



# ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH

20 Idlewood Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario L8T 1V9

☎ 905-388-2200

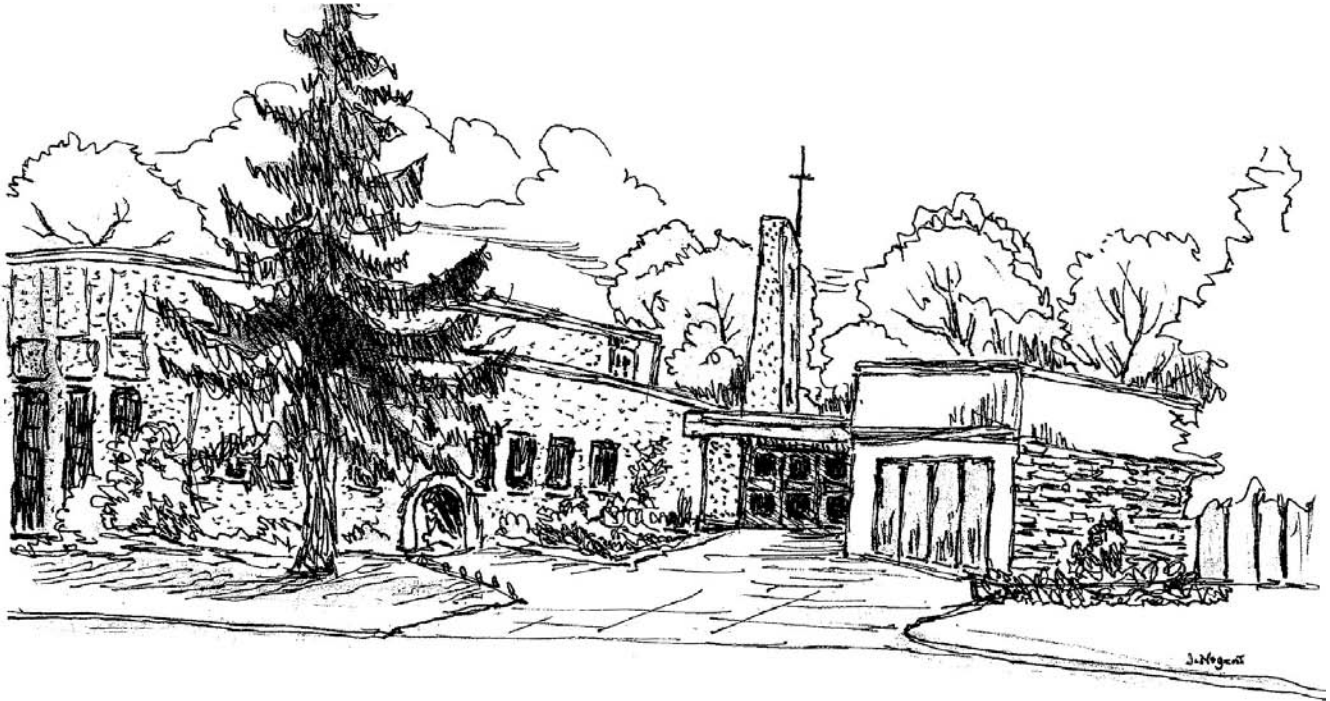
☎ 905-388-8416



stmargaretmaryparish.ca



office@stmargaretmaryparish.ca



**Very Rev. Msgr. Cornelius O'Mahony**, Pastor

**Rev. Mr. Rene Marechal**, Deacon

**Divine Dimaranan**, Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper

**Mary Luciani**, Music Director

**Buddy Guevarra**, Custodian

## Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, 1:00-5:00 pm.

July & August: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, 1:00-4:00 pm.

## Weekday Mass:

Tuesday: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 am

## Sunday Mass:

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Available Saturday 4:00-4:30 pm or  
by appointment.

## Parish Devotions:

Eucharistic Adoration: Mon-Fri: 8:00 am-8:00 pm.

Sat: Benediction 8:45 am.

**Baptism:** Celebrated by appointment only.

Participation in a Baptismal Preparation Session is required. Please contact the parish office (905-388-2200) well in advance.

**Marriage:** Parishioners who are planning to marry should contact the parish office at least six months before the proposed wedding date.

**Visits to the Sick:** If you or someone you know is in need of a visit in home or hospital please call the parish office.

**New to the Parish:** Please register by completing a registration form (available online and in the Narthex). We also ask that you notify the office of any change in address or telephone number.

## Schools:

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| St. Margaret Mary             | 905-383-8122 |
| St. Kateri Tekakwitha         | 905-385-8212 |
| St. Anthony Daniel            | 905-389-5186 |
| St. Jean De Brebeuf Secondary | 905-388-7020 |

# TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 REFLECT ON THE GOSPEL

Reflect upon next Sunday's Gospel throughout the week.  
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time is:  
**Matthew 21.28-32**

## OUR GIFTS TO GOD

September 12-13, 2026

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Regular Sunday Env. | \$ 5,284.00 |
| Loose Collection    | \$ 539.00   |
| Building Fund       | \$ 35.00    |
| STMM Outreach       | \$ 305.00   |

*We thank you for your continued, dedicated and regular financial support for St. Margaret Mary Parish.*

## DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Copies of the May Diocesan Prayer Calendar are available in the Narthex. They will now be made available every two months for you to take home and place in a prominent place.

## PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING

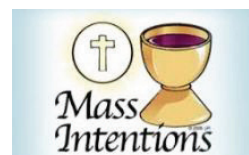
If you would like to support St. Margaret Mary Parish through **Pre-Authorized Giving (PAG)**, we warmly invite you to enroll in this convenient program. With PAG, your weekly or monthly offertory donation is automatically withdrawn from your bank account, ensuring your regular support of the parish even when you are away or unable to attend Mass. You may choose the amount and frequency of your donation, and you can change or cancel your contribution at any time by contacting the parish office.

Registration forms are available at the parish office.

If you have any questions or would like assistance with enrolling, please contact the parish office during regular office hours by calling 905-388-2200 or email at [office@stmargaretmaryparish.ca](mailto:office@stmargaretmaryparish.ca). Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish community.

**PLEASE REMEMBER: Every Tuesday, we have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar from noon until Benediction at 6.45 (before Mass at 7.00 pm.) and every first Friday after the 9.00 am. Mass until noon.**

**The family room** is now open for parents with young children attending Mass and for parents (or grandparents) who would like to make a visit to the church during the week with children. The room has been designed as a welcoming and comfortable space for children and care has been taken to provide resources, especially for children with special needs. It is important to remember, however, that children are always welcome into the heart of the community when we gather for Mass. When a case of the wiggles comes on and distraction is needed, please do not hesitate to move to the room, this will not distract us. To our adult parishioners, please remember that this is space for children and their parents, especially at Mass on Sunday morning.



7:00pm on Tuesday  
9:00am Wednesday to Friday

|                            |                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tues., Sept. 22<br>7:00 pm | †Don Fernandez<br>†Rolando Tanglao<br>†Sharon Fotheringham<br>†Steve Estrabillo<br>†Don Wilde                                         |
| Wed., Sept. 23             | †Flora Richardson                                                                                                                     |
| Thurs., Sept. 24           | Nello Di Carlo                                                                                                                        |
| Fri., Sept. 25             | †Flora Richardson                                                                                                                     |
| Sat., Sept. 26<br>5:00 pm  | Intentions of Uly & Josie Bistoyong<br>†Pacita Tumbokon<br>†Rolando Tanglao<br>†Albina & Apolonio Sandoval Sr.<br>†Lourdes Villaranda |

**“Be what you see; receive what you are.”** There is a moment in every celebration of the Eucharist that can pass almost unnoticed. We come forward, extend our hands, open our mouths, and hear the words, **“The Body of Christ.”** We answer, **“Amen.”** It is such a small word, yet Saint Augustine reminds us that it may be one of the most demanding words we ever speak.

Preaching to newly baptized Christians about the Eucharist, Augustine told them that what they saw upon the altar was also their own mystery. They were the Body of Christ receiving the Body of Christ. When they heard the words “The Body of Christ” and answered “Amen,” they were not only expressing belief in Christ’s presence in the Eucharist. They were also saying *Amen* to who they themselves were becoming. **“Be a member of Christ’s body, then, so that your ‘Amen’ may ring true.”**

That thought invites us to reflect upon something we can easily neglect: **how do we dispose ourselves to celebrate the Eucharist?**

We can arrive at Mass carrying so much with us: the hurry of getting there, conversations unfinished, anxieties about the week ahead, disappointments, responsibilities, perhaps even resentment or anger. Sometimes we simply arrive out of habit. Our bodies are present while our minds and hearts are somewhere else.

The answer is not that we must somehow make ourselves perfectly prayerful before Mass begins. None of us can do that. We come as we are. But perhaps we can come with greater **intentionality**, allowing ourselves to recognize where we are and what we are about to do.

The poet **Madeleine L’Engle** expresses something of this beautifully in her poem **At Communion**. She begins with the ordinary physical postures of prayer, kneeling, standing, sitting and realizes that in the Eucharist something

extraordinary is happening. Time touches eternity. The mystery of the Incarnation, the Cross and Resurrection becomes present here and now. Her poem eventually becomes a startling prayer: **"Break time, break space, O wild and lovely power. Break me..."**

Perhaps that is the disposition Augustine is also asking of us. We do not come to the Eucharist simply to observe something sacred. We come willing to be **broken open and changed**.

The bread is taken, blessed, broken and given. So was the life of Jesus. And when we receive that broken Bread, we place ourselves within that same pattern. We are asking Christ to break through whatever prevents us from becoming what we receive: our selfishness, prejudices, stubbornness, fear, indifference, our reluctance to forgive.

That makes preparation for Mass something much deeper than arriving a few minutes early, although even those few quiet minutes can be a wonderful beginning. Preparation means asking: *What am I bringing to the altar today? What needs healing? For whom am I grateful? Whom am I finding difficult to love? What am I asking God to change in me?* Then the procession to Communion itself becomes a prayer.

We do not walk forward because we have everything together. We walk with a community of imperfect people who hunger for Christ. We stretch out empty hands because we cannot give ourselves what we most deeply need. And then comes that extraordinary exchange: **"The Body of Christ."** **"Amen."** Augustine asks us to understand what we are saying. L'Engle asks us to allow the mystery to break us open.

Perhaps before our next celebration of the Eucharist we might simply become quiet enough to pray:

***Lord, help me to know what I am about to receive.  
Help me to recognize who I am becoming.  
Break open whatever keeps me from loving.  
And when I say Amen, may my life say Amen as well.***

For, as Augustine so beautifully reminds us: **"Be what you see; receive what you are."**

### **COLLECTION FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CHURCH IN CANADA**

The Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada will take place next weekend. When you give, your offering begins in our parish but reaches far beyond it. It helps support the mission of our diocese and joins the gifts of Catholics across the country in supporting the shared work of the Bishops of Canada. Together, this support makes possible work that no single diocese or eparchy could accomplish alone such as providing catechetical resources for families, young people and parishes, to promoting respect for human life and the dignity of every human person and accompanying migrants and refugees. Your gift helps strengthen the Church here at home and supports its mission across Canada. Please give prayerfully and generously next weekend.

### **TRIUMPH OF THE HEART @ MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HAMLTON**

Join us for a special **Movie Night** featuring *Triumph of the Heart*, a powerful film about the life and faith of **St. Maximilian Kolbe**.

 **Saturday, September 26**

 **1:00 p.m.**

 **Most Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall**

 **Admission: \$10**

 **Run time: approximately 2 hours**

Following the movie, there will be an **optional discussion** for those who would like to stay and reflect together on the film, St. Maximilian Kolbe's witness of faith, and its message for us today. For more information, please contact Ashley Neto at [ashleyneto@gmail.com](mailto:ashleyneto@gmail.com) **All are welcome!**



### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PORKETTA SALE**

The **Knights of Columbus** will be selling **Porketta on a Bun** after all Masses on **September 26 & 27**. Prices are **\$6.00 for 1** or **\$15.00 for 3**. Pre-order sheets are available in the **narthex of the church**. **The last day to place your order is Tuesday, September 22**. Thank you for your continued support!

### **PRO-LIFE YOUTH EVENT**

Hamilton Right to Life is excited to offer its first, quarterly youth event. Come join us at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 934 Hwy #8 in Stoney Creek on **Friday, September 25 from 7 pm – 9 pm**. We will provide a safe venue for like-minded students 15 – 22 years old to discuss their pro-life values. There will be a movie, discussion, socializing and, of course, PIZZAZZ. Register at [hamiltonrighttolife.org](http://hamiltonrighttolife.org).



### **HANDICRAFT HOLY LAND CHRISTIANS**



On the weekend of **September 26–27**, we welcome a special guest representing **Handicraft Holy Land Christians**, who will briefly speak after each Mass about the challenges facing Christians in the Holy Land.

They will also have **hand-carved olive wood religious art**, made by Christian families in Bethlehem, available for purchase after every Mass. Proceeds provide much-needed employment and support for Christian families in Bethlehem. Your **prayers and support** are greatly appreciated.

**Cash, debit, credit cards, and cheques** will be accepted. Visit [www.HolylandChristians.ca](http://www.HolylandChristians.ca) to learn more and support their mission. **May God bless you for your generosity, help, and prayers.**

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