

Saint Margaret of Antioch Church

PEARL RIVER, NEW YORK

*Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light...*

*Second Sunday
of Advent*

From the Desk of Father Raaser

This Tuesday is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. From December 9-12, 1531 Our Lady appeared to the humble Aztec Indian, St. Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill near Mexico City. Guadalupe in Mexico City is the most frequented Marian shrine in the world. Three times more pilgrims visit Guadalupe than Knock, Fatima, even Lourdes.

I am sure you are familiar with the story of St. Juan Diego, his tilma (cloak) and the appearances of Our Lady. But, there is one thing about the story that has caused confusion to scholars. It is the word itself, *Guadalupe*. The first question that is asked, why would Our Lady in visiting the Indians ask them to invoke her by a title that meant something only to Spaniards? Guadalupe is the name of a famous Marian shrine in eastern Spain.

Did Our Lady actually say Guadalupe when she spoke to the dying uncle of Juan Deigo? Or did she say something that sounded like it? It seems that in the Aztec language they had no equivalent sound for the "g" or "d". The interpreter standing by Juan Bernardino's deathbed translated the title as he thought Our Lady meant it, namely Guadalupe. In the Aztec language, the expression "she who crushes the serpent" sounds very much like Guadalupe, the Aztec word is *Coatlaxopeuh*.

It was only natural for the Spanish interpreter to assume that Our Lady really wanted to be known under her revered title of Guadalupe that was so familiar to every Spaniard. So, according to the mind of the interpreter, Juan Bernardino tried as best he could to say Guadalupe.

But since it was to the Indians that the Virgin appeared, and not to the Spanish, the more likely explanation is that she did not say Guadalupe at all, but rather Coatlaxopeuh, which means one who "crushes the serpent."

Our Lady had appeared to St. Juan Diego on the very spot where the false worship of a snake-figured mother goddess. And the natives had long worshipped Quetzalcoatl, the Stone Serpent, as a deity, indeed the mightiest of all their gods. It was also the place where human sacrifice, especially young people in great numbers was performed. Soon after Our Lady appeared human sacrifice ended in Mexico.

However, with the confusion of the word itself, with all it stands for, would not only bind the two peoples; it would fuse them forever into one people. No other title of Our Lady could have produced this effect. It was a sign of peace among the peoples.

In our world today, we need Our Lady, our Mother of Guadalupe, the patroness of the unborn, Empress of the Americas, and the Queen of Peace. May Our Lady protect all of God's people in the Americas, most particularly the unborn. We celebrated the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of the United States, on the 8th; now let us celebrate the Patroness of all the Americas.

Teach our children well

Lately, I have been noticing a disturbing habit forming among a few of our parents attending Mass with their children. It seems that after the adults have received Holy Communion they make a beeline for the doors of the Church to leave and they are taking their little ones with them. The Mass is not over when you receive Communion, the Mass is over when you are dismissed to go into the world and proclaim what you have received. Once again, I am asking that you not leave Mass early, it can be a sacrilegious offense to God, shows bad manners and gives poor example to our children. We teach them to leave Church after the priest leaves. This is not McDonalds where we come get what we want and then leave when we are finished. Stay and pray, plus I along with Fr. Clarke like to see the children and you after Mass to say hello.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sun., Dec. 10 – Second Sunday of Advent

4:30 PM – William & Nora Brett
 5:45 PM – Frederick A. Spicer
 7:30 AM – For the Parish
 9:00 AM – Bridget & Bernard Fegan
 10:30 AM – Michael Badger, Sr.
 12 Noon – Antoinette & Nicholas Paciello
 5:30 PM – Patrick Corr (5th Anniversary)

Mon., Dec. 11 – Saint Damasus I, Pope

7 AM – Nancy Lovett
 9 AM – Theresa Hopkins

Tues., Dec. 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe

7 AM – Ed Kerner
 9 AM – Catherine Du Plessis

Wed., Dec. 13 – Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

7 AM – Margaret Kasper
 9 AM – Catherine Ann Du Plessis

**Thurs., Dec. 14 – Saint John of the Cross,
 Priest and Doctor of the Church**

7 AM – Patricia Foley
 9 AM – Bridie Halpin

Fri., Dec. 15 – Advent Weekday

7 AM – Patricia & Kevin Keenan
 9 AM – Catherine Du Plessis

Sat., Dec. 16 – Advent Weekday

9 AM – Pat Montgomery
 12 Noon – Jean Orabona

Sun., Dec. 17 – Third Sunday of Advent

4:30 PM – Anne & Joe Reddan
 5:45 PM – Teresa, Thomas & Joseph Cannon
 7:30 AM – Michael Badger
 9:00 AM – James Bredin
 10:30 AM – Kevin Cull
 12 Noon – Mary Dillon
 5:30 PM – For the Parish



**We welcome the following infants into our
 Family of God, who were baptized in November**

Emily Marie Herbst
Clara Rose Nahoum
Grant Alexander Koski
Joseph Patrick Feeney
Olivia Marie Sheeran



WEDDING BANNES

I *Peter Dolan and Kristyn Krieriem*

Daily Readings of the Week

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8
Monday Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Wednesday Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
Friday Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Readings for Next Sunday

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11 Isaiah describes the joy and salvation which will accompany the coming of Christ. He compares the plants which spring from a garden to the justice that will spring from all nations.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul reminds the Thessalonians to constantly ready themselves for Christ's arrival. He tells them to "avoid any semblance of evil" so that they may be found irreproachable when Jesus does arrive.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

John explains that he is only a messenger to the people for one more powerful than himself. John stresses to them that they must make a path for the one so powerful that he is not fit to unfasten the strap of his sandal.

Weekly Collection for Dec. 3rd - \$ 13,353.33

Thank you for all who have contributed to the collections.

A Sincere Thank You from Catholic Charities Community Services for the generous donation of \$ 2000 from the Parishioners of Saint Margaret Parish.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF MASSES

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Dec. 23rd – 4:30 PM
 5:45 PM**

**Dec. 24th – 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, Noon
 (NO 5:30 PM Mass)**

CHRISTMAS EVE

**Dec. 24th
 4:30 PM – Church
 4:30 PM – Gym
 7:00 PM – Church
 10:00 PM - Church**



CHRISTMAS DAY

Dec. 25th – 7:30 AM, 9 AM, 10:30 AM, Noon

**Saint Margaret of Antioch
School News . . .**



* * * * *

**Christmas Trees, Wreaths &
Grave Blankets**



St. Margaret of Antioch School will be selling Christmas Trees, Wreaths and Grave Blankets the weekends of:

December 8th, 9th & 10th.

Friday, 4 – 8 PM

Saturday, 10 AM - 8 PM

Sunday, 9 AM - 6 PM

Trees are freshly cut from a farm upstate and will arrive at the school the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Trees will cost \$60, wreaths will cost \$40 and grave blankets will be \$50. Please stop by one of these weekends and support the school. For questions, please contact Peggy Neil at 914-419-8920 or email pt1run@aol.com.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

* * * * *

**ST. MARGARET CHURCH AND SCHOOL
BLOOD DRIVE**

THIS WEEKEND

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10th

8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

in THE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM



Give the Gift of Life
during the season of giving!

7th & 8th grade students will help recruit blood donors and convey the message of the joy of the season.

**WE WELCOME OUR NEW PARISHIONERS
who registered during the month of October**

Ann Costello-Bergerman

Dana Febbi

Jennifer Gibbons

Christina Hennessy

Oliveros Family

James & Mara Traynor

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS

available at

PARISH CENTER

\$ 5.00 FOR 25 CARDS

Monday through Friday, 9 AM – 4:30 PM



THE GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR PREP



Prayer to Our of Guadalupe O Virgin of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas, grant to our homes the grace of loving and respecting life with the same love with which you conceived in your womb the life of the Son of God. Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Fair Love, protect our families so that they may always be united and bless the upbringing of our children. Amen

Prayer to St Juan Diego Saint Juan Diego, we ask you to accompany the Church on her pilgrimage in the world. Encourage the Bishops, support the priests, and inspire new and holy vocations. Bless all people and families, strengthen spouses in marriages and sustain the efforts of parents to give their children a Christian upbringing. Look with favor upon the pain of those who are suffering in body or in spirit, on those afflicted by poverty, and loneliness. Take to Our Lady, protector of the unborn, all the Holy Innocents. Help us to remember that Human life is sacred. Amen

Christmas Food Drive Our children are asked to donate the following items for the Christmas Food Drive. Your donation may be brought to class the week of December 4th or 11th. The Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal will pick up the donations on Thursday December 14th. Thank you for your generosity.

- K & 1st Grades – 2 Cans of Soup
 - 2nd Grades – 2 Cans of Pineapples
 - 3rd Grades – 2 Cans of Beans (Black, Red, Kidney etc.)
 - 4th Grades – Bag of Rice
 - 5th Grades – 2 Boxes of Instant Potatoes
 - 6th Grades – 2 Cans of Tomatoes/Spaghetti Sauce
(please NO glass jars)
 - 7th Grades – 2 Boxes of Cake or Brownie Mix
 - 8th Grades – 2 Cans of Vegetables (Carrots & Peas)
- \$1.00 if possible to help defray the cost of the Hams for this Christmas Meal

Advent is an important time to prepare our minds and hearts for the coming of Our Savior. Please join the children and families of PREP in their Advent Activity of performing Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

-We will once again support the Angel Project to help build a day care center in Ghana using small miter boxes for loose change.

- A Christmas Food drive will provide a meal for a family in need.

-We will pray decades of the Rosary both in class and out for all of people on our prayer list and for all of the families in Saint Margaret's.

We wish all a fruitful and faithful Advent Season.

2017 Advent Parish Giving Tree Please bring your unwrapped gift by today, Sunday, Dec. 10th.

The gifts should be returned to the Church vestibule. These gifts will be distributed before Christmas to local charities. Thank you for your generosity!



“Share What You Can”

Our next collection takes place

Saturday/Sunday

January 6th/7th

We invite you to **“SHARE WHAT YOU CAN”** by donating *non-perishable foods* at **St. Margaret’s Church**. **Suggested Items:** *boxed cereal, juice boxes, canned vegetables, soup, beans, tuna fish, peanut butter, jelly, instant potatoes. (no glass containers-please)*

Coffee and Conversation with Fr. George. At OLSH Parish Hall (120 Kings Hwy, Tappan) on Mon., a series of videos & conversation on topics relevant to our lives as Catholics in 2017. 1 hour session includes: video by Fr. George Torok discussion & light refreshments. **Dec. 11th - 1:15 PM**, “Recent American Catholic Personalities”. Call the rectory if you have any questions (845-359-1230) All are WELCOME!

Albertus Magnus on the Move! Come see the new AM Take a Tour Thursdays Program provides a great opportunity to learn what sets Albertus apart from all other high schools. Tours will be held: December 14th & Jan. 4th, 11th & 18th Visit www.albertusmagnus.net for more details.



ST. MARGARET PARENTING CENTER - 9:30 - 11 AM
Every Wednesday in Toner Hall (lower Church).
For more information please call:
Erika Fitzpatrick @ 845-826-3843

Saint Margaret Rosary Altar Society

12/11 – 12/17 – Team #3 – M. Clark
12/18 – 12/24 – Team #4 – T. Anselmi
12/25 – 12/31 – Team #5 – A. Byrne
1/01/18 – 1/07/18 – Team #6 – S. Bellocchio
1/08 – 1/14 – Team #1 – G. Possavino
1/15 – 1/21 – Team #2 – M. Young
1/22 – 1/28 – Team #3 – M. Clark
1/29 – 2/04 – Team #4 – T. Anselmi



CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW:

This weekend, **Sunday, December 10th**, Saint Joseph Regional H.S., Montvale, NJ. Annual Christmas Craft Show - 10AM - 4PM. Over 125 juried crafts people & fine artists.

Admission \$2. Children & senior citizens (65+) free.
No Strollers. www.sjrnj.org

Join Venture – 230 NY – 340 Sparkill, NY

This weekend, Sunday, December 10th

A Winter Concert, 3:30 – 5:30 PM

No cost. Featuring **Venture’s Rock Academy Band**. Cookies & juice served. Admission is open to all. Kindly respond to Kbilodeau@campventure.org also . . .

. . . **Sat., Dec. 16th Christmas Concert, 3 – 4 PM**

Featuring the **Rockland County Catholic Choir**.

Open to the public with

freewill donation requested for admission.

For additional info or to register visit

www.venturefoundation.org - click appropriate event link.

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

-Having flowers placed at the altar in their loving memory;

-Having the Sanctuary Lamp burn in a deceased loved-one’s memory;

-Enroll your deceased loved-one in the Parish Holy Souls Society;

-Have an announced or unannounced Mass celebrated in your loved-one’s memory.

BEREAVEMENT H.A.N.D.S. Support group for parents who have lost a child. Founder, Ann Carucci. Meeting: 6:30-8 PM at H.A.N.D.S. head-quarters, 9 Scott Drive, New City, free of charge. Also, one-on-one counseling sessions. Widows & widowers group meet Monday evening at same address as above. Phone: 634-6706, Fax: 634-9199; Email: Hands423@aol.com

Remember St. Margaret’s Parish

in Your Will - Your attorney in conjunction with your accountant can prepare a proper will and make other arrangements for the easy, inexpensive transfer of your estate. 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

BECOME A KNIGHT – Triune Council- K of C 2052 Invitation to practicing Catholic Men who want to join with others that support the practices of the Church, & The Charity, Fraternity, Unity & Patriotism within the Order of Knights. For more information: K. McGovern at 845-735-2444 or C. Nawoichyk – 845-735-3969



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.



PADRE PIO CHILDREN'S ROSARY GROUP

All Children (& parents) Welcome! We explain & recite the rosary prior to the 9 AM Mass & attend Mass together following recitation of the rosary –

1st Saturday each month 8:30 AM at St. Margaret.

Light refreshments will follow in Toner Hall.

For more info call: Maura, Grace or Kathryn McGraw – (SMS students) 845-359-0529 –

Coordinator: Mr. McGraw

CENACLE OF LIFE Wednesdays: 6–6:45PM–Promoted by Fr. Andrew Apostoli, to defeat the culture of death & elevate a culture of life. 2 rosaries & a fast 1x a week (traditional fast: bread & water or fasting from a favorite activity could be done. Implore God's mercy through his mother. Group meets on Wednesdays in Church. All are welcome. Call: Terry at 735-5238 or Margaret at 735-7398 www.CenaclesofLife.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, Monday through Friday).

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

**CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE
“WAY OF ST. PAUL” SUMMER OF 2018**

Join Father Michael McLoughlin, Pastor of St. Columba, Hopewell Junction and Peter's Way Tours on a wonderful Pilgrimage to Greece “In the Footsteps of St. Paul” on July 29 – August 7, 2018. It will make the Letters of St. Paul come alive! Stops include Thessaloniki, Philippi, Veria, Meteora, Athens (including the Parthenon) and Corinth. A three day cruise is included! Stops include Mykonos, Ephesus (Mass at the House of the Virgin Mary), Patmos, Heraklion (Crete) and Santorini.

Please call Father Michael at St. Columba 845-227-8380 or email rectory@stcolumbaonline.org for a Pilgrimage Brochure! Spaces are limited so do not delay.

**CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE
PASSION PLAY AT OBERAMMERGAU 2020**

The world famous Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany is held once every ten years. Tickets and accommodations are always in high demand so we must make reservations now. Father Michael McLoughlin, Pastor of St. Columba, Hopewell Junction, and Peter's Way Tours invites you to join us on a Pilgrimage on July 30 – August 8, 2020. We will visit Vienna (St. Stephen's Cathedral, Schonbrunn Palace & free time), Melk Abbey, Cruise the Danube, Shrine of Mariazell, Salzburg (Shrine of Maria Plain, guided tour of city including St. Peter's Abbey from “Sound of Music” and free time), King Ludwig's Castle, Oberammergau, Dachau and Munich. Please call Father Michael at St. Columba 845-227-8380 or email rectory@stcolumbaonline.org for a Pilgrimage Brochure! Spaces are limited so do not delay.

Saint Margaret's wishes to thank

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for advertising in our Church bulletin.

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33 N. Magnolia St., Pearl River, NY 10965

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

Web: www.saintmargaretparish.com

Parish Office Hours:

Mon. – Fri., 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM – PREP

(Parish Center) – **Phone:** 845-735-5489

SAINT MARGARET SCHOOL **Phone:** 845-735-2855

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:30 PM & 5:45 PM

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

Weekdays: Monday – Friday – 7:00 AM & 9:00 AM
Saturday – 9:00 AM & 12 Noon

Reconciliation: Saturdays 9:30 AM – 10:00 AM
& 11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

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