



# St. Margaret of Cortona Parish

31 Chamberlain Ave Little Ferry, NJ 07643

Phone: (201) 641-2988 Fax: (201) 322-0172

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*Serving the Catholic Communities of Little Ferry and Moonachie  
In Ministry, Education and Service -- Since August 24, 1912*

January 22, 2023



**Reverend Kevin E. Carter,**  
*Pastor*

**Reverend Michael Otuwuronne,**  
*In Residence*

**Sister Dorothy A. Donovan, S.S.J.,**  
*Pastoral Associate*

**Eileen M. Ballone,**  
*Director of Music*

**Dina R. Tarabocchia,**  
*Parish Secretary*

## **MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:30 p.m.

**Sunday:** 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 noon

**Weekdays: Monday to Friday:** 12:00 p.m.

**CONFESSIONS:** Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.

## **PARISH WEBSITE:**

<http://www.stmargaretfnj.org/>

**PARISH E-MAIL:** smcortona1912@aol.com

### **Parish Center Office**

Phone: 201-641-2988 Fax: 201-322-0172

Monday to Thursday

### **Rectory**

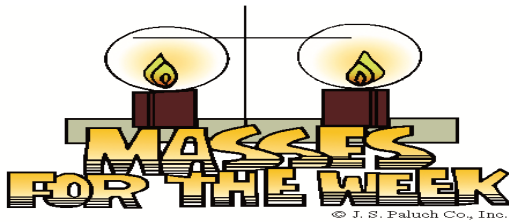
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By appointment only

### **Religious Education**

201-641-2989

Sunday to Thursday



**SATURDAY, January 21**

**5:30 PM Martino Matesic**

**SUNDAY, January 22, 2023**

**Third Sunday of the Church Year**

**8:00 AM John Morin**

**10:00 AM Maria De Sario**

**12:00 PM Victor Traverso [4A]**

**MONDAY, January 23**

**12:00 PM Gioacchino Piccinich**

**TUESDAY, January 24**

**12:00 PM Renato & Madonna Danganan  
[SP]**

**WEDNESDAY, January 25**

**12:00 PM Maria Bussanich**

**THURSDAY, January 26**

**12:00 PM Maria Mattessich**

**FRIDAY, January 27**

**12:00 PM Martino Picinich**

**SATURDAY, January 28**

**5:30 PM Silvia Mattessich**

**SUNDAY, January 29, 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of the Church Year**

**8:00 AM Tommaso Passaro [10A]**

**10:00 AM Philip Burghardt**

**12:00 PM James Blaney**

**Memorials  
Bread & Wine  
And  
Sanctuary Candle  
People of Our Parish Family**

**EFFORTLESS**

The only thing that comes to a person without effort is old age.

— Anonymous

**HEART**

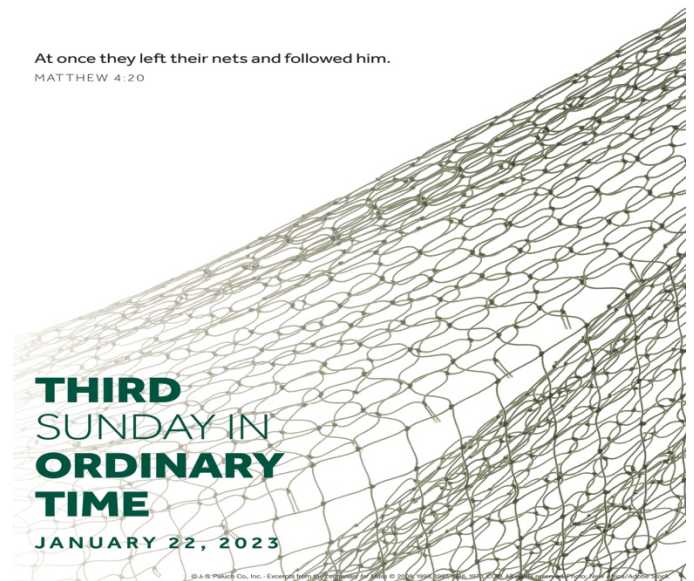
In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart.

— John Bunyan

At once they left their nets and followed him.  
MATTHEW 4:20

**THIRD  
SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY  
TIME**

JANUARY 22, 2023





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January 22, 2023 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### GOD'S LOVING CARE

Two readings today refer to the northeast region of ancient Israel: “the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali.” Upon hearing these names, some of us might consult maps and determine exactly where these regions lie. Others might let the unfamiliar names drift by unnoticed. If no maps are handy — but we don’t want to ignore the references completely — consider this: we might not know the latitude and longitude of Zebulun and Naphtali, but God does. We praise God for watching over every inch of land and sea, caring perfectly for each creature on the planet. While Isaiah celebrates the depth of God’s care with “abundant joy and great rejoicing,” Saint Paul begs us to remember how the Lord shows this loving care: through the cross. In today’s Gospel, Jesus calls Peter, James, and John to follow him. We follow too, confident that God accompanies us, wherever we are.

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### TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The burdens that were once laid upon the people have been vanquished (Isaiah 8:23 — 9:3).

Psalm — The Lord guides and saves me (Psalm 27).

Second Reading — Paul exhorts the believers at Corinth: As there is one Christ, so too must there be no divisions among you. (1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17).

Gospel — After calling his first disciples, Jesus goes throughout Galilee teaching, proclaiming the gospel, and curing the people (Matthew 4:12-23 [12-17]).

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children; St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope

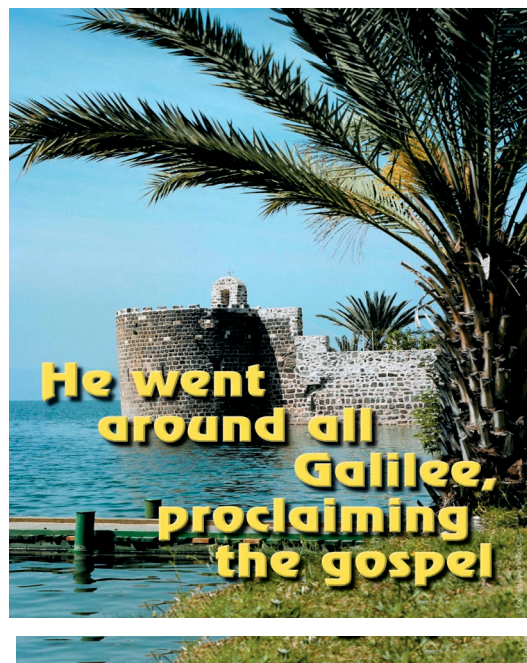
Tuesday: St. Francis de Sales

Wednesday: The Conversion of St. Paul; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends

Thursday: Ss. Timothy and Titus

Friday: St. Angela Merici

Saturday: St. Thomas Aquinas





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We lift up to the Lord in our prayers and good works for: the sick, frail and the homebound.

Catherine Mary Moncello
Michel Porta
Camilla Leventhal
Nicole Grano
Johanna Hanush
Lena Vitale.
John Thomas Lazur Dersch
Robert Zienkiewicz
Florence Navarro
Paula Kelnhofer
Barbara Demczynszyn
Caroline Ruppert Hubertz
Tom Greaux
John Ratynski
Robert & Carolyn Salzman
Jo Anna Lockie
Dominick Di Buono
David I. Ramos
Charlie Di Buono

Anthony Deli
Valerie Vernay
Julian Morgan
Baby Amato Jordan
Philip Dittmar
Grace Ehler
Julio Sanchez
Arline Hrbek
Kevin Michael Francis
Jacqueline Palmadessa
Michael Toscano
Ellie Lombardelli
Brandon Kingsley
Tony Tarabocchia
Victor Ruggiero
James Moran
Olivia La Forte King
Emily Menzella



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If there is any adult (18+yrs.) who wishes to complete their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving Confirmation and/or Communion and Confirmation, please call Sister Dorothy at 201-641-2989.



Victims of terrorism and war; genocide in Syria and the Holy Land, worldwide human trafficking, racism and hatred, domestic abuse and street violence, severe weather conditions and for all those victims who suffered and lost their loved ones, under the COVID-19 pandemic.



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January 15, 2023
\$2,753



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## OUR FASCINATING FAITH

### Ordinary Time

*Between the end of the Christmas season and the start of Lent, the liturgical year begins a period known as Ordinary Time. That season is interrupted by the seasons of Lent and Easter, and then resumes again after Pentecost. The English translation of the Latin name for this season has received much criticism because of our association of the word “ordinary” with something of lesser value, the opposite of something special. Critics point out that Sunday is the original feast day of the Church, that there is nothing at all “ordinary” about our weekly celebration of the Lord’s dying and rising. Translators explain that in this context the English word “ordinary” retains the root meaning of “ordinal,” something counted “in order,” and that the Sundays throughout the year are in fact named by their numerical order.*

*It is helpful to understand how all five of the “special” seasons of the liturgical year (Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, Easter) fit together to unfold the single mystery of Christ. As we continue the year now with Ordinary Time, we are mindful that what we celebrate is indeed as “extraordinary” an experience of God’s grace as one could ever imagine.*

**Sunday of the  
Word of God**



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## CATHOLIC PRAYER CORNER

### Respect for Life Prayer

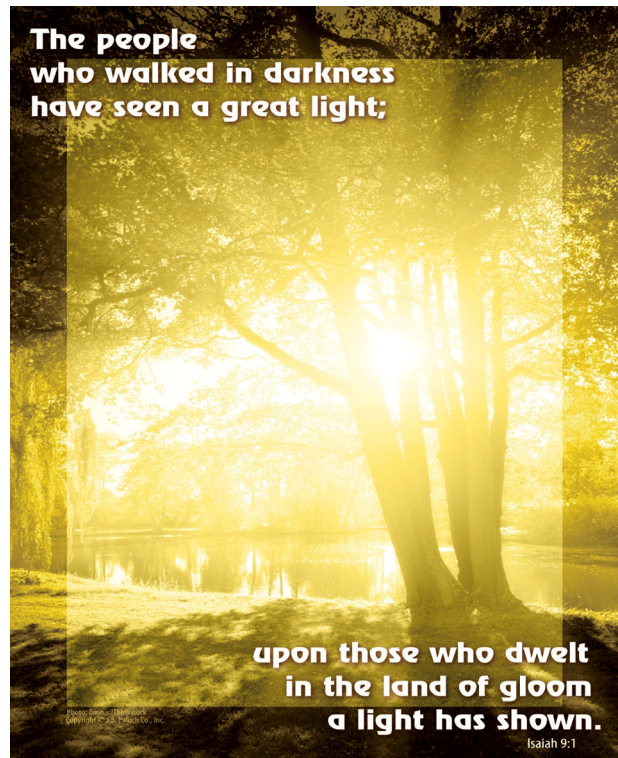
*O God, our eyes behold the beauty of your creation, and our ears catch the sounds of your power.*

*We hold our lives sacred because they are your gift.*

*Bring us to greater awareness of the sanctity of human life and to sorrow for the times we have ignored or offended it.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**The people  
who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;**



**upon those who dwelt  
in the land of gloom  
a light has shown.**

Isaiah 9:1

### *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

To introduce the beginnings of Jesus' ministry in Matthew's Gospel today, the evangelist quotes from Isaiah 9, which is presented to us more fully in our first reading. Isaiah acknowledges the darkness of oppression from the conquest of the Galilee region by Assyria, but reminds his people of the hope God offers them. Matthew, writing in the time of the Roman Empire centuries later, points to Jesus and his proclamation of the kingdom of heaven, to overturn all forms of oppression. Power structures like Assyria or Rome rely on fear, control, and distrust to sustain themselves. But God's reign is to be saturated with God's love, freedom, and mutual trust. Jesus began by gathering a group of disciples. When Jesus similarly gathers his community of disciples in our church today, our love of each other, and our care for all others, can make this reign of God visible to all.

### *CALLED TO COMMUNITY*

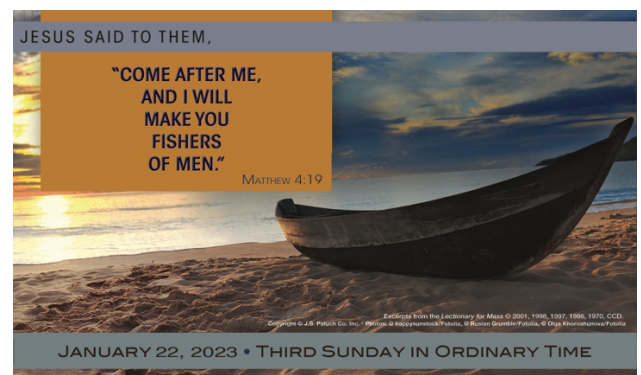
Today's Gospel from Matthew sketches the initial movements of Jesus' public ministry. The arrest of John the Baptist signals that Jesus' time has come. His first actions include the call of his first disciples, and proclaiming the reign, or kingdom, of heaven. Jesus first gathers a community, which he can gradually form to become living evidence of this coming reign. His preaching, which begins just a few verses later in the Sermon on the Mount, is not just essential guidance for each individual life, but for life within a community of his followers. It can be very challenging for most of us, who live in a highly individualized society, to hear this story of being summoned into community,

committed to learning together and from each other. Our parishes and Christian communities need to be safe places so that we can open our hearts to each other, learning the Way of Jesus, and sharing this Way with others.

### *UNITED IN CHRIST*

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul addresses many pastoral issues, and begins with questions of division over leadership. We hear of rival camps of loyalty for various leaders and preachers: Paul himself, Apollo, or Cephas. Paul fears that the community has lost the center of the faith, that is, Christ himself. The community is to be united in mind and purpose under Christ.

Many today experience in a very similar division. Some Christians will in effect say: "I belong to . . . (fill in the name of your favorite preacher, theologian, or leader), and those who don't are not to be trusted." Diversity of thought and background are essential to the vitality of Christian community, but here Paul describes a division that hides the message of Christ. It hides Christ's call to charity and forbearance toward all. This division hides the truth that we are all at the foot of the cross, a cross that reveals our own brokenness and our need for mercy.



### Short Version

What are you most proud of? What do you like to boast about? Were you top of your class in college? Do you work harder than anyone in your office? Or are you the best at appearing to work hard, but hardly working? Everyone likes to have something they are the best at, or at least very good.

But it really is kind of silly to base your own worth on what you accomplish. What truly makes us important is that we are loved by God. Our second reading tells how God uses the foolish, weak, or poorest people to shame those who are wise, strong, and wealthy. Why? Because God loves the poor, the weak, the disabled, the homeless just as much as God loves the important people.

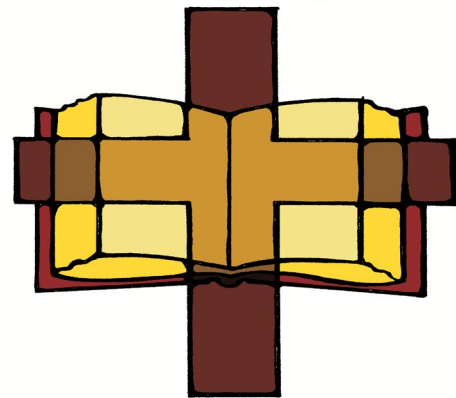
And it's not just the external qualities that are important. Some wealthy people have great love for the poor. Some of the best teachers only work with disabled children. Our Gospel on the Beatitudes today makes that clear if you listen carefully.

Blessed are not just the poor, but the poor in spirit; not only the hungry, but those who hunger for righteousness.

That's what Saint Paul means when he says, "Whoever boasts, should boast in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:31).

So how do we get to be "important" to God? Instead of asking God to make my projects a success, I can ask what God wants me to do. And for all the good that you do, remember to thank the Lord.

## Sunday of the



## Word of God

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**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

St. Margaret of Cortona #911186  
31 Chamberlain Avenue  
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

**PHONE**

201-641-2988

**CONTACT PERSON**

Dina Tarabocchia

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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

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