Christ, the Word of God

"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."
John 2:19

Saint Margaret Parish
Saugus ~ North Revere, Massachusetts
The Third Sunday of Lent
March 19, 2006

Our mission is to foster the spiritual growth of our Parishioners, to reach out to the community, and to spread the Word of God.

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Saint Margaret Parish
Saugus ~ North Revere, Massachusetts
Mailing Address: 431 Lincoln Avenue, Saugus, MA 01906
Phone: 781-233-1040 FAX 781-233-7135 Email stmargaret@parishmail.com
Web site: www.stmargaretssaugus.org
Mass Schedule: Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.
Saturday 4:00 ~ 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00 ~ 3:45 p.m. and by appointment
Father George E. Morin, Pastor
Mid-week Assistance Father Donald Skerry, SVD
Weekend Assistance Father Lawrence Wetterholm

Religious Education

Lord, we want to know you, to love you and to serve you.

Grades 1 to 6 are on Sunday mornings from 8:30 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. at the Belmonte Middle School.

Grades 7 & 8 meets monthly. The next monthly meeting will be Friday, April 7, 2006 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation Year I (usually 9th Graders though not exclusively) (Catholic High School Students are exempt) have class on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The Sacrament of Baptism: The Sacrament of Baptism is *usually* celebrated on the third Sunday each month at 12 Noon. (For the month of April, Baptism will be celebrated on April 23rd.) The Preparation Meeting prior to the Baptism of a child is every other month. Baptism Preparation meetings for parents & godparents are scheduled for: April 6, June 1, August 3, October 5 and December 14, 2006. Held in the Parish Hall, they begin at 7:00 p.m. Please call the Rectory (781-233-1040) to register.

Operation Rice Bowl: The needs of the poor of the world are many. Operation Rice Bowl, sponsored by Catholic Relief Service, is an opportunity to pray, fast and give alms to assist the poor of the world escape poverty and become self-sufficient. Rice Bowls are available in the Church at the beginning of Lent and are to be returned during Holy Week.

The more we depend on God, the more dependable God is.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: On Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. you are invited to come and spend time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Life is hectic and we are all busy. We have the perfect antidote: come and rest and bring all your hearts desires to the Lord present in the Eucharist. ***We urge you and invite you to consider making this part of your Lenten observance.***

"Escape from your everyday business for a while…
Enter you mind's inner chamber.
Shut out everything but God
and say with your whole heart…
'Lord, my God teach me to seek you, and
when I seek you, show yourself to me.'"
Saint Anselm

30 Hour Famine: On Good Friday, April 14 our young people will participate in a 30 hour famine designed to raise awareness of world hunger and what can be done about it. For more information and involvement, call Andrea at 781-233-1040 or email **andreaico3@yahoo.com**

Enthusiastic Cleaners Needed: SMYM (Saint Margaret Youth Ministry) is looking for a few good men/ women who are energetic and like working with teens. The ministry will be doing a 30 Famine on Friday, April 14 and Saturday, April 15. We are looking for some adults to come to the church periodically during the famine to help clean, and give inspiration to the teens during the 30 hours. Help is needed from 10 to 11 p.m. on Friday and 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday. Anyone interested in cleaning or being involved in the Famine in some way please contact Andrea at 781-233-1040 or Elaine Sanford at 781-231-5845.

Mass Intentions

Ralph Pittore	6th Anniversary Mass	4:00 p.m. Saturday	(3/18)
Patsy DeThomas	6th Anniversary Mass	5:30 p.m. Saturday	(3/18)
Michael & Marie Buonopane	9th Anniversary Mass	8:30 a.m. Sunday	(3/19)
Peter Frontiera, Sr.	36th Anniversary Mass	10:00 a.m. Sunday	(3/19)
Walter & Mildred Wormstead	Memorial Mass	4:00 p.m. Saturday	(3/25)
Anna Peacock	1st Anniversary Mass	5:30 p.m. Saturday	(3/25)
John Torsiello	Memorial Mass	8:30 a.m. Sunday	(3/26)
Rev. Victor Okumu	1st Anniversary Mass	10:00 a.m. Sunday	(3/26)

Lent 2006 - Turn away from Sin and be faithful to the Gospel

Daily Mass is at 9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. A most fitting Lenten practice – to hear the Word of God and receive Holy Communion daily during Lent.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays (March 24, 31 & April 7) at 7:00 p.m.

The Lenten Cross: During Lent we focus on the Cross of Jesus through which He has redeemed the world. To our Savior's Cross we bring our own crosses. What are you asking God's help with? What obstacles prevent you from growing in God's grace? Enclosed is a small cross. You are asked to place your cross with its cares, burdens and obstacles to spiritual growth and attach it to our Lenten Cross. **Please write no names**. In this way we can unite our sufferings to those of Christ and we can offer our prayer support to our brothers and sisters in the Parish.

Ecumenical Services: We have a wonderful Ecumenical spirit in our Community. You are invited to participate in these Lenten on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. In addition to the Sunday evening services, you are invited to the Good Friday Service at Breakheart Reservation at 10:30 a.m. and to the Easter Sunrise Service at the Saugus Iron Works at 6:00 a.m. The schedule is as follows:

- March 19th—St John's Episcopal Church
- March 26th—St Margaret Church
- April 2nd—New Hope Assembly of God Church
- April 9th—Community Seder/Passover—St Margaret Church
- April 14th –Breakheart Good Friday Walk, 10:30 am
- April 16th—Easter Sunrise Service at the Saugus Ironworks, 6:00 am

Saint Margaret's is hosting the Ecumenical Service next Sunday, March 26. There are two requests. First, that we have a very good turn out of Saint Margaret's Parishioners, and second, would about 12 people be able to bring baked goods for the collation that follows the service? We look forward to welcoming our brothers and sisters for other faith communities to our Church.

Observing Lent in our Catholic Tradition

Prayer: Jesus took time to pray and so must we. He spent forty days in prayer to be strengthened in his struggle against evil. So must we! Prayer can be as simple as talking to God at bedtime. Formal prayers (Our Father, Hail Mary, the Rosary, etc.) help us find words. The Mass is the perfect prayer of Jesus: his final prayer to the Father on Holy Thursday.

Fast: Jesus fasted in the desert to deepen his dependence on God and to become less dependent on pleasures. We depend a lot on things we like to make us happy. Fasting helps us to become more dependent on God and to hunger for his Word more than for bread. Catholics (those from 18 years to 60 years of age) are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are fast days. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed. Catholics (beginning at age 14) are called to abstinence on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. On these days, meat may not be used at all.

Almsgiving: Jesus always reached out to those in need. He praised the widow who gave her all in the temple. We need to become less attached to money and goods and more generous with those in need. Lent is time for making sacrifices for others. Operation Rice Bowl is an opportunity for almsgiving.

Easter Flowers: If you wish to make a contribution in memory of a loved one toward our Easter plants and decorations, a special envelope is available at Church doors. Names will be in the Easter Sunday bulletin—deadline is Palm Sunday April 9, 2006.

Community Seder: St. Margaret's is hosting the Community Seder Supper on Sunday, April 9 at 6:00 p.m. A Seder is a religious memorial meal that Jewish people celebrate each year in remembrance of their deliverance from slavery in Egypt. Members of our local Synagogue will lead this service. We hope that our Parish will be well represented. The cost of the meal is $7.00.

The DaVinci Code: Our joint Parish Adventure during this Lenten Season will be different from past years! On March 27, 28, 29 & 30 (Monday through Thursday) at Blessed Sacrament Church beginning at 7:00 p.m. each evening, Mr. Bernie Swain will help us to sort out fact from fiction from the best selling novel and soon to be released motion picture, The DaVinci Code. We hope that you will come and bring along friends, family members and neighbors in what we are sure will be four very informative sessions. Here are the questions the program will be built around.

Question #1: What's the Story? Did Jesus marry Mary Magdalene? Did she bear their child? After Jesus' ascension, did she flee to southern France, where her descendents merged with the royal Merovingian dynasty? Does their royal bloodline continue today among families in France, England, or Scotland who are descendants of Jesus?

Question #2: Should We Believe this Story?

Question #3: So How Do We Tell Fact from Fiction?

Question #4: Was Jesus Married?

Question #5 Have We Been Deceived about Mary Magdalene?

Question #6: Did the church destroy Gospels?

Question #7: Did the Church systematically suppress "the Sacred Feminine"?

Question #8 Have secret societies preserved secret documents about Christianity's secret, lost history?

Question #9: What about Leonard Da Vinci? Did he leave clues to the "Lost History" in his art?

Question #10: Is the whole story baseless?

Question #11: In the end, does any of this matter?

Question #12: Why has this book made such a stir?

The Grand Annual Collection: 166 Parishioners have donated $27,065.00 to this year's Grand Annual. Our thanks to you for your generosity. A reminder to others will be sent shortly. We need everyone to lend a hand.

Second Collection

Catholic Relief Services March 25 & 26
Parish Monthly Collection April 8 & 9

The Offertory Collection last Sunday was $2,417.00 and the Parish Monthly was $2,052.00. Thank you for your kindness and generosity to the Parish.

Penny Sale: Yes, we are having a Penny Sale this year on Saturday, April 22 beginning at 7:00 p.m. We are grateful to Melita Davis and her daughters, Amara and Deanna for saying 'yes' to chairing the Penny Sale once again this year. All we need now is your help. We are looking for 200 **new items** with a value of $5.00 or more. Leave your gift items at the rectory front entry or bring them to Church with you when you come. Remember: no alcohol or tobacco products. Thank you and keep the date April 22 free so that you can come to the Penny Sale!

"**ROMANCE WITHOUT REGRET**" a presentation for grades 7-12 and/or parents with Jason Evert from Catholic Answers, San Diego will be at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Marblehead on Thursday, March 30. A bus will leave Saint Margaret's at 6:15 p.m. and return at 9:15 p.m. Cost is $10.00 per family. See what people have to say: "I play soccer and football. What you said today has changed my entire life. I have heard many speakers talk about sex and all, but never has it moved me and affected me so much.. My heart is melted with the thoughts and feelings you have brought to mind. Many of the things you spoke of I have thought about, but never were they brought forth with such amazing explanations. I thank you with all my heart for what you have done for me." Steve (Portland, OR)

"Jason captured the attention of the student body and genuinely touched their hearts. His combination of humor, emotion and fact kept the students attentive and listening. As an educator and principal, I have had the opportunity to listen to many presentations and speakers. I can not recall any other that was so well prepared, organized, and geared to the level of the students as this one!" John A. Wray, Principal, Bishop Joseph V. Sullivan High School. (Baton Rouge, LA)

Kevin Baumann: We continue to keep the "bucket" with fliers about Kevin in the vestibule of the Church. Whatever you can do is greatly appreciated. You may deposit your offering directly into the Kevin Baumann Medical Fund, account # 25005, tax number 04-692-9285, at the Saugus Federal Credit Union. Please pray for Kevin and his family.

Is God calling you? The Church needs you to serve the spiritual needs of God's people. Is God calling you to serve as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? If He is, call the Vocation Office of the Archdiocese (617-746-5949).

ST. PAUL CENTER FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY *By Dr. Scott Hahn*

Spiritual Sacrifices

Jesus does not come to destroy the temple, but to fulfill it (see Matthew 5:17) - to reveal its true purpose in God's saving plan. He is the Lord the prophets said would come - to purify the temple, banish the merchants, and make it a house of prayer for all peoples (see Zechariah 14:21; Malachi 3:1-5; Isaiah 56:7). The God who made the heavens and the earth, who brought Israel out of slavery, does not dwell in sanctuaries made by human hands (see Acts 7:48; 2 Samuel 7:5). Nor does He need offerings of oxen, sheep, or doves (see Psalm 50:7-13). Notice in today's First Reading that God did not originally command animal sacrifices - only that Israel heed His commandments (see Jeremiah 7:21-23; Amos 5:25). His law was a gift of divine wisdom, as we sing in today's Psalm. It was a law of love (see Matthew 22:36-40), perfectly expressed in Christ's self-offering on the cross (see John 15:13) This is the "sign" Jesus offers in the Gospel today - the sign that caused Jewish leaders to stumble, as Paul tells us in the Epistle. Jesus' body - destroyed on the cross and raised up three days later - is the new and true sanctuary. From the temple of His body, rivers of living water flow, the Spirit of grace that makes each of us a temple (see 1 Corinthians 3:16), and together builds us into a dwelling place of God (see Ephesians 2:22). In the Eucharist we participate in His offering of His body and blood. This is the worship in Spirit and in truth that the Father desires (see John 4:23-24). We are to offer praise as our sacrifice (see Psalm 50:14,23). This means imitating Christ - offering our bodies - all our intentions and actions in every circumstance, for the love of God and the love of others (see Hebrews 10:5-7; Romans 12:1; 1 Peter 2:5).

A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
www.SalvationHistory.com

Jessie Recupero: On the first Sunday of Lent at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston Archbishop Sean welcomed many of the "elect" from throughout the Archdiocese - about 600 people. These are people who seek Baptism in the Catholic Church or if baptism seek full communion in the Catholic Church. One of these elect is our own Jessie Recupero. Jessie's faith is an inspiration and a blessing for our Parish. As a Catechumen of the Catholic Church she now awaits Baptism in our Church at the Easter Vigil this year. We keep Jessie in our prayers during these final weeks of preparation.

Faith is not trying to believe something regardless of the evidence; faith is daring to do something regardless of opinions.

The Parish Pastoral Council: will meet this Thursday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Last year the PPC was involved in preparing a Vision Statement which was sent to all registered families of the Parish. This Vision Statement speaks of who we are as a Parish and what our vision and goals are for the next five years. At this week's meeting we will begin the task of creating a plan to implement this vision. The PPC membership is: Corinne Riley, Co-Chair, Tom Swanson, Rosemary Reed, Bob Doucette, Pauline Kimball, Kim Primo, Cindy Liuzza, Steve Castinetti, Joanne Eaves, Dawn Hunt, Greg Nickolas and Nate Marsella.

MASSTIMES www.masstimes.com

Mass times: Away from home? Go to www.masstimes.org for information about Mass schedules, maps and directions wherever you may be. Before you leave home plan where you might worship while away. I love hearing where our people go on vacation and receiving bulletins from churches they visit. Different ideas and practices are good to hear about.

Saint Margaret Parish Choir: is going to Italy in 2007 from September 24 to October 4. Cities they will visit are Venice, Florence, San Gimignano, Assisi and Rome. While in Italy they will be singing at an evening Mass at Saint Mark's Basilica in Venice, at Mass at the Basilica of Saint Francis in Assisi, Sunday Mass at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, a concert at the Church of Saint Ignatius in Rome and at the Wednesday Papal Audience. The specific details of the trip will be given as they become available. For now however, this is the time for new members to join the choir. In addition to choir members, others are encouraged to join us for what will certainly be a memorable trip. Come along for the fun and enjoyment!

Stewardship: "You shall not carve idols from yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth." (Exodus 20:4) This week, question whether you have idols in different shapes. An idol can be in the shape of money, or sports, or fashion, or travel, or anything else that we value more than God and His Word to us.

Lent: Pray Fast Give Alms