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FATHER JEFFREY J. RIMELSPACH, PASTOR

Deacon Andy Naporano, anaporano@columbuscatholic.org • Deacon Tom Rowlands, trowlands@columbuscatholic.org

Preschool at St. Margaret of Cortona Church

Director and Teacher: Andrea Boyd – 614-274-1922 – aboyn@cdeeducation.org

Parish Secretary	Barbara Maiberger	614-279-1690
Bookkeeper:	Patricia O'Rourke-Steiner	614-279-1690
Marketing:	Ben Romaker	937-638-5937
Parish Council:	James Duckro	614-529-4182
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.):		614-279-1690
Youth Group:	Marty Vamos	614-527-1196
	Brian Brown	614-308-5697
Men's Club:	Paul Goodberlet	614-607-1381
St. Vincent De Paul:	Karen Maguire	614-425-5548
Funeral Ministry:	JoMarie Wilson	614-562-3026
Director of Music:	Joe Peppercorn	614-678-6443
Trinity Catholic School	Principal, Angie Eisenacher	614-488-7650
St. Brendan School	Principal, Kate Cavello	614-876-6132

Parish Center Religion Classes		Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
Dir. of Rel. Ed.	Ken Hagy (Grades 1-8)	614-582-4081
	Lisa Latorre (Ages 3-5)	614-579-0220
	Parents should enroll in Protecting God's Children at virtus.org	

Knights of Columbus, Council 12939:	Mike Brewster	614-705-9182
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Parish Office: Phone: 614-279-1690; Fax: 614-279-2386
Monday-Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Friday-Sunday: Closed
Deadline for bulletin updates: Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m.

SUNDAY OBLIGATION MASSES:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.; Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 9:00 a.m.

HOLY DAYS:

9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions): Thursday: 9:30 a.m.;
Saturday: 3:00-3:30 p.m.; or by appointment if you call the Parish Office.

BAPTISMS: Following the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS: Third Monday of the month: January, March, May, July, September and November, 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Office.
If attending, you must call 614-279-1690 to register.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

New Parishioners and Parishioners Moving Out:

Please call the Parish Office to register or to change status.

Web Address: www.stmargaretcolumbus.org

E-mail Address: stmargaretcol@yahoo.com

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

10:30 a.m. Betty Reinhard by Peg Kuhns

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2 – SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN

9:00 a.m. Luanne Janusz by Maureen McEwen

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 – CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

9:00 a.m. NO MASS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 – ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, RELIGIOUS

9:00 a.m. Yola Lancia by Bill & Mary Shaffer

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 – ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

9:00 a.m. Leo Landry by Paul & Laura Landry

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 – CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

4:00 p.m. John Brannock (Anniversary) by the Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:30 a.m. People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. Geno & Erma Delewese by the Family

ST. ZITA MINISTRY, January 1, 2024:

JoMarie and J.B. Wilson, Jessanna Delewese

January 6-7	ALTAR SERVERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS
Saturday, January 6 4:00 p.m.	Elizabeth & Emma Gerken	Carrie & Rebecca Vamos	Matthew Thomas
Sunday, January 7 8:30 a.m.	Walter Duckro Josie Forster	Anita Mitchell Jeffrey Wobser	Joe Lombardi
Sunday, January 7 10:30 a.m.	Chiarina & Leo Racanelli	Theresa Bickerdt Gabriella Racanelli	Michael Racanelli

PARISH NEWS:

OFFICE CLOSED: The Parish Office will be closed **Monday, January 1st**, in observance of New Year's Day.

THE GIVING TREE

SINCERE THANKS! On behalf of **Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare**, we thank you and express our heartfelt gratitude for your support of our Christmas Gift Program. Your kindness and compassion have made it possible for individuals to experience the joy of the holidays, even in the midst of challenging mental health circumstances. We are truly blessed to be a part of **St. Margaret of Cortona Giving Tree project** and such a caring and compassionate community. Your embodiment of the spirit of Christmas is truly inspiring. **Thank you for generosity that allows us to provide each and every patient with something that will brighten their day and, a lot of times, keep them warm.**

RACHEL MUHA, RUN THE RACE CLUB. Thank you so much to everyone at St. Margaret. God bless you with a happy, Holy Christmas. We love you all! – Rachel Muha, Run The Race Club.

INCENSE WITH MASSES: Incense will be used at all of the Epiphany Masses on January 6th and 7th.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: There will be a parish council meeting on Monday, January 8, 6:30 p.m. in Kulp Hall.

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WILL HAVE A FIFTH SUNDAY COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND, December 30th and 31st.

There is so much need at this time of year for food and necessities. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

JOIN US FOR A WINTER PRESENTATION ON FALL INJURY PREVENTION!

Let's start the New Year on a safe note. Winter season is here and we want to ensure the safety and well-being of our community members. With this in mind, we are excited to invite you to **"Winter is Here: Fall Injury Prevention"** presentation, Saturday, January 20th, 2:30-3:30 p.m., in Kulp Hall. Winter brings its own set of challenges, and preventing falls at home becomes especially crucial during this time. Bluefield Group's expert speaker, Maria Blauvelt, will share valuable insights and practical tips on how to create a safe environment within your home to reduce the risk of falls.

This presentation is suitable for all age groups, and **we encourage you** to bring your family and friends along. Let's work together to ensure a safe and enjoyable winter season for everyone. For more information please contact **Maria Blauvelt at 614-515-6426** or hi@bluefield-group.com. We look forward to your presence at this informative event and appreciate your commitment to creating a safer community.

"I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS; I WILL COME TO YOU."

John 14:18. Jesus accompanies us always, whether we are at a summit in our faith or walking along the precipice of an abyss. Come Sunday, January 7 to begin a contemplative series and discussion with both those on the summit and those on the ledge to follow more closely the miracle of "Jesus and the Eucharist" as part of the National Eucharistic Revival. The group will meet at 7:00 p.m. in Kulp Hall. There will be childcare for our young parents, a student table led by young adults for young adults, and a bilingual presentation for our Spanish speaking families. Light refreshments will be provided. + Peace, – Deacon Tom Rowlands

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Anyone wishing to donate yarn to the **St. Margaret Prayer Shawl Ministry** can leave skeins of yarn in the baskets at the entrances of the church. We appreciate all yarn donated! We meet on the first **Wednesday** of each month from 12:00-2:00 p.m., in Kulp Hall. **The next gathering will be this Wednesday, January 3rd.**

CHRISTMAS 2023 SCHEDULE

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY – Sunday, December 31. Masses follow the regular weekend times.

NEW YEAR'S DAY – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD.

Masses are on Sunday, December 31, 4:00 p.m. for this Feast, and on Monday, January 1st 10:30 a.m.

This is **NOT** an obligation this year since it falls on a Monday. You do not have to go to Mass at either of these two times, but you are welcome and invited to honor Mary as Mother of God at one of these two Masses.

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY – Sunday, January 7th. Masses follow the regular weekend schedule.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – Monday, January 8th, with Mass at 9:00 a.m. Not an obligation! This Feast marks the official end of the Christmas Season this year.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS 2023

REQUESTED BY

M/M JB Wilson
M/M David Russi

IN MEMORY OF

William Verbsky
M/M George Russi, Sr. Pat Russi,
M/M Robert Arnold

Have a Blessed and Safe New Year

A REQUEST FROM OUR BISHOP

Our Bishop, **Bishop Earl Fernandes**, wrote a letter on **December 7, 2023** to all Catholics in the Diocese of Columbus concerning respect for life – especially for the unborn – after the passing of Issue #1 which enshrined abortion rights into Ohio's state constitution. He invites all of us to intensify our prayers and practices to protect innocent life at all stages of development by calling for deeper conversion of heart to build a true culture of life here in Ohio.

He invites all of us to a deeper life of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to accomplish this goal. He invites all of us to join in a Holy Hour before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament every week. As you know, here in our parish, we have this opportunity every Thursday with Exposition of the Eucharist from the 9:00 a.m. Mass until noon. Also on the third Thursday of each month we have another Holy Hour from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Please join us. Also, he invites us to a deeper sense of fasting and abstinence for this cause. He asks each of us to return to the traditional practice of not eating meat on all Fridays throughout the year; and to offer this penitential practice every Friday for the intention of a greater respect for all human life – especially the unborn. Abstinence can be a powerful prayer before the Lord. Along with this practice, he is encouraging almsgiving to an organization that supports the true culture of life, such as Women's Care Center, Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, Birthright, Bottoms Up or the like.

I also invite you as parishioners here at St. Margaret of Cortona Parish to strongly consider these invitations from our Bishop as the means for a deeper conversion for all of us here in the State of Ohio on this essential issue. Sincerely in Christ, **Fr. Jeff**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: January 1-7, 2024

MONDAY	9:00 a.m.	NO Mass
	10:30 a.m.	Mass
TUESDAY	9:00 a.m.	Mass
WEDNESDAY	9:00 a.m.	NO Mass
	12:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	Mass
	9:30 a.m.	Confessions
	9:30 a.m.-12:00 Noon	Exposition of Eucharist
	12:00-8:00 p.m.	Adoration with the Eucharist in the Tabernacle
FRIDAY	9:00 a.m.	Mass
SATURDAY	3:00 p.m.	Confessions
	4:00 p.m.	Mass
SUNDAY	8:30 a.m.	Mass
	9:00 a.m.	PSR/CSG, Borrelli Center
	10:30 a.m.	Mass
	7:00 p.m.	"Jesus and the Eucharist"

YOUR TITHE TO GOD: December 24, 2023

Weekly Offertory	\$ 9,289.00
Christmas	\$ 10,363.00
Direct Deposit December	\$ 8,523.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION:

GIVE SMARTER – SUPPORT ST. MARGARET AND LOWER YOUR TAXES: You can use funds in your retirement account to support St. Margaret. The Charitable IRA Rollover allows donors who are 70½ years or older to transfer up to \$100,000.00 from a traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified charity like **The Catholic Foundation, which manages the St. Margaret Parish Endowment Fund**. An endowment Fund is a longer-term, sustained investment designed to provide a perpetual source of income to our parish. Regardless of your age, you can support St. Margaret while still qualifying for a tax deduction. Contributions to the **St. Margaret Parish Endowment Fund** can also be made in the form of cash, appreciated stocks, and other assets. For more information on how you can make a real-world impact on the future of St. Margaret and the Catholic faith, please contact **Jim Hahn** at 614-443-8893, ext. 112 or jhahn@catholic-foundation.org.

SCHOOL NEWS

ST. CHARLES HOSTING WOMEN'S AUDITIONS, for "Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical" Production: The St. Charles Preparatory School Drama Department will hold women's auditions for *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* on **Wednesday and Thursday, January 3 and 4, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.** at the St. Charles Campus Theater, 2010 East Broad Street. (You need only attend one of the two days.) Auditions are open to all area high school women in Central Ohio. Production Dates: February 29-March 3, 2024. If you would like additional information, please email **Doug Montgomery**, at dmontgomery@scprep.org

AROUND US

PLENARY INDULGENCE DURING CHRISTMAS SEASON: The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has granted the privilege of a plenary indulgence for all the faithful to **celebrate the 800th anniversary of Christmas in Greccio, Italy**. The indulgence is available, under the usual conditions, **from December 8, 2023, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to February 2, 2024. Feast of the Presentation in the Temple of Our Lord Jesus Christ**. In order to gain the plenary indulgence, in addition to the conditions, one must visit a church run by the Franciscan families throughout the world and stop in prayer in front of the nativity scene set up there. Those who are sick or unable to participate physically can equally benefit from the gift of plenary indulgence by offering their sufferings to the Lord or carrying out practices of piety. In the Diocese of Columbus, Christ the King Parish and St. Thomas parish are run by Franciscans. Please check for the Franciscan-run parishes in your travels to other dioceses.

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2024 CATHOLIC MAN OF THE YEAR: The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club is accepting nominations for the Diocese of Columbus 2024 Catholic Man of the Year. The annual award will be presented by Bishop Earl Fernandes on **Friday, February 2, 2024**, at the Men's Luncheon held at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus. The Catholic Man of the Year is awarded to one layman who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the "good and faithful servant." The recipient will have the opportunity to share his personal testimony during the ceremony. Nominations will be accepted through **Sunday, December 31, 2023**. For details, nomination instructions and the required online nomination form, go to <https://www.catholicmensministry.com/catholic-man-of-the-year>. Submit your nomination and let us know why your parishioner, husband, father, son, uncle, brother, or friend is the Catholic Man of the Year!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: February 17, 2024, at the Ohio Expo Center – Kasich Hall, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. \$45.00 Early Bird Tickets are available now! \$35.00 for students. Religious are always free. Price for Regular Ticket as of January 1, 2024 is \$50.00. Scholarship tickets are available. For more information or to register go to ColumbusCatholicWomen.com.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE: We Are Called to Be Saints. The 27th Annual Catholic Men's Conference returns to Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center and State Fairgrounds on **February 24, 2024**. For more information or to register, go to: CatholicMensMinistry.com.

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT! Give the gift of time to each other next year. **Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend** where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2024 the best year of your marriage by applying today! **The next weekend is February 9-11 in the Central Ohio area.** For more information or to apply, visit our website at WWMEcolumbus.org. Early registration is highly recommended.

ST. MARGARET PRAYER CHAIN
If you have a prayer request, e-mail it to
cwelycz@breezelineohio.net, or call 614-562-8570.
All prayer requests are confidential.



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