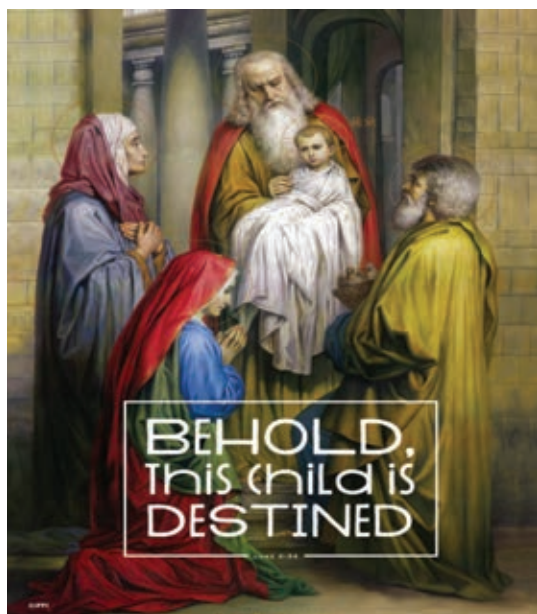


Saint Margaret of Antioch Church

115 West Central Avenue Pearl River, New York 10965



The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 27, 2020

Rev. Eric P. Raaser

Pastor

+

Rev. Ransford S. Clarke

Parochial Vicar

+

Mrs. Brenda Lattuca

Director of Religious Education

+

Mrs. Patricia Maldonado

School Principal

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30 PM,

5:45PM (*September – June*)

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:00AM,
10:30 AM, 12 Noon & 5:30 PM

Weekdays:

Monday– Friday: 7:00AM & 9:00AM

Saturday: 9:00 AM & 12Noon

Baptism: Every Sunday 1:30PM in
Church. Contact Parish Center Office to
make arrangements.

Marriage: Engaged couples should
contact Parish Center Office at least six
months in advance.

Reconciliation: Saturdays in Church
9:30AM-10AM & 11:00AM-11:45AM

Sick Calls: Call Parish Center Office for
visits and/or Communion Calls to sick and
homebound. In danger of death, day or
night, call Parish Center Office for a
Priest.

Parish Registration:

We welcome all new members to our
parish family. Please call the Parish Center
Office to register.

Devotions+

Rosary Recitation & Divine Mercy Chaplet:

Daily following 9:00 AM Mass

Holy Hour with Exposition:

Mondays: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Cenacle for Life:

Every Tuesday at 1:00 PM

Nocturnal Adoration:

1st Friday 8:00 PM -11:00 PM

*St. Aedan's Church from January to March & July to
September*

*St. Margaret's Church from April to June &
October to December*

Miraculous Medal Novena:

After 9:00 AM Mass on Saturday

Parish Center Office 33 N. Magnolia Street, Pearl River, NY

Phone: (845) 735-4746; **Fax:** (845) 735-4744

Web: www.smparish.com

Parish Office Hours are Monday-Friday 9:00 AM – 4:30PM

*The deadline for bulletin items is Monday 12Noon of each
week.* Email: Dorothy@smparish.com

Parish Religious Education Program – PREP (Parish Center)

Phone: (845) 735-5489 ♦**Fax:** (845) 735-4744

Email: smprep@hotmail.com ♦**Web:** www.smparish.com

St. Margaret School – 34 N. Magnolia Street, Pearl River, NY

Phone: (845) 735-2855 ♦**Fax:** (845) 735-0131

Web: www.saintmargaretschool.com



From the Desk of Father Raaser

The Sunday after Christmas is always the beautiful Feast of the Holy Family. Devotion to the Holy Family grew in popularity during the 17th century. The Holy Family in art also became popular during this time. Many Popes promoted the feast as a way to counter the breakdown of family life especially during the Industrial Revolution. Then on October 26, 1921, Pope Benedict XV inserted the Feast of the Holy Family into the General Calendar.

When a man marries a woman a family is established. One of the main purposes of marriage is to have children and raise them in an indissoluble, committed and faithful relationship between the mother and father, so as to increase the number of the Church and the world.

This past December 8th, Pope Francis wrote an Apostolic Letter about St. Joseph: "Patris Corde," (With a Father's Heart"). The letter begins: "*WITH A FATHER'S HEART: that is how Joseph loved Jesus, whom all four Gospels refer to as 'the son of Joseph.'*" The Pope called for a **Year of Saint Joseph** to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. The Apostolic Penitentiary also issued a Decree granting plenary indulgences for this special year for special devotions particularly on Wednesday.

Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a *beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows*. He is to be the example of Christian fatherhood for our families.

The Holy Father wrote Saint Joseph is, *the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence, who nonetheless played an incomparable role in the history of salvation. In him, we never see frustration, but only trust...His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust*. St. Joseph is the model of fatherhood, because our world "needs fathers," and not "tyrants"; a society that "rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction." (Pope Francis)

True fathers, "refuse to live the lives of their children for them," and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that "he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes 'useless,' when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied." The goal of parents is to make independent, well-adjusted, self-sufficient and most important, holy adults.

At the conclusion of his Letter, the Pope adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

It is a beautiful meditation on fatherhood, a bit wordy, but that is the style of Pope Francis. Our prayer is that the Holy Family: Jesus Mary and St. Joseph watch over and protect your family.

December 27, 2020



**Sunday, December 27th – The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

4:30 PM – Barbara Betz
5:45 PM – Don Sorel
7:30 AM – Thomas McLinskey
9:00 AM – Bridget & Bernard Fegan
10:30 AM – Michael Badger Sr. (Livestream)
12 Noon – Robert McKiernan
5:30 PM – For the Parish

Mon., Dec. 28th – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

7 AM – Elizabeth Reynolds (Living)
9 AM – John Paul McGovern

**Tues., Dec. 29th – Saint Thomas Becket,
Bishop and Martyr**

7:00 AM – Alex Knoebel (Living)
9:00 AM – Angelo and Louise Palermo

**Wed., Dec. 30th – Sixth Day within the Octave
of the Nativity of the Lord**

7:00 AM – The Poor Souls in Purgatory
9:00 AM – John Keenan

**Thurs., Dec. 31st - Seventh Day within the Octave
of the Nativity of the Lord**

7:00 AM – Henry Reynolds
9:00 PM – Breda O'Sullivan (20th Anniversary)

Fri., Jan. 1st – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 AM – Teresa Field
12 Noon – Deceased Clergy of St. Margaret
5:30 PM – For the Parish

**Sat., Jan. 2nd – Saints Basil the Great & Gregory
Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church**

9 AM – Nicholas & Florence Scrosia
12 Noon – Maureen & Tom Moran

Sunday, January 3rd - Epiphany of the Lord

4:30 PM – Bridget Murray
5:45 PM – For the Parish
7:30 AM – Paul Forgacs
9:00 AM – Margaret Conway
10:30 AM – Peter & Catherine Prainito (Livestream)
12 Noon – Noel O'Connell
5:30 PM – The Holy Souls

CHURCH MEMORIALS: The Sanctuary Lamp will
burn this week in loving memory of:
John and Greg Ryan

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays: 9:30 AM – 10 AM
and 11 AM – 11:45 AM
(No Face to Face Confessions)

MASSES FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
9:00 AM, 12 Noon and 5:30 PM

Feast of the Holy Family

Reading I:

Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

Fidelity to the Lord implies
many virtues. Chief among
them is our duties toward our parents.
The traditional blessings are then listed.

Reading II: Colossians 3: 12-21

This section is an early baptismal instruction.
It describes the Christian community which a
new member embraces through his/her baptism.

The Gospel: Luke 2: 22, 39-40

This section points out the necessity of the
Nazareth years in Jesus' life. It was there that He
grew strong in the full experience of a human
nature. In that way, He could bring the Spirit of
God into contact with every area of our lives.



PRAYER IS POWERFUL

Saint Margaret Rosary Altar Society

12/28 – 1/03/21 – Team #6 – S. Bellocchio
1/04 – 1/10 – Team #1 – G. Possavino
1/11 – 1/17 – Team #2 – M. Young
1/18 – 1/24 – Team #3 – E. Neyen
1/25 – 1/31 – Team #4 – P. Michel

Any questions call Angela: 845-920-0264

Weekly Collection -

Dec. 13th - \$ 8224.25

Thank you for your generosity



St. Margaret of Antioch



The children and staff are thriving and staying well. Our months in school have allowed us to live by our school motto:

To Serve, Not to Be Served

Visit our FB to view us in action.

Prayers to all for health and healing.

About Us: Registration has OPENED for the 21-22 school year.

Please visit our website at SMS
Take a virtual tour and pursue our website to see what we are all about.

Mrs. Maldonado,
Principal



**Saint Margaret of Antioch
Bereavement Support Group**
A safe place for the bereaved...

- *to share*
- *to learn about grief*
- *to receive support, empathy & acceptance*

**NEW SESSIONS TO BEGIN IN
JANUARY 2021**

**Register with Tracey
Parish Center Office:
845-735-4746**

Saint Margaret's Parish Religious Education Program PREP



New Year's Prayer

As the dawn breaks on a new year,
let us give thanks
for all we hold dear:
our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God in our hearts and to chant God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year. Amen



Sanctity of Life:

If you have a passion for pro-life issues,



I am looking for volunteers to help start a program that will help first time, single mothers and their babies.

Please call:

Marie Nevins 914-213-5155 or email:

nevinsme58@gmail.com

to hear more exciting news.



*Many thanks,
Saint Margaret parishioners,
for your continued generosity!
We delivered 55 turkeys and 97 bags
of food to Franklin Avenue School food pantry
& to Catholic Charities Community Services.
There is an overwhelming need.
Your continued support is appreciated.*

Remember St. Margaret's Parish in Your Will

If you would like to speak to a gift planning specialist about how to include our parish in your will or living trust, call (646) 794-3317 or email plannedgiving@archny.org

ADOPTION - Children in China need homes. More boys available than girls. Older parents and single women welcome. For more info call Barbara Salvesen at: 845-623-5277.



Remember your deceased loved ones at Saint Margaret's by:

- Having flowers placed at the altar;
- Having the Sanctuary Lamp burn;
- Enroll in the Parish Holy Souls Society;
- Have an announced or unannounced Mass celebrated in your loved-one's memory

The Academy of the Holy

Angels has established the Angel Tuition Assistance Fund. This financial safety net will provide immediate tuition assistance to AHA families who are experiencing economic and health issues due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information contact the Academy: **201.768.7822** | HOLYANGELS.ORG



MASS CARDS:

The giving of a "Mass Card" to an individual or a family is a traditional and honored custom of the Catholic Community. Mass Cards can be given or sent for:-the repose of the soul of a deceased person or for a Special Intention: -Special Intention Cards are for a living person and are obtained for a number of reasons: general good wishes, birthdays, anniversaries, return to good health, in thanksgiving, or for a particular need or moment in the life of another, e.g. a new home.

There are two types of Mass Cards:

-An "Announced Mass" means that the Mass will be celebrated on a certain day at a scheduled Mass time when the priest announces the intention to the congregation and it is printed in the weekly parish bulletin.

-An "Unannounced Mass" refers to a Mass when the intention is remembered by one of the priests at a Mass that has no announced intention. Mass cards may be obtained at the Parish Center during regular office hours – (9 AM – 4:30 PM, Mon. - Fri.).

The donation for an Announced Mass is \$ 15; \$10 for an Unannounced Mass.

BEREAVEMENT (H.A.N.D.S.)

(Healing And Nurturing
Distraught Survivors)

January meetings: Jan. 6th & 19th

For parents who have lost a child, facilitated by Ann Carucci, Meeting: 6:30 - 8:00 PM at H.A.N.D.S. International Headquarters, 9 Scott Drive, New City. Free of charge.

Personal one-on-one counseling sessions & a Widows/Widowers group by Ann Carucci..

Meetings: Every Monday evening at 9 Scott Dr., New City. Ph: 634-6706, Fax:634-9199;

Email:Hands423@aol.com



Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peerson

To be cute about it, I quote here an American humorist by the name of Evan Esar (d. 1995): "Family: A social unit where the father is concerned with parking space, the children with outer space, and the mother with closet space. "Whether Mr. Esar was fully correct or not, there is a grain of truth in what he wrote, and there is always some truth in wholesome humor.

However, for my purpose I prefer this statement of Sir Winston Churchill about the nature of family. "There is no doubt that it is around family and the home that all the greatest virtues ...are created, strengthened, and maintained."

Over this holiday we are most likely to be with family, either literally or virtually because of the virus. We can verify Sir Winston's observation. Family also gives us the answers to most of life's important questions. Do you think the young Jesus had questions? Certainly He must have, because remember He took on a human nature "like ours in everything but sin." What is one of the principal ways we learn? Through answers to questions. Through that triple-spoke process of lessons taught, example given, and experience lived, Our Lord and Savior indeed grew in wisdom and grace.

I think it is an important detail that all this happened in the little village of Nazareth, on the edge of the empire, far from the high society and corruption of Rome and it is nowhere even mentioned in the whole Old Testament. Great things can happen in humble places, as our family homes most often attest. Could Our Lord have had better teachers in how to handle life than Mary and Joseph? Hardly. Without any advanced degrees, we can say with conviction that both Christ's parents had "PhD's" in holiness. Mary who was declared "full of grace" by an archangel, and Joseph remembered as a "just man" cannot be excelled at their task. The Holy Spirit has decided not to tell us if any peers taught Jesus things, but we can imagine they too played a part, in His human upbringing. So we stand back for a time from all our concerns to admire and celebrate this Holy Family. We can see the necessity of these thirty or so years to prepare Our Lord for His incomparable mission.

(cont.)

That brings up the subject of our mission. It begins in our family circle, but it has to expand from there if we are to take our Baptismal and Confirmation promises seriously. That means doing our part to tell the waiting world all about Jesus and His Good News, even if the world neither acknowledges nor cares that it is waiting. Waiting for something, or more accurately, Someone, beyond its own calculations to give it purpose. Taking up the admonitions of Sirach and Colossians, which we read this weekend, is a good place to begin. After all, that's our way to heaven. Here is George Bernard Shaw's take on family: "A happy family is but an earlier heaven." Think about that! God love you and give you His peace in 2021!

families that
PRAY TOGETHER
stay together.

The Sisters of Saint Dominic of Blauvelt 2021 Lottery Calendars are now available. Purchase a Lottery Calendar for \$20 and get 63 chances to win \$50 cash prizes between Jan. & Dec. Makes a great gift for family and friends. Calendars can be purchased by calling 845-359-5600 ext. 165 or online www.opblauvelt.org/lottery-calendar

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What's My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

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