

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

St. Margaret School

"It is good for us to be here."

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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 **978-459-0175**. All calls and visits are strictly confidential.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2015

+ Mass Intentions +

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Intention.</u>	<u>Celebrant</u>	
Jul 18	Saturday	4:00pm	Richard T. Ryan	3rd Anniversary	Fr. Ray
Jul 19	Sunday	7:30am	People of St. Margaret Parish	Special Intention	Fr. Ray
		9:00am	Kathleen Diamantopoulos	Memorial	Fr. Ray
		11:00am	Claudette Barnes	Memorial	Fr. Ray
Jul 20	Monday	8:30am	Doris Clermont	Memorial	Fr. Raju
Jul 21	Tuesday	8:30am	Stephen Skaff	Birthday Memorial	Fr. Raju
Jul 22	Wednesday	8:30am	Anne Dietsch	Memorial	Fr. Ray
Jul 23	Thursday	8:30am	John and Helen Stanton	Wedding Anniversary Memorial	Fr. Ray
Jul 24	Friday	8:30am	Leo Carbonneau, Sr.	Memorial	Fr. Ray
Jul 25	Saturday	8:30am	Kay Nastasia	Memorial	Fr. Ray
		4:00pm	John J. Zupkosky	1st Anniversary	Fr. Ray
Jul 26	Sunday	7:30am	Eileen and Brad Smith	35th Wedding Anniversary	Fr. Ray
		9:00am	Robert H. Quirbach	11th Anniversary	Fr. Ray
			Karl J. Quirbach	4th Anniversary	Fr. Ray
		11:00am	George Cormier	Birthday Memorial	Fr. Raju

+ Steeple Bells +

Our Steeple Bells will ring this week in loving memory of William Cole Smith.

+ Sanctuary / Altar Lamps +

Our Sanctuary & Altar Lamps will burn this week:

- . Sanctuary Lamp (Church): In loving memory of James J. Guthrie.
- . Sanctuary Lamp (Chapel): In loving memory of Mary T. Dziegiel.
- . Sacred Heart Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Carole V. Burgoyne.
- . Blessed Mother Lamp (Church): In loving memory of Cecilia M. Abraham.

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

+ In Memoriam +

During the week of July 5, 2015

The Rite of Christian Burial was celebrated for

Joan M. Butler Robert W. Chateaufeuf

Let us remember them and their loved ones in our prayers.

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

Today's Scripture Readings - Catholic Community Hymnal # 624

♪ Hymns ♪

- Entrance 356 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say
- Offertory 344 Shepherd Me, O God
- Communion 448 Now in This Banquet
- Recessional 305 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

July 11-12, 2015

1st Collection: Weekly Offertory

of Envelopes: 205
Envelopes: \$3,093.00
Non-Envelope: \$ 723.00
Total: \$3,816.00

2nd Collection: Parish Renewal & Renovation

of Envelopes: 170
Envelopes: \$1,530.00
Non-Envelope: \$ 475.00
Total: \$2,005.00

2nd Collection this weekend: Monthly Church Maintenance

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

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF ELECTRONIC GIVING

It is now possible to make your weekly, monthly and special contributions to St. Margaret Parish via Electronic Giving. The use of Electronic Giving is convenient and assures that the parish receives your offering in the consistent manner that you intend.

Direct Deposit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account directly into the parish bank account.

Credit & Debit Card Giving is used to advance funds from your credit or debit card into the parish bank account. We accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover.

To take advantage of this online giving feature, visit our website at www.stmargaretlowell.org and click on the St. Margaret Parish Intentional Giving icon.

You can easily set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your donation history. If you prefer, you may come to the rectory and fill out an authorization form, and we will set up an Electronic Giving account for you. Should you have any questions, please, do not hesitate to contact me.
..Fr. Ray



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.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

- I. Caitlin Hanley & William Caswell
- II. Lauren Wakeman & Michael Molloy

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Ephesians 2:13-18 Mark 6:30-34

A Compassionate Jesus Responds to Sheep Without a Shepherd

Few scenes in the Gospel are more moving, more touching than today's Gospel passage. Jesus and his disciples are exhausted. They tried to get away from the clamoring crowd and find some rest. They could not even find time to eat ..since the people kept coming and going in such great numbers. So they went off in a boat to a deserted place. They tried to get away from it all.

But the crowds walked around the Lake of Galilee and were waiting as they landed on the shore. These good people took time out of their busy schedules to search for the Messiah. They walked a good distance under the blazing sun. Motivated by the miracles of Jesus, the people were looking for help and guidance. Who were they? They were the poor, the broken-hearted, the downtrodden from all walks of life, human beings whose hearts were restless until they rested in God. They were looking for something "more."

Jesus saw the crowd and called them sheep without a shepherd. Perhaps today we need a new metaphor, a new image. Perhaps we should say something like, they were sick without a doctor, students without a teacher, a community without a leader. They were people without a model of decent and honorable living. They were looking for something more in life. Jesus did something about their dilemma. As the Gospel tells us: "He began to teach them at great length." At first, he performed no miracles. Rather, he taught them. He gave them a perspective and truth to live by. Later would come the miracle of the five loaves to feed the crowd. He taught them first about the kingdom of God.

Let's reflect on the people in today's Gospel and ask ourselves these questions. Do we take time from our schedules to seek out Jesus, not only at Sunday Mass, but throughout the week? Have we "traveled" a great distance to meet him from whatever or whoever else preoccupies our time? To whom do we belong? Do we belong to the secular world with its fads and fashions, with its materialistic goals and priorities? Do we truly belong to Jesus Christ or are we like sheep without a shepherd?

Also, let us reflect upon the very heart of Jesus Christ as we see him in today's Gospel, how his heart beat with pity and empathy for the crowd. Christ sees the crowd and is moved with compassion because the people are bewildered, dejected, and confused, like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus devoted his life to others. He gave himself to others as a shepherd, sacrificing his own personal life so that he might serve them and rescue them.

In so doing, Jesus represents the compassionate and caring presence of God, teaching and feeding His flock with divine love. Jesus continues to shepherd God's people through time and space by his Church. This is where believers are nourished with the food of his word and the food of his Body and Blood. May we always turn to Jesus Christ, our only true Shepherd, for all that he offers to give us so that we may never feel as though we are sheep without a shepherd.

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

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?

If you have a child entering First Grade this coming school year or you are new to our parish family and would like to enroll your child in any grade of our Religious Education Program, please, pick up a Religious Education Inquiry Form located in the wall racks at all entrances of the church.

Simply complete the form and return it to the rectory office and Joanna Bazzinotti, Coordinator of Faith Formation will be in contact with you. The Faith Formation Office email and phone contact information is also included on the form.

Please, know that as part of the registration process, all new students in the Religious Education Program must have a long form copy of their Baptism record from the church where the sacrament was received.



The story is told of an old man who walks along the beach after the tide has gone out. He picks up stranded starfish and tosses them back into the sea. A young man watches him for a while, and then says, "You cannot hope to save all these starfish. What you are doing means nothing to them." The old man pauses for a moment and then says, "It means something to this one" and continues on his way.

Jesus does not heal the world in one gigantic display of power. He does not preach the Gospel to everyone at one time. He meets people where they are, addressing them in their situation and in their need. He looks into their eyes and offers Himself as well as His message. It is a life-changing encounter for many, and an unsolved mystery for others. To those whose lives and hearts He touched, it made a big difference.

The value of what we do is not determined by the number of people we reach, or the scope of the work we do. Each encounter, each act of kindness, each moment of love means a great deal to the one who receives it. It also has the infinite possibility to change the world, to bring life, and to lead someone to Heaven. The mission of Christ is entrusted to us all and is measured by love, one person at a time.



By Dr. Scott Hahn

One Flock

As the Twelve return from their first missionary journey in today's Gospel, our readings continue to reflect on the authority and mission of the Church.

Jeremiah says in the First Reading that Israel's leaders, through godlessness and fanciful teachings, had mislead and scattered God's people. He promises God will send a shepherd, a king and son of David, to gather the lost sheep and appoint for them new shepherds.

The crowd gathering on the green grass in today's Gospel is the start of the remnant that Jeremiah promised would be brought back to the meadow of Israel. The people seem to sense that Jesus is the Lord, the good shepherd, the king they've been waiting for.

Jesus is moved to pity, seeing them as sheep without a shepherd. This phrase was used by Moses to describe Israel's need for a shepherd to succeed him. And as Moses appointed Joshua, Jesus appointed the Twelve to continue shepherding His people on earth.

Jesus had said there were other sheep who did not belong to Israel's fold, but would hear His voice and be joined to the one flock of the one shepherd. In God's plan, the Church is to seek out first the lost sheep of the house of Israel, and then to bring all nations into the fold.

Paul, too, in today's Epistle, sees the Church as a new creation, in which those nations who were once far off from God are joined as "one new person" with the children of Israel.

As we sing in today's Psalm, through the Church, the Lord, our good shepherd, still leads people to the verdant pastures of the kingdom, to the restful waters of baptism; He still anoints with the oil of confirmation, and spreads the Eucharistic table before all people, filling their cups to overflowing.

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.



Starts this Monday, July 20th

...through Friday, July 24th!

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!

Enrollment Forms & Payment Will Be Accepted Right Up to July 19th!

Dear Parents:

Hurry! Enroll your child TODAY! Don't let your child miss seeing a splendid recreation of the biblical town of Nazareth! Your child's imagination will 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! Our enthusiastic group of trained teen and adult volunteers will guide your child through authentic marketplace shops; they'll visit Jesus' mother Mary, take part in games, and dance to lively songs. These will be memories they'll cherish forever!

The cost for Vacation Bible School is only \$30.00 per child for all five days! Enrollment forms can be found in the wall racks at all entrances of the church, or you may view and print the form from the parish website at www.stmargaretlowell.org. (Look under "Parish News and Announcements.")

Let Joanna Bazzinotti know you're just signed up! Call Joanna at (978) 454-5143 x-18, or send an email to jbazzinotti@stmargaretlowell.org. Your child will thank you for this unique, fun-filled summertime adventure!

See you in Hometown Nazareth!

\$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!

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!**

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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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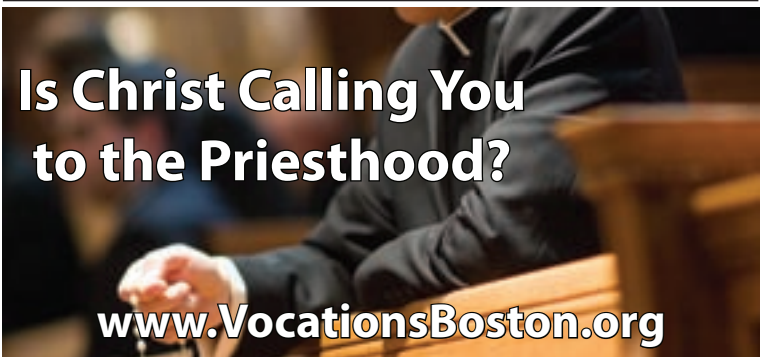
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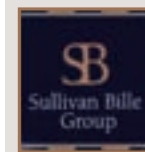


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