Saint Margaret Parish

374 Stevens Street ~ Lowell, MA 01851

Tel (978) 454-5143

Fax (978) 458-8472

www.stmargaretlowell.org

Parish Mission Statement

- . The Roman Catholic Parish of St. Margaret of Scotland, founded in 1910, is an urban, archdiocesan parish located in the Highlands section of Lowell, Massachusetts. The parish is a multi-ethnic, socially, culturally, and educationally diverse faith community.
- . Deeply committed to Jesus Christ, we endeavor to become a unified community of faith, worship, and service. We strive to be a warm, welcoming and caring parish in which the gifts and talents of all, young and old, are recognized and graciously used to nourish others.

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Rev. Raymond P. Benoit

Administrator

Paul St.Cyr Facilities Manager

Karen Miller Business Manager

Barry Lloyd
Permanent Deacon

Debra McAndrews

Administrative Coordinator

J<mark>oann</mark>a Bazzinotti

Coordinator of Faith Formation & Evangelization

Pamela Quinn
Coordinator of Religious Education, Grades 1-8

Kelly Paradise-Brothers

Coordinator of Confirmation Program, Grades 9-11

Ernest Houle

Director of Music

St. Margaret School

486 Stevens Street ~ Lowell, MA 01851 Tel (978) 453-8491 Fax (978) 453-1358 Extended Day Program (978) 458-7870

www.stmargaretschoollowell.org

Sr. Lori Fleming, SND *Principal*

MASS SCHEDULE

~ Main Church ~

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 PM Sunday Masses - 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 AM

~ Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel ~ Daily Mass: Monday - Saturday, 8:30 AM

PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS

~ Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel ~

The Rosary: Monday - Saturday, 8:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration: September - April, Thursdays, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation
Saturdays, 3:15 to 3:45 PM, or by appointment.
Baptism
Second Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM.
Marriage
Please call at least six months in advance.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-8 begins with the 9:00 AM Sunday Mass. Confirmation students meet Sunday evenings.

St. Vincent de Paul Society "Helping Those in Need."

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Margaret Parish witnesses to God's love through works of charity and justice, making no distinction in those served. If you are in need of help, please call <u>978-459-0175</u>. All calls and visits are strictly confidential.

The Most Holy Trinity

May 31, 2015

+ Mass Intentions +								
Date	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intention</u>		Celebrant			
May 30	Saturday	4:00pm	Charles J. Heslin	2nd Anniversary	Fr. Ray			
May 31	Sunday	7:30am	People of St. Margaret Parish	Special Intention	Fr. Ray			
	•	9:00am	Anthony & Joanna Bazzinotti	25th Wedding Anniversary	Fr. Ray			
		11:00am	Wally Armstrong	4th Anniversary	Fr. Raju			
Jun 01	Monday	8:30am	Margaret & Philip Elias	Memorial	Fr. Raju			
Jun 02	Tuesday	8:30am	Joyce Argyriadis	Memorial	Fr. Raju			
Jun 03	Wednesday	8:30am	Yolande Brodley Memorial		Fr. Raju			
Jun 04	Thursday	8:30am	Frank J. Strong Memorial		Fr. Ray			
Jun 05	Friday	8:30am	Mary V. Graves	18th Anniversary	Fr. Ray			
Jun 06	Saturday	8:30am	Month's Mind Mass Memorial		Fr. Ray			
	•	4:00pm	Ann Walsh	1st Anniversary	•			
		-	Coach John Lyons	1st Anniversary	Fr. Ray			
Jun 07	Sunday	7:30am	Susan Gill	Birthday Memorial	Fr. Raju			
	•	9:00am	People of St. Margaret Parish	Special Intention	Fr. Ray			
		11:00am	Leo B. Teague	Birthday Memorial	Fr. Ray			

MONTH'S MIND MASS

Saturday, June 6, 2015 @ 8:30am - Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel (lower church)

For the people buried from St. Margaret Church from April 19th to May 23rd.

Mary J. Faias Francis G. Leary Mary McArdle Mary C. McGuire

Doris C. Notini Eugene "Geno" A. Pare Doris A. Spinney Helen M. Stamas

+ Steeple Bells +

Our Steeple Bells will ring this week in loving memory of Yolande Brodley.

+ Sanctuary / Altar Lamps +

Our Sanctuary & Altar Lamps will burn this week:

. Sanctuary Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Henry D. Burns.

. Sanctuary Lamp (Chapel): In loving memory of Charles J. "Charlie" Heslin.

. Sacred Heart Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Rosemarie Rourke.

. Blessed Mother Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Madeline K. Finneral.

For information about Steeple Bells or Sanctuary/Altar Lamps, please, call the rectory office.

+ In Memoriam +

During the week of May 17, 2015
The Rite of Christian Burial was celebrated for
Mary J. Faias Doris C. Notini Doris A. Spinney Helen M. Stamas
Let us remember them and their loved ones in our prayers.

CIRCLE HOME, INC

(Formerly VNA of Greater Lowell)

Will conduct a Senior Health Clinic in the St. Vincent de Paul Room (lower rectory)
Blood Pressure Reading - Weight Check - Medications Review
Thursday, June 4th, from 8:30 to 10:00am

No appointments are needed and no fees are charged for this drop-in clinic.

Today's Scripture Readings - Catholic Community Hymnal # 573

		<u>••</u>	· AL Y ALLALS :
•	Entrance	281	Holy, Holy, Holy!
•	Offertory	278	How Wonderful the Three-in-One
•	Communion	437	Taste and See
•	Recessional	279	O God, Almighty Father

PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

May 23-24, 2015

. 1st Collection: Weekly Offertory . 2nd Collection: Catholic Communications

of Envelopes: 209 # of Envelopes: 174

Envelopes: \$3,284.00 Envelopes: \$1,453.00 Non-Envelope: \$ 679.00 Non-Envelope: \$ 435.00 Total: Total: \$1,888.00

2nd Collection this weekend: <u>Catholic Appeal</u>

With heartfelt gratitude for the very generous sharing of your treasure ... and thank you for accepting the financial responsibility for St. Margaret Parish.

2015 CATHOLIC APPEAL: Living Our Faith Together

<u>Parish Goal</u>: \$53,000 <u>Pledges to Date</u>: \$56,285 <u>% of Goal</u>: 106.2% <u>Donor Goal</u>: 358 <u>Donors to Date</u>: 322 <u>% of Goal</u>: 89.9%

The <u>Second Collection this weekend</u> is for <u>the 2015 Catholic Appeal</u>. Though we have achieved our Financial Goal, I am hopeful that this weekend we will also achieve our Donor Goal. All that we need is 36 additional donors. And keep in mind that St. Margaret Parish will receive 60% of all contributions that exceed our parish Financial Goal and an additional 5% if we achieve our Donor Goal.

So this will be one last opportunity this year for the people of St. Margaret Parish to express their willingness to be a Good Samaritan by providing needy people financial assistance. Please, know that I am truly grateful for the generous response of those who have made the Catholic Appeal campaign so very successful in our parish. $\sim \sim$ Father Ray

Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus was a Kid! Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 20th through Friday, July 24th, 2015

9:00 am to 12:00 Noon at St. Margaret School, Nangle Hall

Experience an exciting, Bible-times village as we visit *Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus was a Kid!* Each day, your child can become part of history as they see, hear, touch, and even taste what it was like to live in Jesus' hometown! We'll explore authentic Marketplace shops, visit Jesus' mother Mary, take part in games, dance to lively songs, and sample tasty tidbits as we explore together more about Jesus' childhood. These experiences will make God's Word come alive with new meaning for all who participate! The cost for Vacation Bible School is \$30.00 per child. Registration and payment must be received by Monday, June 15th. Registration forms can be found in the wall racks at all entrances of the church, or may be printed from our parish website. For more information, please contact Joanna Bazzinotti at the rectory or email jbazzinotti@stmargaretlowell.org.

ENJOY A DAY AT THE WATER PARK AT GREAT WOLF LODGE!

You could be the lucky winner of four one-day passes to the Water Park at Great Wolf Lodge in Fitchburg, Mass. This favorite New England attraction includes twisting and turning waterslides, an activity pool and kiddie play area, a four-story interactive treehouse, a hot springs warming pool and much more!

Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each, or 6 for \$5.00, available at the rectory or school. Winners will be announced on the last day of school – Friday, June 19th. All proceeds from the raffle will benefit Science & Technology at St. Margaret School.

<u>PARENTS MUST TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE</u> IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN

During his General Audience on May 20th, Pope Francis said that parents must not exclude themselves from their children's lives and, despite what some "experts" may say, they must take an active role in their children's education. "It's time for fathers and mothers to come out of their exile -- because they have exiled themselves from their children's education -- and to fully assume again their educational role," he said.

Pope Francis said the "essential characteristic" of the family is its "natural vocation to educate children so that they grow in responsibility for themselves and for others." But, faced with numerous experts who tell them how their children should be raised, many parents have withdrawn their involvement in their children's education, and this is "very grave," he said.

Tensions and disagreements between parents and teachers are a symptom of the crisis, he said, and children bear the brunt of it. He also spoke of the multiplication "of so-called 'experts,' who have taken over the role of parents, even in the most intimate aspects of education," convincing parents their only role is to "listen, learn and adapt." Parents then "tend increasingly to entrust to the 'experts' even the more delicate and personal aspects of their children's lives, setting themselves off alone in a corner," he said.

In trying to demonstrate how "things have changed," the pope told a personal story about when he said a bad word to his fourth-grade teacher, who promptly called his mother. When his mother came to school the next day, she made him apologize to the teacher and then disciplined him when he got home. Today, instead, he said, parents will reprimand a teacher who tries to discipline their child. The pope said it is obvious the current situation is "not good" or "harmonious," since it tends to put families and schools in opposition rather than in collaborative relationships.

In addition, he said, "puzzled by the new demands made by children" and the complexity of life, many parents are "paralyzed by the fear of making a mistake." "Educating children is difficult for parents who see them only in the evening when they return home tired from work," he said. "It is even more difficult for parents who are separated, who are weighed down by their circumstances." He urged separated parents to "never, never, never take a child hostage" by speaking ill of the other parent. He recognized that being separated is "a trial" but added that "children must not be the ones to carry the weight of this separation or to be used like hostages against the other spouse."

Pope Francis also exhorted families to practice patience. "Even in the best of families, there is the need to put up with each other," he said. "But that's life. Life is not lived in a laboratory, it's lived in reality." If families were able to recover their pride in being the primary educators of their children, he said, "many things would change for the better, both for uncertain parents and for disappointed children.

HOMETOWN NAZARETH IS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

Thanks to the commitment and vision of 22 amazing volunteers who answered the call to bring "Hometown Nazareth" to Vacation Bible School this July, we will begin "laying the stones" for what is sure to be an amazing journey through Nazareth for our children. Through games, crafts and stories, our volunteers will truly bring this adventure to life! Please keep our volunteers in your prayers:

Emilie-Rose Bazzinotti Nam Bui Lily Skaff Hilde Gilman Alexa Carolan **Kimberly McMahon** Anna Woodlock **Danielle Savoie Lorraine Primeau** Keliann Woodlock Alvssa Silva **Katherine Nduati** Michael Woodlock **Cristin McDonough Andrew Sneeringer Abigail Savoie** Sean Le James McBreen **David Savoie** Lisa Skaff Paula Malavich

For more information, please, call Joanna Bazzinotti at rectory office (978) 454-5143 ext. 18, or send an email to jbazzinotti@stmargaretlowell.org. Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS SMS CLASS OF 2015! - "H15TORY IN THE MAKING"

How many ways can you see growth as a child moves gradually from 4 years old to 14! Each year the parents of our graduates remark on how quickly this journey from childhood to the emerging stage of young adulthood has happened. We loved being with the members of this class – most of them with us from kindergarten and the primary grades, a few joining us for the junior high years. Their SMS friendships have expanded to include their families and the celebrations they have shared along the way have been inclusive and lively – meaning full of life. The St. Margaret Parish community has been a formative part of this metamorphosis – spiritual values are developed in worship and prayer. These young people have been a blessing to one another and to their school.

We wish our "Class of 2015" continued joy in discovering who they are and who they want to be. May they learn the lesson found in <u>The Oak Inside the Acorn</u> by Max Lucado – "Become what God made you to be." And may they live the Gospel message to love God and to love one another. This class is truly "H15TORY IN THE MAKING."

St. Margaret School Graduates

Joshua Adjei

Aidan Curran

Kyle James Durkin

Linsey Rose Former

Vittoria Marie Forte

James Michael Giblin

Elizabeth Gilbride

Laraine Josephine Harring

Class of 2015

Jared James Harris

Emily Hogan

Joseph L. Infantino

Charles Andrew Manousos

Elizabeth Madeline O'Driscoll

Evans Oduro

Julia Rose Prestipino

Lawrence Christian Ruggiero

Tyler Steven Scales

Anida Seng

Caitlyn A. Tsoukalas

Kianna LaGretta Welch

Olivia Williams

Thoma's Yeregbo Williams

SOUP KITCHEN MINISTRY - 2015 UPDATE

St. Margaret Parish is planning its 6th year of serving at St. Paul's Soup Kitchen, located in the Eliot Church on Summer Street in Lowell. This program provides a free meal at 5:00 pm every weekday, Monday through Friday, to anyone in need. The number of guests at the kitchen has increased from about 80 guests in 2009 to between 130 to 150 visitors per night in 2015.

St. Margaret has 16 Soup Kitchen teams comprised of 10 volunteers per team. Every month, two teams commit to serve at the kitchen. Each team has a leader who coordinates parishioners to contribute a portion of the meal. The current average cost of a meal incurred by a team is \$350. This cost is generously donated by our team members!

For those who participate in this ministry, the time commitment is not overly demanding: only two times serving per year. However, volunteers soon realize how critical their contributions are. At the kitchen, there are people from all walks of life. As we interact with the visitors, the stories are varied, but all are in need of a healthy meal and our compassion. For some guests, this is the only meal for the day. Visitors also request takeout meals for the sick and homebound. Many visitors express their heartfelt thanks to our parish team members for the warm meal.

To our current Soup Kitchen team members, we express our sincere thanks for sharing your time, talent, and treasure with those less fortunate. For those who might be interested in joining our Soup Kitchen ministry, please contact Ray Gendron at (978) 649-8895, or email RayGendron@comcast.net.

CARE ENOUGH TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

For the safety and security of our young children, please do not allow any child under your care to use the rest room facilities unless escorted by an adult. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

TRIVIA NIGHT - FRIDAY, JUNE 5TH

The Fellowship Social & Hospitality Committee is hosting another Trivia Night on Friday, June 5th, 2015 in Sacred Heart Hall (lower church). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 per person and a prize will be awarded to the winning team. Refreshments and snacks will be served. Everyone is welcome! Registration is requested. Forms are located in the wall racks at all entrances of the church. For more info, please call Lorraine Freitas at (978) 937-8657 or email lorron2@comcast.net.

\$10,000 CASH BONANZA

Sponsored by the Friends of St. Margaret Parish and School

Grand Prize: \$10,000 Cash

2nd Prize: \$500 * 3rd Prize: \$300 * 4th Prize: \$200

Ticket price: \$100 per ticket.

No more than 300 tickets to be sold!

Buy a ticket for yourself, or as a gift, or split a ticket with friends and family!

Early Bird Tickets!

Buy your ticket on or before July 12th for a chance to win \$100.00! Early Bird winners will be announced at our annual cookout on July 12th.

The \$10,000 Cash Bonanza drawing will take place on Friday, September 11th, in Sacred Heart Hall (lower church). Doors open at 6:00pm - Raffle begins at 6:30pm.

To purchase a ticket...

- Take home a <u>Ticket Order Form</u> located in the wall racks at all entrances of the church; complete the form, and mail it with your check for \$100.
- Buy a ticket in the rectory office, Monday thru Friday, from 8:30am to 2:30pm.
- Go to our parish website at www.stmargaretlowell.org and click on the "\$10,000 Cash Bonanza" title under Parish News and Announcements. From there you may print out as many Ticket Order Forms as you like!

Thank you for your support of St. Margaret Parish & St. Margaret School!

EARLY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

In the beginning of May, Registration forms were sent out to all families whose children were registered in the Religious Education Program this past year. If your child is new to the program and you would like to receive information about the program, please, come to the registration weekend. Early Registration for Religious Education students in Grades 1 through 11 will take place after all Masses this weekend in Sacred Heart Hall in the lower church.

KEEPING GOD'S HOME & OUR CHURCH CLEAN

Should you find the pew area where you sit littered with soiled or used items, please, let me know before or after Mass. It would be helpful if each of us would make the effort to assure that we have not left behind any used tissues, candy wrappers, plastic bags, or other soiled items on the pew, in the pew racks or on the floor. We are grateful for your support in this effort.

...Father Ray





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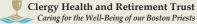
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Rachel mourns her children; She refuses to be consoled, because her children are no more. Thus says the Lord: "Cease from your cries of mourning. Wipe the tears from your eyes...There is hope for your future." Jeremiah 31:15-17





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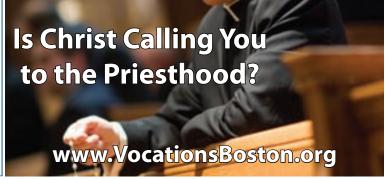
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