

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

Joanna 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

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. Margaret School

"It is good for us to be here."

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www.stmargaretschoollowell.org

Sr. Lori Fleming, SND
Principal

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 [978-459-0175](tel:978-459-0175). All calls and visits are strictly confidential.

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 14, 2015

+ Mass Intentions +

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Celebrant</u>	
Jun 13	Saturday	4:00pm	Conrad & Gladys Rock	7th Anniversary	Fr. Ray
Jun 14	Sunday	7:30am	People of St. Margaret Parish	Special Intention	Fr. Ray
		9:00am	Ben & Serwa Aadoo	5th Wedding Anniversary	Fr. Ray
		11:00am	Thomas O'Hagan	Birthday Memorial	Fr. Raju
Jun 15	Monday	8:30am	Thomas O'Hagan	Birthday Memorial	Fr. Raju
Jun 16	Tuesday	8:30am	Yvette Cote	3rd Anniversary	Fr. Raju
Jun 17	Wednesday	8:30am	Michael & Florence Carolan	Anniversary Memorial	Fr. Raju
Jun 18	Thursday	8:30am	Nancy E. Begley	2nd Anniversary	Fr. Ray
Jun 19	Friday	8:30am	Leon & Mary LeBlanc	Memorial	Fr. Ray
Jun 20	Saturday	8:30am	Joanne Silva	2nd Anniversary	Fr. Ray
		4:00pm	Margaret & Paul Golden	Memorial	Fr. Ray
		7:30am	People of St. Margaret Parish	Special Intention	Fr. Raju
Jun 21	Sunday	9:00am	Stephen S. Skaff	Memorial	Fr. Ray
		11:00am	Robert C. Lemire	9th Anniversary	Fr. Ray

+ Steeple Bells +

Our Steeple Bells will ring this week in loving memory of Gail Griffin Morse.

+ Sanctuary / Altar Lamps +

Our Sanctuary & Altar Lamps will burn this week:

- . Sanctuary Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Edmund Pender.
- . Sanctuary Lamp (Chapel): In loving memory of Robert C. Lemire.
- . Sacred Heart Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Sheree Campbell.
- . Blessed Mother Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Rita A. Greska.

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

IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

“Let Your Light So Shine” (Matthew 5:14)

We are truly blessed by members of our Saint Margaret Parish family! So many of you offer your time and talents to build the Kingdom of God. It is through caring, sharing and praying that our community grows in love and support of one another. The success of our Religious Education programs depends on the dedicated individuals in our parish who are willing to share their time, talent and faith with our parish youth. We encourage all parishioners, young and old alike, to help out in some way. We are in need of Catechists, Teacher Aides, and Confirmation Program Team Members.

Would you be willing and able to donate your time and giftedness on most Sunday mornings from late August through May in our Religious Education Program (Grades 1-8), or one Sunday evening a month from September through May to witness to your faith with our Confirmation students? All training and materials will be provided! Volunteer Registration forms are available in all the wall racks at the back of the Church. Please, contact Joanna Bazzinotti or Pam Quinn at the rectory office if you have any questions or suggestions you would wish to give about these programs.

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.

Today's Scripture Readings - Catholic Community Hymnal # 609

♪ Hymns ♪

- Entrance 331 A Living Faith
- Offertory 407 Praise and Thanksgiving
- Communion 330 We Remember
- Recessional 328 We Walk By Faith

PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

June 6-7, 2015

1st Collection: Weekly Offertory

of Envelopes: 210
Envelopes: \$3,367.00
Non-Envelope: \$ 883.00
Total: \$4,250.00

2nd Collection: Seminarians

of Envelopes: 169
Envelopes: \$1,689.00
Non-Envelope: \$ 579.00
Total: \$2,268.00

2nd Collection this weekend: Parish Renewal & Renovation

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

\$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 Ticket Order Form 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 then click on “\$10,000 Cash Bonanza” 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!

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM - MONTH TWO

Your spiritually adopted baby continues to develop its external features and internal organs. The brain is functioning, a heartbeat can be heard on an ultrasonic stethoscope, and at 6 ½ weeks milk-teeth buds are present. At 8 weeks your baby can suck its thumb, and everything it needs to survive at birth is in place. Please, continue to pray for your baby and its parents!

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



Hometown Nazareth

Where Jesus Was a Kid!

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

Daily from 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

St. Margaret School in John J. Nangle Hall

Open to All Children Entering Grades K through 5

Register your child now!

Dear Parents:

This July, allow your child to experience a splendid recreation of the biblical town of Nazareth! Let your child's imagination soar as each day he or she becomes part of history - seeing, hearing, touching, and even tasting what it was like to live in Jesus' hometown! Led by an enthusiastic group of trained teen and adult volunteers, your child will explore authentic marketplace shops, visit Jesus' mother Mary, take part in games, dance to lively songs... making memories they'll cherish forever!

The cost for Vacation Bible School is only \$30.00 per child for all five days! Registration and payment is requested by Monday, June 29th. Enrollment Forms can be found in the wall racks at all entrances of the church, or may be printed from our parish website: www.stmargaretlowell.org.

Questions? Please send Joanna Bazzinotti an email at jbazzinotti@stmargaretlowell.org or call (978) 454-5143 x-18. Your child will thank you for this unique summertime adventure! But you must hurry... Enrollment is limited, and Nazareth is filling up!

QUOTES FROM POPE FRANCIS ON ECUMENISM - PART 1

“The globalized world in which we live demands of us a common witness to the God-given dignity of every human being and the effective promotion of the cultural, social and legal conditions which enable individuals and communities to grow in freedom, and which support the mission of the family as the fundamental building block of society, ensure a sound and integral education for the young, and guarantee for all the untrammelled exercise of religious liberty. In fidelity to the Gospel, and in response to the urgent needs of the present time, we are called to reach out to those who find themselves in the existential peripheries of our societies and to show particular solidarity with the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters: the poor, the disabled, the unborn and the sick, migrants and refugees, the elderly and the young who lack employment.” (10/4/13)

Special Waterpark Raffle

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Winner to be announced on the last day of school (June 19th)

**RAFFLE TICKET FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL AND RECTORY
AND IN THE WALL RACKS AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE CHURCH
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.STMARGARETLOWELL.ORG**

ENTER AS OFTEN AS YOU LIKE. THE MORE ENTRIES, THE MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

QUOTES FROM POPE FRANCIS ON ECUMENISM - PART 2

“Turning to mutual respect in interreligious relations, especially between Christians and Muslims, we are called to respect the religion of the other, its teachings, its symbols, its values. Particular respect is due to religious leaders and to places of worship. How painful are attacks on one or other of these!” (7/10/13)

“Interreligious dialogue is a necessary condition for peace in the world, and so it is a duty for Christians as well as other religious communities. This dialogue is in the first place a conversation about human existence or simply, as the bishops of India have put it, a matter of ‘being open to them, sharing their joys and sorrows.’” (11/24/13)

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ezekiel 17:22-24

2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Mark 4:26-34

The Kingdom of God Is Like Plants That Grow Mysteriously & Wonderfully

Our knowledge of seeds varies greatly, depending on whether we are a farmer, botanist or home gardener. Even if we do not have daily contact with seeds, nearly all of us are aware, to some degree, of the essential role that seeds play in our very existence. Without seed there would be no vegetables, grains, grasses or trees, to name a few of the life forms that come from seeds. We rely on seeds for our very existence. Without seeds, life as we know it would cease to exist. Because of its essential role in life itself, the seed has become a wonderful metaphor for many of the important aspects of our lives.

The image of the seed or shoot has the power to awaken our religious imaginations so that we are then able to probe the depths of the mystery of God working in our lives. Today's first reading and the Gospel passage both use such images to teach us. In the first reading, the prophet Ezekiel uses the shoot of a tree to teach about God's faithfulness to His people and the love He had for them. Ezekiel lived approximately six hundred years before the birth of Jesus. During his time the Jewish people were forced to live in exile as slaves in Babylon.

Because of their oppression, Ezekiel held before his people the hope that they would eventually return to their homeland, Jerusalem, and be freed from captivity. He reminded them of God's faithfulness, using language that would awaken in them a sense of the magnitude of God's promise. He gave them an image of a tree, planted on a mountain, that they could carry with them in their hearts each day of their burdened lives.

Ezekiel painted a picture of the tender shoot taken from the top of the cedar. This shoot would take root on the high and lofty mountain to become the majestic cedar abounding in fruit. Ezekiel reminded his people that God would raise up lowly trees and bring down mighty ones. The Jewish people had no doubt whatsoever as to what Ezekiel meant by that. This meant that God would fulfill His promise, and raise them up, free them and save them!

Today's Gospel reading uses the metaphor of the seed to help us understand the nature of the Kingdom of God. Jesus gives two parables to illustrate the Kingdom of God. The first is a parable about seed that is scattered on the land by a man. As he goes about his life, the seed sprouts and grows, but he has no idea how this happens. This is the way it is with the Kingdom of God. God's word is heard throughout the world. It takes root in our hearts, grows and spreads. We do not know how this happens because this is God's grace at work in our lives.

The second parable is that of the tiny mustard seed that grows many times its size. In fact, it grows so big that birds can find shelter and shade in its branches. The Kingdom of God is like this tiny seed. God plants in each of us many tiny seeds of goodness that we are to bring to fruition by our good works and loving care for others. God nurtures us and helps our seeds to grow with His word and Sacrament. The fruit that these seeds produce, through our efforts and God's grace, are lives brought to salvation. And this is how God's Kingdom on earth continues to be built up.

..Shalom! ..Peace be with you! ..Father Ray

LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE

For those parishioners who are affected by Celiac disease and/or are unable to consume gluten products, St. Margaret Parish is now able to offer low-gluten hosts that comply with the requirements of the Church and the needs of those who cannot tolerate wheat gluten.

The gluten content of these hosts is .01%. Experts from the Center for Celiac Research at the University of Maryland call the host "perfectly safe." However, it is still highly recommended that Celiac sufferers consult with their physician before consuming these hosts. Anyone wishing to receive Holy Communion with a low-gluten host should contact Father Ray at the rectory.

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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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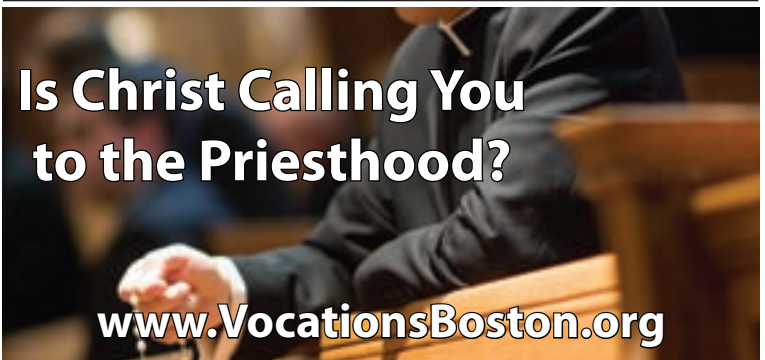
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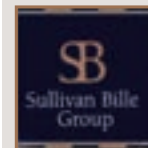
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