

Ladies' Sodality of Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish

Mission statement:

To Jesus through Mary, the Sodality of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys is to live a spiritual and apostolic life within the parish community. The mission is to bring the life of faith to others through parish work while growing personally in a deeper relationship with Jesus and Mary through prayer, works of mercy and spiritual activities.



Goals of St. Marguerite Sodality:

Through prayer and action, the ladies of the Sodality of St. Marguerite will support parish and community needs through spiritual, apostolic, and social plans.

History of Sodality

A Sodality is a Roman Catholic Marian Society. The primary patron of the Sodality is the Blessed Mother. Another saint is the secondary patron as a model for personal holiness for the Sodalists.

Sodalities were first founded in 1563 by a Belgian Jesuit, Jean Leunis. It began as a boys organization at the Roman College of the Society of Jesus as a devotion to Our Lady as the boys would kneel and pray to the Blessed Mother in their classrooms.

In 1751 Pope Benedict XIV opened sodalities to women. Then in 1835, St. Catherine Laboure had an apparition of the Blessed Mother and the Sodality of Children of Mary Immaculate was formed with the badge of the miraculous medal.

Besides spirituality and devotion to Our Lady, Sodalities encourage members to do corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

Pursuits of the Sodality of St. Marguerite

- *Pray and Play group for preschool children and their parents
- *Baptism and Beyond ministry
- *Youth/family events
- *Sacred Grounds Sundays
- *Comfort and Care ministries for sick
- *Outreach to homeless and needy



St. Marguerite Bourgeoys (1620–1700)

Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Her applications to the Carmelites and Poor Clares were unsuccessful.

In 1654, the governor of the French settlement in Canada visited his sister, an Augustinian canoness in Troyes.

Marguerite belonged to a sodality connected to that convent. The governor invited her to come to Canada and start a school in Ville-Marie (later became the city of Montreal). When she arrived, the colony had 200 people with a hospital and a Jesuit mission chapel.

The Congregation of Notre Dame was established in 1676 but its members did not make formal religious profession until 1698 when their Rule and constitutions were approved. By the time Marguerite died, she was referred to as the “Mother of the Colony.” Marguerite was canonized in 1982.

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Prayer

O Mother Bourgeoys, you, whose compassionate power is ever increasing, show us your way of Truth, Faith and Holiness.

Make us humble enough to abandon ourselves to the Will of God, generous enough to find in the Cross the joy of the Loving Giver.

May your fidelity to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament lead us ever nearer to this source of light and peace. May your spirit of openness help us to be concerned for our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Finally, may Our Lady of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bring us to this unity of eternal grace to which God has called you for all eternity. Amen.

For information contact: Mary Ellen Tiernan at 203-775-5117 x215 or metiernan@stmarguerite.org



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