Advent Breakfast, 9:00 am
New Hope, 6:00 pm

Saturday, December 10

EMHC Procedure Training, 3:00 pm
Cursillo Ultreya, 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 11

Third Sunday of Advent
Family Faith, 10:45 am
Faith Formation, 10:45 am
Confirmation Preparation, 4:15 pm

Monday, December 12

Ignatian Prayer – Men, 6:30 pm
Advent Penance Service, 7:00 pm

Quote of the Week

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, even though he dies, will live."

- John 11:25

Question of the Week

"If John the Baptist reappeared, what would he have to say to us?"

Was John the Baptist a hopeful or angry person?

He told people to repent. He said really nasty things like, "You brood of vipers." He was executed when he insulted King Herod.

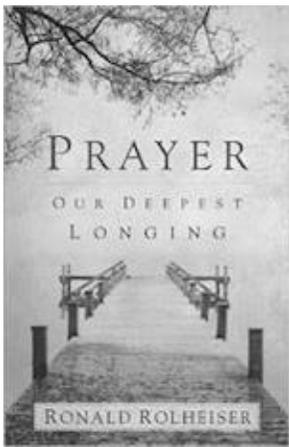
Do anger and harsh words best describe our image of John the Baptist?

Or do his words, "The kingdom of God is at hand" reveal his more hopeful side?

It is hard to be an effective witness to Christ when we are always filled with anger and despair.

Perhaps the hope of resurrection is a better way to think about the Baptist's message.

New Items:



Prayer: Our Deepest Longing

By Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I.

Introduction

"Ultimately, our restless aching is a yearning for God. We need to connect with God. We need prayer."

Last weekend, as part of our parish's focus on prayer, Father Ronald Rolheiser's book was made available after all Masses. Each of the book's five chapters contains short reflections on who we are in relationship to our Creator.

Each reflection realistically looks at the different circumstances of our lives as individuals, as people living in families, and as people living, working and worshipping in a larger community. Each reflection asks, "Does God have a real presence in our lives?" The book does not tell the reader what he or she must do or think. It only invites the reader to talk to God and listen to what he says.



Christmas Store

Thank you for your support of our annual Christmas Store. This year 500 children will receive clothing, toys and books, and 180 families will be shopping for food. We collected toys before and after every Mass this past weekend. If you forgot to bring your toy, please feel free to bring it by the Family Life Center on Monday morning. For more information regarding appropriate toys and volunteering [Click Here](#) or call Anne Domescek at 407-252-3926 or stores@stmargaretmary.org



Peace & Justice Ministry Meeting Wednesday, December 7th at 6:30 pm

Please note the date change.
Call Ann Buckley at (407) 898-3294 for details.



Playgroup Back to Wednesday for Two Weeks December 7th and 14th from 10:00 to 11:30 am

For more information contact Claudia at cvZeliadt@gmail.com. This is not a drop off but a great way for moms or dads or caretakers with babies or toddlers to meet other parishioners and play in a safe and playful environment.



Just Girls Wednesday, December 7th from 4:00 to 5:45

Moms please rsvp for childcare for all children ages 10 and under by Monday, December 5 to lori@stmargaretmary.org.



Girl Scout Gold Award Project

St. Margaret Mary parishioner and Bishop Moore student, Kelsey, is working on a Girl Scout Gold Award project to address hunger and poverty and promote girls' education. She is working through the Haitian consulate to send items to aid families in Haiti. Items include: 1) warm climate clothing and sneakers (gently used outer clothing and new socks and underwear), 2) canned food and baby formula, and 3) personal care items and diapers. Please bring items to the courtyard after Masses on December 10th and 11th. If you have questions contact

Kelsey at laurengchico@gmail.com or speak directly with her on December 10 and 11.



Wedding Ceremony in Haiti

On December 17th ten couples will receive the sacrament of marriage in a group ceremony at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Haiti. The Haiti Faith Sharing Committee helped to make this happen with financial support for the training of the couples and the cost of the rings and simple celebration.

We invite you to be in solidarity with these couples by praying for them and sending them congratulations as they make this commitment. Look for the table in the courtyard on the weekend of December 17th and 18th where you can sign congratulation cards for the couples. The cards will be carried to the couples on our trip to our sister parish in January.



Youth Ministry Rome Pilgrimage Dinner December 17th at 6:00 pm

Join us for a great spaghetti dinner to raise funds for our youth ministry students' trip to Rome with Catholic HEART Workcamp. The tickets are \$10.00 per person and will be on sale after Masses on December 10th and 11th.



Advent Video

Discover the true meaning of Advent and Christmas in two minutes. The video is produced by Busted Halo and can be seen by clicking on:

<http://bustedhalo.com/video/advent-in-two-minutes>



Adult Confirmation

Are you a practicing Catholic who's never been confirmed? If so, preparation classes begin in January. Bishop Noonan will be here February 8th to celebrate Confirmation. Please contact Sr. Rosemary for more information and to register at (407) 644-6812 or srrosemary@stmargaretmary.org.



Special Needs Ministry Cancelled for December



“Lord Teach Me To Pray”

“My prayer life was routine and now I feel new life in Christ.”

“Hearing the reflections of other members touched my soul.”

These are some of the many comments heard from those who have participated in the prayer form that was offered this

Fall for 12 weeks. If you are interested in becoming a member and praying this way, a new group will begin in February. More information about registration will be coming.

Previous Items:



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.



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 weekend Dec 10-11, at the church office, and online at www.stmargaretnary.org/HaitiGiftProgram

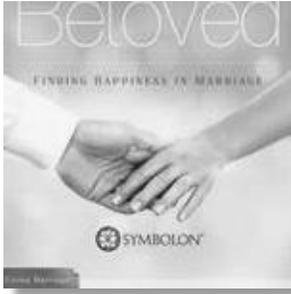


Womens' Advent Breakfast

Friday, December 9th at 8:30 am

Our presenter will be Sr. Jean Riggs, a chaplain in the Orange County Sheriff's Office. Her theme will be: "Bringing the Presence of God to the Multitudes." During Advent we are reminded to share God's love and presence with everyone. Sr. Jean will share her vocation as a chaplain and how she participates in the healing ministry of Christ among us.

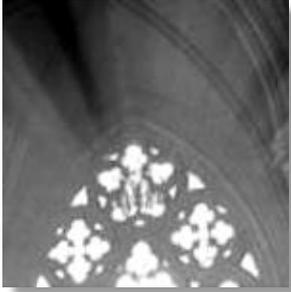
The meeting will be in the Parish Hall. No reservations are needed. Please bring an egg dish, sweet bread or fruit to share.



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.



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.



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!



Caroling for Haiti

Saturday, December 17th

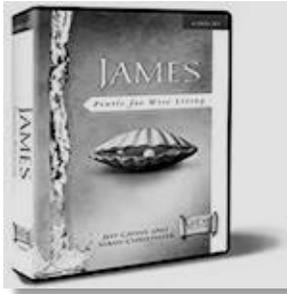
Having a Christmas party? Invite the 6pm Mass Choir and friends to stop by and lead your guests in singing Christmas carols for about 20 minutes - all we ask is for a donation for Haiti. Call today, best times get booked quickly. Contact Andrea Cavaliere at: (407) 739-3698 or andrea@stmargaretmary.org.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

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.