

SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Sacred Heart Church
543 Main Street
Margaretville,
NY 12455*



*St. Anne's Mission Church
375 Main Street,
Andes,
NY 13731*



DECEMBER 18TH, 2022 – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RECTORY AND PARISH OFFICE

38 Academy Street
Margaretville, NY 12455
(845) 586 – 2665

Office Hours:

Tuesday-1:00pm – 4:00pm
Thursday-9:15am – 3:00pm

MAIL & DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS

Letters/Envelopes: PO BOX 909, Margaretville, NY 12455
Packages/Boxes: 38 Academy Street, Margaretville, NY 12455

Visit us: www.sacredheartmargaretville.org
Parish email: shcatholicchurch@icloud.com

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Registration: Parents are asked to register at the Parish Office at least two months before the date of Baptism.
Ceremony: Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 2:00 pm.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements for weddings should be made at least six months prior to the marriage.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please call Fr. Paul - (838) 910-9889

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Margaretville & Andes before Sunday Mass
Margaretville also before weekday Masses
or by appointment

PRIEST: Rev. Paul J Mijas - (838) 910-9889

OPERATIONS MANAGER: John Russell - (516) 455-4959

SECRETARY: Usha Tagliaferro - (845) 586-2665

TRUSTEES:

Doris Warner - (845) 586 - 2484

Todd Pascarella

FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR:

Joanne McLaughlin - (607) 437-4923

MUSIC MINISTRY: Richard Tucker

PARISH COUNCIL:

Ellie Aulino - (845) 586-4028

Bunnie Muzzonigro - (845) 676-3586

Francisco Duque - (845) 586-6248

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Joseph Grieco - (845) 676-4640

Rita Peterson - (607) 326-4019

Lisa Friscia

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:

Sacred Heart Church - Bob Barrack

St. Anne's Church - Richard Powers - (845) 676-4055

LITURGICAL COMMITTEE:

Rita Peterson - (607) 326-4019

Joseph Grieco - (845) 676-4640

HOSPITALITY: Dick & Mary Colfer - (845) 586-3049

OUTREACH: Frank Canavan - (845) 586-3992

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses:

Sunday 10:00am – Sacred Heart Church

Sunday 12:00pm – St. Anne's Mission Church

Weekday Masses at Sacred Heart Chapel:

Tuesday 12:00pm & Wednesday 9:00am

*First Saturday 9:00am – Sacred Heart Church

(Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary followed by Mass)

SACRED HEART PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

The people of Sacred Heart Parish are members of The Body of Christ. We accept our baptismal call: to provide a warm and welcoming place for all to freely worship, to minister to all, especially the ill and the needy, to offer a program of faith formation for all ages of our ethnically diverse parish community and to witness the Gospel by the way we live our daily lives.

MASS INTENTIONS IN MARGARETVILLE

Sunday, Dec. 18 + Norma Kittle
by Family

Tuesday, Dec. 20 No intention

Wed. Dec. 21 No intention

Christmas, Dec. 25 Patricia Rohde
by Irene Jordan

MASS INTENTIONS IN ANDES, 12 PM

Sunday, Dec. 18 No intention

Christmas, Dec. 25 No intention

E. M. SCHEDULE

Date	Margaretville
Dec. 18	Laura Sanford
Dec. 25	Rita Peterson

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Date	Margaretville	Andes
Dec. 18	Todd Pascarella	Marianne Gohrig
Dec. 25	Bill Thompson	Joe Grieco

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEER

Date	Margaretville
Dec. 18	Francisco & Maria Duque
Dec. 25	Mary Mitchell

STEWARDSHIP FOR LAST SUNDAY

Sacred Heart Church	\$ 921.00
Saint Anne's Church	\$ 230.00
PARISH OFFERING	\$ 1,151.00

"One thing I ask of you: Never be afraid of giving. There is a deep joy in giving, since what we receive is much more than what we give." St. Mother Teresa

Please remember our church in your Last Will.

THANKS FOR GIVING!

DIOCESAN APPEAL 2022-23

www.thediocesanappeal.org/

Our goal: \$14,330.00

Our Parish ID: 1090DA



Classes are held on Sundays after 10 am Mass – for more information call Joanne McLaughlin (607) 437-4923

GABRIEL PROJECT

is a pro-life and parish-based program, offering assistance to pregnant women experiencing difficult circumstances. It is "confidential and compassionate" and takes a Good Samaritan approach to helping pregnant women in need. For more info go to:

<https://perpetualifecare.org/GABRIEL-PROJECT-PHONE-NUMBER>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

CURTIS OLSEN

If you want to request prayers for the sick, contact the Rectory, so their names could be added to the list for the month. Thank you.

OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES:

Our Food Pantries are grateful for your generous giving of non-perishable food. There is a great need for food in our area.

Margaretville: 4283 State Highway 28, Suite 3
Hours: Monday 10am to noon; Friday 4 – 6 pm

Family Table: Catskill Mtn. Christian Center, 629 Main Street in Margaretville. Hours: 10 am to 4 pm Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Saturday and Wednesday 10 am to 6 pm

Andes: Andes Train Depot, Depot Road
Hours: Fridays 3 pm to 7 pm

Please leave your gifts of non-perishable food at the entrance to our churches. They will be gratefully distributed to our Food Pantries in Margaretville and Andes.

Second collection this Sunday, Dec. 18 will be picked up for Christmas Flowers.



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES **Saturday, December 24th**

4:30 pm - Stamford
12:00 Midnight Mass – Stamford

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES **Sunday, December 25th**

10 am – Margaretville
12 pm - Andes



WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE

Dear Parishioners,

During the past six months I have been very concerned about our parish's diminished attendance at weekend Masses. Perhaps you have observed the same. I believe it is the most pressing problem and greatest challenge we have at Sacred Heart Church. If you are reading this letter in the bulletin, you are most likely a regular participant in weekend Mass. Your prayerful presence, support, and participation is helpful to all those with whom you regularly pray at Sunday Mass. I believe we draw strength and encouragement from each other when we come together to pray. I hope that you share this concern with me about diminished attendance and I hope you experience encouragement and strength when you attend Mass with family members, neighbors and other parishioners with whom you share our faith. I have thought for a long time about how to address this problem. I feel I have this responsibility as your administrator. I have had many conversations with parishioners, family members, and other clergy. I do not want to be an alarmist, yet we cannot ignore this situation. We count the Mass attendance a few times a year and this count confirms that Mass attendance has been in steady decline for many years now and this past six months the trend continues. The reasons might be many. The problems and the consequences are many. One consequence, among others, is that the diminished Mass attendance will in time erode the vitality of parish life. We are blessed with some very generous parishioners but our finances remain not healthy despite fewer contributors to the Sunday collection. If the trend of financial contribution to the collection basket will be declining as it is for some time then we need to think very seriously how to keep our church open. In time,

I think fewer people attending weekend Mass will have an effect on our parish ministries and activities. Know that with the parish, I hope we can help others return to a more active participation in weekend Mass. Part of my quandary has been how and when to address this most significant concern. Some time ago Pope Francis spoke on "Why attend Mass on Sunday?" So some might question raising this issue on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, so close to Christmas. The following are words from Pope Francis: "Resuming the journey of our catechesis on Mass, today we ask ourselves: why attend Mass on weekend? The Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is at the center of the life of the Church. We Christians go to Mass on Sundays to meet the Risen Lord, or rather to let ourselves be met by Him, to listen to His word, to be nourished at His table, and thus become Church, or rather His mystical living Body in the world today. From the first hour the disciples of Jesus understood Him; they celebrated the Eucharistic encounter with the Lord on the day of the week that the Jews called 'the first of the week' and the Romans 'day of the sun', because on that day Jesus had risen from the dead and appeared to the disciples, talking to them, eating with them, giving them the Holy Spirit. The great outpouring of the Spirit at Pentecost also took place on Sunday, the fiftieth day after the resurrection of Jesus. For these reasons, Sunday is a holy day for us, sanctified by the Eucharistic celebration, the living presence of the Lord among us and for us. It is the Mass, therefore, that makes Christian Sunday. What kind of Sunday, for a Christian, is one in which there is no meeting with the Lord? Some secular societies have lost the Christian meaning of Sunday illuminated by the Eucharist. This is a shame! In these contexts it is necessary to revive this awareness, in order to recover the meaning of the celebration, the meaning of joy, of the parish community, of solidarity, of rest that restores the soul and the body. The Eucharist is the teacher of all these values, Sunday after Sunday. Without Christ we are condemned to be dominated by the fatigue of everyday life, with its worries, and by the fear of tomorrow. The Sunday meeting with the Lord gives us the strength to live today with trust and courage and to move forward with hope. That is why we Christians go to encounter the Lord on Sunday, in the Eucharistic celebration. The Eucharistic communion with Jesus, Risen and Living in eternity, is a foretaste of Sunday without sunset, when there will be no more effort, nor pain, nor grief, nor tears, but only the joy of living fully and forever with the Lord. The Sunday Mass also speaks to us of this blessed repose, teaching us, as the week flows, to entrust ourselves to the hands of the Father who is in heaven. What can we answer to those who say there is no need to go to Mass, not even on a Sunday, why is it important to live well, to love others? It is true that the quality of Christian life is measured by the capacity to love, as Jesus said: 'By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another,' but how can we practice the Gospel without drawing the necessary energy to do so, one Sunday after another, from the inexhaustible source of the Eucharist? We do not go to Mass to give something to God, but to receive from Him what we really need".

In conclusion, why to go to Mass on weekends? It is not enough to answer that it is a precept of the Church; this helps to preserve its value, but it is not enough alone. We Christians need to participate in Sunday Mass because only with the grace of Jesus, with His living presence in us and among us, can we put into practice His commandment, and thus be His credible witnesses.

Fr. Paul

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