St. Margaret’s Parish

203 Roxboro Road
Mattydale, New York 13211
www.stmargchurchmattydale.org

Phone: 315-455-5534
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May 3, 2020

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Food Pantry Coordinator Myra MacDonald 315-454-4515
Food Pantry Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 am - 2:30 pm
Wednesday 9:30 am – 1:00 pm Friday-closed
Music Minister Michael Stephan 315-455-5534
Youth Minister Sheila Stone 315-263-4396
sstone@syrdio.org
Health Ministry Sue Byrns 315-420-2162
Parish Council Margaret DeLeo
deleomargaret@gmail.com
Parish Ministry to the Bereaved Joanne Allen
Prayer requests Janice Difant 315-299-4937

Follow us on social media. Links can be found on our parish website www.stmargchurchmattydale.org
Heart Speaks to Heart

The possible opening up of restaurants and other businesses like hair salons and barbershops is causing great excitement. I really need a haircut; I’m beginning to look like my longhaired young self from the 70’s!

This excitement also raises questions about when we can expect church to open up for Masses. The answer is, we don’t know. When church opens up we will have Mass but there may be restrictions, such as the number of people allowed in church, the method of receiving communion, etc. For the time being we will continue to have Masses celebrated and livestreamed online on Facebook with the recorded video later available on the St. Margaret’s YouTube channel. However, there are activities that are permitted at present.

**Funerals:** Funerals in church are permitted with Mass. Numbers are restricted to immediate family and funeral home and church personnel (around ten people). Please be aware that we will happily offer a Mass for anyone who has died, either a funeral Mass or a Mass in memory of the person. Let us know if you wish to have either a funeral or memorial Mass said for a loved one.

**Confessions:** We continue to have confessions on Saturdays, 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM in church. You need to practice social distancing and confess behind the screen.

**Outdoor prayer services:** We will continue to have these about once a month, our next one is Saturday, May 2nd (see below). We may have an outdoor Mass if the shutdown doesn’t end soon.

Please keep praying on your own. I remember you all at my daily Masses and prayers.

**Rosary and May crowning with Benediction:** Saturday, May 2, 12:00 noon, in the St. Margaret’s Church front parking lot (Rt. 11 side). We will recite the rosary and crown the Blessed Mother as well as have Benediction. The ceremony will be livestreamed on the St. Margaret’s, Mattydale, Facebook page. There is a link to this page on the parish website: www.stmargchurchmattydale.org. Parishioners may drive by the Blessed Sacrament to adore Jesus. Please enter the front parking lot from the Bernard St. side (Big Lots side) and exit on the Kirsch Dr. (Byrne Dairy) Side.

You may park in the front parking lot (overflow parking in the Big Lots parking lot section we use on Sunday). We will bring the Blessed Sacrament before all cars for Benediction.

*You need not exit your car for rosary, adoration or Benediction.* However, if you wish to exit your car for the Benediction, for instance to kneel, please do so on the driver’s side only, this will assure that there is a car between groups of people and appropriate social distancing.

**Masses:** We will continue to have Masses on Facebook live and YouTube every day. You can links to our Facebook page and YouTube channel on our parish webpage: www.stmargchurchmattydale.org. Mass times for the livestreaming are posted on the parish Facebook page. The YouTube page has the Masses available for viewing throughout the day.

**Food Pantry:** Our St. Margaret’s Food Pantry remains open! Monday – Tuesday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM; Wednesday 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM; Thursday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM. Closed Fridays and weekends. Evening hours are suspended. Suitable precautions are being taken. Please call 315-454-4515 if you have food to drop off or you need food. *Cash donations are very helpful* as the Food Bank sells the Food Pantry food and other items that cannot be easily found at grocery stores. Please be generous.

Please remember that God’s mercy in Jesus his Son sustains us and will see us through this difficult time. Pray, deepen your faith, and help anyone you can.

In Christ,
Fr. Rob Hyde

**Discovering Something New**

When one good thing is taken away, another good thing will be given. Jesus promises us on May 3: “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). That means that when we have lost a true blessing, we should expect that another one might come in its place.

When things change in our jobs, in our family, in our city or country, it does us no good to wish things were the way that they used to be.

When our health fails, when someone we love dies, we should not fixate on what we used to be able to do or who was there to do it with us. The way forward is to believe that there are new ways to live, new paths to joy, and new relationships to support us.

When one good is taken away, another good will be given. This is why we must not stand looking up into the sky at what we have lost. If our eyes are always on the sky, we will not be able to see the next good thing that God is giving us here below.

*Father George Smiga (www.buildingontheword.org)*
Our Human Development /Food Pantry:
Thank you for your continuous and generous support of the St. Margaret’s Food pantry. Presently we are in the need for any non-perishable food items. Food items may be dropped off at our food pantry during normal office hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
9:30am - 2:30pm
Wednesday 9:30am - 1:00pm
We are closed on Friday.
God Bless.

Sanctuary Lamp in the church is lit in memory of Gabriele Barbieri
Requested by Kathy Epilito

Please remember in your prayers all our sick, especially: Jeremy Conners, Marion Cook, Richard DeFazio, Frank DeFonzo, Sue DePaola, Benny DiBlasi, Angela DiBlasi, Kerry Dunne, Deborah Graham, Josie Giocondo, Jena Green, Jim Maloney, Scott Miller, Gisela Riehl, Addison Sinclair, Madison Showens, Brian Tracey, Paula Trudell and Matthew Watkins.

Although masses are canceled to the public, Father Hyde will continue to celebrate the Masses and the petitions will be said.

Monday May 4th
William Stanton, Sr. (Sharon Bubniak)

Tuesday May 5th
Chris Lappano (Bobbie, Melissa & Eddie)

Wednesday May 6th
No mass today

Thursday May 7th
Florence & Michael Marnell (family)

Friday May 8th
Carmella Scarsi (family)

Saturday May 9th
3rd Ann. Gabriele Barbieri (wife & family)

Sunday May 10th
For the people
Ann. Regina & John Ogiba (daughter, Gladys)

Church Support
Many thanks for your continuing financial support of our parish.

Regular Collections: $5093.00
Electronic Giving: $3329.00
Misc. Collections: $1044.00
Total Collections: $9466.00

Capital Campaign Corner
There is still time to join in on our St. Margaret Capital Campaign trivia contest. It is so easy to enter. Just keep an eye out for the trivia questions which will be posted in the bulletin, on our parish Facebook page, and our parish website. You may submit your answer to each weeks questions by emailing sstone@syrdio.org (please put Capital Campaign Trivia in the subject line) or by sending in your answers to the rectory.

This weeks question: What are St. Margaret’s School colors?
At the end of the trivia contest the person/family with the highest number of correct answers will win a prize.

Collections (ways to give)

Online giving: at www.stmargchurchmattydale.org. Simply scroll down to the bottom of the webpage and click “donate to St. Margaret’s”.

Drop off: at the parish offices by putting the envelopes through the mail slot.

By mail: If you would like a stamped address envelope sent to you, please call the rectory.

NOTE: If you choose online giving and would like to stop receiving envelopes, please notify the Rectory. Thank you!!

Confessions: Confessions will be available on Saturdays from 3:30–4:30 pm in St. Margaret’s Church. Please wash your hands before coming, or hand wipes are available in the greeting area. Keep distance from others in church. Make your confessions from behind the screen.

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Dear Diocesan Family,

Peace be with you! The Easter season we have entered into celebrates the Resurrection of our Lord and all that this epochal moment in salvation history means for the human family. For 50 days, we will contemplate what this particular moment signifies for you and me. Yet, this sacred season still finds us contending with the Coronavirus pandemic and the national emergency that has ensued. It has challenged each and every one of us during one of the holiest seasons in the Catholic Church. I am grateful to our clergy, religious and laity in finding innovative ways to celebrate the Mass and other significant liturgical celebrations. What I have witnessed throughout this time is a real hunger for the Faith and a hunger for the Eucharist.

As you may suspect, I have received emails and letters requesting me to re-open our churches for the celebration of the Sacraments, particularly the Holy Eucharist. There is nothing more that I want to do! However, in conscience, I cannot do so until I am certain that we have the means to safely worship without further spread of disease and that we are not putting the wider community in harm’s way. This is not a question of faith, but of God-given common sense. It is becoming evident even now that upon allowing for greater interaction where the infection rate has dropped, a second wave of illness has occurred. Therefore, I feel we must err on the side of caution in order to eradicate this deadly virus from our communities and will continue to follow the directives of local authorities.

This being said, in cooperation and consultation with local civil and health authorities, I am looking for ways by which Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Penance may be celebrated publicly and more readily in the near future. As a first step, I am asking our parish priests to look at the seating capacity of their church buildings using the formula for social distancing. I am also seeking to determine where extra Masses may be added at our larger churches where there is sufficient help and where sanitizing would be available between Masses. The Code of Canon Law permits a priest to offer Mass three times on a Sunday, but I must also take into consideration the age and health of our priests. Finally, where pastors may have access to a large parking lot, I am looking to see if an outdoor Mass with participants staying in their cars is feasible as an interim measure if not permitted to gather in our church buildings. Above all, the Eucharist is to be an expression of our unity and so all that we do must foster this unity. No matter what is decided, we must all acknowledge that things will not return fully to the way they were. As such, the dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in place for the foreseeable future because of the vulnerable population and the crowd sizes that will be permitted. I anticipate that once we are able to celebrate public Masses, there will be a seating capacity in our churches which will require the faithful to be flexible about the time they attend Mass. Seating and Communion procedures will have to follow social distancing and safety precautions will have to be used throughout our time together.

Many events in our Diocese will be re-scheduled and some may not happen this year. Again, rules governing public gatherings will dictate the timetable for First Communion and Confirmation celebrations in our parishes. For now, all these ceremonies are postponed until we have a better idea of how we can proceed. It is still my hope that the Ordination of the Transitional Deacons and the Chrism Mass will happen in the latter part of June. We have moved the Ordination to Priesthood to August 15th and are looking to the Fall for the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate.

Unfortunately, there are many things in both parish and diocesan life that remain in limbo and they may do so for a while depending on the status of the pandemic. This can be a great source of frustration for you and me, but I have seen many blessings coming from our trials and tribulations. In fact, although I may want things to return to a normalcy, I don’t want you and I to forget the lessons this pandemic is teaching us in terms of love of God and neighbor. In the First Letter of Peter that is being read on the Sundays of the Easter Season, we hear that: “In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that, though perishable is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed” (1 Pt. 6-7). I am encountering a newfound thirst for our faith lives and that is why I am praying that this time in our locked room will produce a new Pentecost—a new public expression of faith in God and a way of life consistent with it.

Our collective knowledge states that we are going to go through phases in the re-opening of our communities. Although difficult, I ask that you join me in the care and concern of our neighbors and do all we can to help put an end to this virus. Sadly, my own family has joined other families in this nation who have lost loved ones because of this disease. It is my hope that by adhering to the public health protocols, we will have fewer families experiencing a loss.

While we wait for the next phase of re-entry, I do want to encourage you to continue to take advantage of all that is available in our parishes and through our Diocesan TV, Catholic Sun and our Diocesan website. It has been a privilege for me to connect with you in these ways and I have very much felt your presence! And please, do not forget to remember your parishes by mailing your weekly financial support or through online contributions. These ventures are setting the stage for our future endeavors in spreading the Gospel and providing spiritual care to Christ’s faithful in Central New York and beyond.

I assure you of my continued prayers and again express my deep gratitude to all who are caring for us on the front lines of this pandemic. May the Risen Lord give all His grace and peace!

In the Name of Jesus,
Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia
Bishop of Syracuse

May 3, 2020
Prayer for St. Margaret’s Capital Campaign

“If the LORD does not build the house, in vain do its builders labor (Psalm 127)”

Lord as we seek to maintain and repair this, our house of worship, we ask you to bless our efforts.

Give us all hearts open to generous giving, both to our Capital Campaign and other works of charity. My our prayer, praise, and thankful hearts in this parish church make us all your willing servants.

We thank you for this, our beautiful church, and we ask your blessing on all those, living and dead, who helped build this church. May all our work be built up by your guidance and help. AMEN

Novena prayer for an end to the Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son’s throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and Ministry among the outcasts of society in the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Spiritual Communion: You may pray this prayer during communion time while watching Mass on TV or on the internet, whether the Mass is live or recorded, it unites you to Jesus in Holy Communion time. “My Jesus, I believe you are present in the Most Holy sacrament, I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from YOU.” Amen