

Masses For The Week**Monday - February 6**

6:30 Catherine & Silvio Sita
9:00

Tuesday - February 7

6:30
9:00 Josie Sayers, Anniversary

Wednesday - February 8

6:30
9:00 Rev. Vincent P. Crotty, CSSR

Thursday - February 9

6:30
9:00 Christopher Onken

Friday - February 10

6:30
9:00 Mary Keefer & John Kasper

Saturday - February 11

9:00 **Intentions Announced at Mass**
5:00 Lauro Esposito, Anniversary
7:00 William J. Csajko

Sunday - February 12

7:00 The People of the Parish
8:30 Michele & Emilio Fornino
10:00 Ann Severence
11:30 Dr. Santiago Granada, Jr.
1:00 David F. Biggin
5:30 Thomas Mitchell & Joseph Hughes

Readings For The Week

Mon. 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56
Tues. 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13
Wed. 1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23
Thurs. 1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30
Fri. 1 Kings 11:29-32, 12:19; Mark 7:31-37
Sat. 1 Kings 12:26-32, 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10
Sun. Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 *According to the law of Moses, people with leprosy had to live alone, outside the camp. Aaron or another priest declared them unclean as long as they had a disease.*

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 *Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "Do everything for the glory of God. Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God...Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."*

Mark 1:40-45 *A leper said to Jesus, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, Jesus touched him: "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him, and he was healed.*

**Divine Mercy Novena**

***Every Friday at 2:00 p.m.
in the Eucharistic Chapel
All are welcome!***

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**Last Week January 28-29 Collection**

Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00

Amount Received: \$17,964.88

Thank you for your generosity & support!

Reflection & Living Stewardship

Like St. Paul in the second reading, the good steward can say, "I do all that I do for the sake of the gospel in the hope of having a share in its blessings."

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who use their gifts of healing and forgiveness to help repair relationships in families beset with divorce, death, dysfunction or abuse.



Please pray for the women and men in our Military and their families and friends as they selflessly protect and defend our nation against all forms of terrorism. May God protect them from all harm!

Charismatic Prayer Group**WHAT ARE WE WORTH?**

I'm not talking about your salary, house or bank account. These don't matter to God. In fact, there is no measure to what we are worth in His eyes and He knows all of us by name! - Amazing!!

Our next meeting is Monday, February 6th at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Call Margo at 516-993-9672 for answers to any questions or for prayer intentions.

Holy Face of Jesus Devotion

Please join us on Monday, February 6th at 1:00 p.m. in the Church for the Holy Face of Jesus Holy Hour in reparation for blasphemy and wounds to His Holy Face. All will be blessed with St. Padre Pio holy oil.

St. Martin of Tours HOP Club

Jan. 30 # 30	M/M Ludwig Gehm	\$25.00
Jan. 31 #508	Ray Reynolds	\$25.00
Feb. 1 #339	Joe & Barbara Pace	\$25.00
Feb. 2 #266	Tom & Betty Pope	\$25.00
Feb. 3 # 45	John & JoAnn Sescila	\$50.00

Letter from the pastor

For the past two Saturdays, at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 pm, the second graders of our religious education program have been gathering in Church with their parents and family members, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. This is an important step on the path to receiving their First Holy Communion as they grow in their Catholic faith.

I could not help but recall a classic Irish short story, *First Confession*, written by Frank O'Connor in 1939. You can find it on the Internet if you want some amusing reading. It tells the story of Jackie, a young lad from Cork, who makes his first confession. One of the many highlights of the story is when he goes into the dark confessional. He is not sure where he is to kneel until he sees the ledge where the penitents usually place their elbows as they kneel. He thinks this is the place where he should kneel and he climbs up on the ledge to the shock of the priest who opens the screen to find the boy in such a strange position.

We had no adventures like that in our penance service. There was no darkness, rather, there were festive songs with accompanying gestures, children doing the readings, and those going to confession for the first time were sitting with their families. The boys and girls were given a blessed memento at the conclusion of their confession. Although some of the children were a bit nervous, I was touched by the celebratory spirit that our religious education team had created in this liturgy. Deacon Jim Biggin, Laura Leigh Agnese, Pat Ryan, Elena Scollo and all our dedicated religious education teachers and aides deserve great praise.

I think for many Catholics, going to confession is right up there with getting a root canal, or a colonoscopy. It is not something we look forward to, and many of us seek to put the sacrament off for years, if we go at all. Yet, the atmosphere that surrounded first penance of celebration and joy is at the core of this gift God has given us. The first words we speak in confession are, "Bless me Father for I have sinned." The word "blessed" means "I am happy and joyful." We are not joyful that we are sinners, but that we are loved and forgiven by our compassionate God. We think of the great celebration that welcomed the Prodigal Son home with a ring on his finger, shoes on his feet, and the fatted calf. The Sacrament of Penance was given to us on the First Easter Sunday evening when the apostles were huddled in fear and guilt after abandoning Jesus. Our Lord's first words to them were not ones of guilt or condemnation. Instead He said to them, "Peace I give to you. Whose sins you forgive, are forgiven." The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a moment of great joy and happiness since God delights in giving us freedom.

HERE ARE SOME COMMON QUESTIONS AND STRUGGLES THAT PEOPLE HAVE WITH CONFESSION**I have been away so long from confession that I do not know how to go anymore.**

I can assure you that our priests are most welcoming of anyone who comes to confession. If you do not know how to go to the confession, just tell the priest and he will be happy to help you. Remember, we priests too have to go to confession, so we know your anxieties and fears.

I keep on confessing the same sins, and I do not feel that I am making any progress.

Honestly, most of us do have the same patterns and sins in our lives that are not easily overcome. What God asks of us is that we keep on trying to deal with our sins. We may never overcome them but we keep trying. Confessing the same sins is humbling but a reminder that we need the grace of God on a daily basis.

I am never sure what I am to confess in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

One of the key moments of the sacrament is what happens **before** we see the priest: it is the examination of conscience. Certainly, if you have committed serious sins, these should be mentioned. This is a time to look over our lives. Rather than focus on particular numbers (God is not a score keeper), look at your life. Where have you not been loving? How are you living? If you are married, are you a good spouse? If you have children, are you a good parent? Are you angry or bitter toward someone? Do you struggle with certain addictions in your life that you find difficult to overcome? Are you praying? Do you seek to worship God regularly? Here at St. Martin's, we have placed examination of conscience cards near the confessionals that might be helpful.

How often should I go to confession?

You have an obligation to go to confession as soon as you can if you are in mortal sin. If you are in mortal sin, you would occur **another** mortal sin if you do not confess this mortal sin at least during the time of the Easter duty (Ash Wednesday-Trinity Sunday). The Church law is that you must go to confession at least with this serious sin between the time of Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday. Obviously, you should go as soon as possible and not wait for the time of the Easter duty. If you are not in serious sin, it is recommended that you go to confession regularly. Regularly is different for each person; some go once a week, others once a month, and still others, two or three times a year. If you are not in mortal sin, you do not have to go to confession during the Easter duty time. However, it is highly recommended and encouraged that one should go to confession several times a year for the sake of receiving the grace of the sacrament to assist in overcoming our less serious sins.

Why should I go to confession? Can't I just tell my sins to God?

Yes, you can and should ask forgiveness of God daily. We do ask for forgiveness at the beginning of Mass. Still, God has given us the great gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation to help us know his mercy and love. As people of flesh and blood, we have the need to experience God. We do that in the sacraments. We receive his body and blood in the Eucharist. We feel his touch in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. We see the saving waters of baptism poured over the head of the infant. We long for a touchable God. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we encounter the living God and hear the words, "Your sins are forgiven!"

Why are less people going to confession today than in the past?

There is no easy answer to that question. I suspect sin has not gone away. Perhaps, in the past we stressed too much about sin and less about God's love and mercy. Perhaps, the regular way people went to confession lost its meaning for them because the ritual no longer touched their lives. Yet, ironically, we live in an age of confession. People go on television talk shows and reveal their deepest secrets. Counselors and therapists are very busy (and many doing great healing work). Twelve step programs and support groups continue to grow and are often places of great grace. It is said that we are as sick as our secrets. So many of us carry burdens, struggles, sin and guilt which all can be brought to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. So many of us need a place and person with whom we can talk about our lives and how we are living it.

Should I go face to face to confession or behind the screen?

The Church offers both methods, and you should choose the one with which you feel most comfortable. Sometimes people have the need to speak at length to a priest about an issue that they are dealing with. It may be one that involves sin, but it may not be. Either way, I suggest that you make an appointment with one of the priests here and allow yourself to have the time to explore the issue and not feel rushed because there are others waiting on line.

What is the difference between confession and spiritual direction?

There are some similarities between confession and spiritual direction, but there are differences. In confession, our focus is on our sins and seeking the forgiveness of God. Only a priest (or bishop) can hear confessions. Spiritual direction is having a guide to advise you and offer you wisdom as you reflect on your desire to love and follow God. There are many people trained in spiritual direction and such people can be a great blessing to your spiritual journey. Certainly, the priests and deacons of the parish would be happy to serve as a spiritual director to you.

So if you have not been to confession in a long time, perhaps this Lent, or even this week, is the time for you to receive this great gift. We may not have music and pins for you as we did for the children receiving their first penance, but I assure you that you will be received with love and compassion.



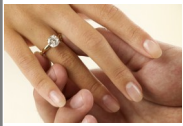
“Whatever you do for one of these, the least of my sisters and brothers, you did it for me.”

This week the Food Pantry is low on hearty soups, juice, juice boxes, pasta sauce, canned fruit, canned chili and stews, hot and cold cereal, laundry detergent, shampoo, conditioner, tooth brushes, diapers size 4 & 6, sugar, coffee, pancake mix and syrup. Many thanks and God's blessings to all of you!

Food Pantry:

208 Broadway, Bethpage
Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM
Thursday: 2:00PM – 7:00PM
Phone: (516) 931-7332

PRE-CANA MINISTRY



As the Winter Session of the St. Martin of Tours In-Home Pre-Cana Program concludes, we ask you to pray for the engaged couples:

**Sarah Cullen & Edward Norton
Lauren LoPinto & Christopher Ceglie
Loredana Mannino & Jack Bucaria
Stephanie Sepe & John Meyer
Katelyn Ludewig & Ryan Vinberg
Colleen McGrath & Patrick Algerio
Kristen Romano & Daniel Sullivan**

We would also like to thank the married couples who volunteered their time to share their marriage with our engaged couples:

**Kathy & Bob Boyce
Carol & Mike Buffa
Marilyn & Ray Walther**

If there is any married couple interested in working the In-Home Pre-Cana Program, please call us. We need you in order for this program to continue.

**Deacon Jim & Carmela Biggin
796-5520**

Please pray for the sick of our parish:

*Christine Mascia, Mary Peterson, Frances Stuhlmuller
Maria Cipriano, Henry Niemczyk, Robert Loughran
Jim Duggan, Patricia Morrone, Flora Spinosa
Barbara Scully, Phil Alfano, Richard Messina
Sylvester Brady, Fran Contillo, Wayne Durr
Matthew Guigno, Mary Henson, Mike Barry
Augustin Ordek, Mary Morgan, John Annon
Josephine Calline, Warren Delauro, Richard Pyranski
William Sinacore, Christine Lino
Alyric Jackson, Sr. Kate McBarron
Mildred Bortnick, Leevalli Annearosa, Therese Mikulus
Joseph Frestachi, Henry Fenyo, Michael Lavin
Vincent Busuttil, Erich Jurkwich, Patricia LoBianco
Christopher Deleon, Dorothy Quinn, Kelly Zappolo
Mary Mullaly, Marguerite Foley, Vivian Durr
Melonie Walsh, Gail Waiter, Victoria DiPaula
Joan Conklin Walsh, Gina Montamaro, Owen Sullivan
Jimmy Crichton, Douglas Torres, Kathy Byrnes
Marion Luciano, Ledwin Mason, Michael Duggan
Virginia Holt, Marie Rondino, Tyler Brandimarte
Lisa Mancini, Andy Holt, Pat Cannota, Diane McHugh
Ellen Murphy, Kaitlin Pulice, Bob MacCulloch
Lillian DeLaurentis, Godeliva Pagan, Helen Carroll
Angela Calendrille, Florence Borzell, Helena Carroll
Rayne Michelle Janko, Renee Weiner, Nicole Wolfe Huebner
Dorothy Froehlich, Donna Peluso, Anne Cramer
Joann Cama, Mark & Karen Arthus, Cynthia Venson
Joann Cicero, Pat Rosetti, Santa Parisi, Donna Melkun
Kevin Sisco, Christina Klienfeldt, Margaret Cavalliere
Cindy Aldrich, Fr. Dennis Billy, CSsR
Brianna Cardinao, Sharon Depalo, Edith Magee
Baby Mackenzie, Anna Maria Testa & Windy, Fred Nelson
Jan Rhea, Mary-Gwen Imbornoni, Patrick Murphy
Bill Kelly, Fr. Brendan Greany, C.Ss.R., Nicholas Guarino
Bud Pehrsson, Joanne Flores, Alfred Urbanski
Baby Madeline Smith, Ginny Murphy, Bernard Kearney
Edward Indelicato, Sr., Andrew Bartolozzi
Fr. Tom Siconolfi, CSsR, Mom and Dad, Barbara Hunsinger
Joseph Pierini, Marion Astonino, Pre-born Baby Eve Cagna
Fred Tavarelli Patricia Heitzman, Lucille Pancucci
Mary LaFauci, William John Staudt, Patricia Marcel
Gerard Trotter, Jim Robertson, Frances Sutton
Robert Hennessy, John St. Angelo, Joseph Pierini
Harold Hand, Colin Flood*



*Week of February 5 - February 11, 2012
Altar Bread & Wine
In Loving Memory of
Vito DeFanis*

Rest in Peace

**Acts 7:49: “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”
James J. Fagan, Kevin Mahoney**

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS

If you haven't already, please *fill out an Order of Protection and a Code of Conduct Form* which are available in the rectory.

Virtus Training a MUST

In 2002, Bishop Murphy mandated that all volunteers in a parish *must fill out an Order of Protection and a Code of Conduct Form* which are available in the rectory. Part 3 of that mandate states that any volunteer *must attend* the VIRTUS WORKSHOP.

SMT's Virtus Workshop is on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. in the Faculty Room in the school.

Please register online at **VIRTUSONLINE.ORG** and click on Registration or go to the drvc.org website then to *Protecting Children* and click on *Virtus Training Calendar*. If this is not a convenient time, please check *The LI Catholic* or the Diocesan website at drvc.org.

If you have already attended Virtus training, you do not have to repeat it. Any questions, please call Father Jim McCabe at 516-931-0818 ext. 220.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus Hartigan Council will be having their membership drive on March 25th. Please stop by their table to sign up or ask more about it!

**Victory for the SMT
6th Grade Girls Basketball Team**

Congratulations to the St. Martin of Tours 6th grade girl's basketball team! They beat out Cure of Ars and won the Catherine McAuley Tournament at Our Lady of Mercy in Hicksville with a 20-19 victory.

Special thanks to their coach Jacqueline Zizzo, who is a great coach and role model for the young ladies and made all the difference in their performance.

**Second Collection This Weekend
for the Church in Need**

"You assure a fundamental service to the human person when he or she is deprived of an inalienable right to religious liberty." John Paul II

As an international Catholic charity under the guidance of the Holy Father, Aid to the Church in Need's mission is to help suffering and persecuted faithful worldwide. Please be as generous as your means will allow. Thank you!!

**THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE
Divorces/Separated/Widowed**

Help for the heartache of divorce, separation and widowhood. A weekend away for a lifetime of change. The next weekend is March 2, 3, 4, 2012 at the Montfort Spiritual Center in Bay Shore. For information and reservations, call:

- John (516) 822-0635
- Jim (718) 474-3779 or
- Karen (201) 736-8200

You can also email us at
BeginningExperienceLI@hotmail.com

**CHRISTIAN MOTHERS
ROSARY CONFRATERNITY**

ALL WOMEN & MEN are invited to our meeting on **Tuesday, February 7, 2012** in the Parish Hall. The rosary and CMRC prayers will begin at 7:30PM followed by our program.

Our pastor, Father Pat Woods, CSSR, will give a presentation on Our Lady of Lourdes, the Shrine in Lourdes, France along with pictures and a talk on the life of Saint Bernadette Soubirous.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

APRIL 3, 2012 - Chinese Bingo and Dinner in the Parish Hall with cash prizes, raffles and 50/50! Tables of 10 or share a table.

Tickets will be on sale at \$20 per person. For more information, please contact Janet at 433-9340 or Louise at 735-1375.

**ST. MARTIN OF TOURS
CONFIRMATION CLASS FUNDRAISER
Children Saving Children**

This is the St. Martin of Tours Confirmation class fundraising benefit for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital which solely runs on donations. We invite everyone to please consider donating and to ask your family & friends to donate as well.

We are hosting this event to raise money that will help St. Jude Children's Research Hospital find new treatments for childhood cancer and other catastrophic diseases. The mission of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is to advance cures, and means of prevention, for pediatric catastrophic diseases through research and treatment. *Consistent with the vision of the founder Danny Thomas, no child is denied treatment based on race, religion or a family's ability to pay.*

Through striking improvements in the care of pediatric leukemia and numerous forms of solid tumors, St. Jude - which now has a daily operating cost of \$1.7 million - has brought about improved health care for children all over the world. St. Jude's physicians and scientists have pioneered treatments that have helped push the overall survival rates for childhood cancers from less than 20 percent when the hospital opened in 1962 to 80 percent today.

Thank you for helping us reach our goal for the children of St. Jude! God bless all the children!

Sincerely, Lisa Scuderi

Benefit Coordinator & St. Martin of Tours Catechist

Online Donation: www.stjude.org/specialevents

Click on "Participants"

Click on "Search for your event"

Click on New York

Name of Event:

Please enter: "Children Saving Children"

Click on "Donate to event" & enter your information

**Mail in Donation: Make a check payable to
"St. Jude Children's Research Hospital."**

Mail to: Lisa Scuderi
St. Jude's Children's Research
Hospital Fundraiser
St. Martin of Tours Church
40 Seaman Avenue
Bethpage, New York 11714

**CONFIRMATION
OCTOBER 27, 2011 DVD's**

Confirmation DVD's can be picked up from the Religious Education office Monday through Thursday, 10:00 AM - 12 Noon and 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

**AN EVENING OF CELTIC MUSIC
BENEFIT FOR
ST. ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL**

**CELTIC FRIARS PIPE BAND
AND THE IONA COLLEGE PIPE BAND**

FEATURING:

- IONA College Pipe Band
- The Bob Morris Irish Band
- Celtic Friar Pipe Band
- Mulvihill-Lynch School of Dance
- Irish Sing-along with Gerald Donnelly & Steve "Seamus" Camas

**February 11, 2012, 7:30 PM
St. Anthony's High School Auditorium
\$15 in advance, \$20 at the door**

To reserve tickets, mail the form below and check made out to St. Anthony's High School

Mail to: Denise Creighton, Alumni Office
St. Anthony's High School
275 Wolf Hill Road
South Huntington NY 11746

Name: _____

Phone: _____

No. of Tickets: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____



Life Teen: There is no Life Night after the 5:30 p.m. mass this weekend as we will be just ending our retreat. Remember us at mass and keep our teens in your prayers. They will all be praying for you!

Edge: Our next meeting is on February 17th. All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are welcome!

Parent Life: All parents of middle and high school youth are invited to attend Parent Life Meetings. Our next meeting is February 12th. No children please.

Please visit our website: www.SMTLifeTeen.com for photos and more information! To contact Erin, you can e-mail EKHoran@yahoo.com.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



The Life Teen Ministry has Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction on the second Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:00 PM in the Church.

Our next Adoration service is Tuesday, February 14th.

Everyone is welcome to join us in adoring, praising and loving Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT AT ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

What are you doing February 18th? Get a babysitter and come join us for an evening of fun, food, and friends!

DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
TIME: 8:00PM TO 12:00 MIDNIGHT
WHERE: THE PARISH HALL



We ask everyone to bring either a food or dessert from your ethnic background. Soda, water, coffee and tea will be provided. You may bring beer and wine if you like.

PLEASE CALL one of the following contacts to let them know if you can join us.

Debbie Robinson 935-0224; Mary Jo Bella 933-0476; Mari Fitzgerald 935-0240

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES: FEBRUARY 11th



In 1858 Saint Bernadette Soubirous was a 14-year-old shepherd girl who lived near the town of Lourdes, France. One day she reported a vision of a miraculous Lady who identified herself in subsequent visions as "the Immaculate Conception." In the second vision she was asked to return again. She had 18 visions overall. According to Saint Bernadette, the Lady held a string of Rosary beads and led her to the discovery of a buried spring. The Lady also requested that the local priests build a chapel at the site of the visions and lead holy processions there. Eventually, a number of chapels and churches were built at Lourdes as the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes - which is now a major Catholic pilgrimage site. One of these churches, the Basilica of St. Pius X can accommodate 25,000 people and was dedicated by the future Pope John XXIII when he was the Papal Nuncio to France. Message of Our Lady at Lourdes.

Prayer: The apparitions began with a prayer and continues with a prayer. Prayers should not consist of selfish personal desires. At Lourdes one experiences God the Father of love, gives and forgives, whether we are worthy or not. Prayers should be about praise, gratitude, trust and joy, suffering, serenity, solitude, health and illness just like the Lourdes Prayer.

God bestows strength and hope!

Suffering: During the 3rd apparition the Immaculate Conception said "I cannot promise you happiness in this world only in the next." This brings to mind the famous words of the gospel, "He, who wishes to be my disciple, let him take up the cross and follow me." The Immaculate Conception tells Bernadette that true happiness cannot be found externally, but only within intimate spirit. Honesty, accepting responsibility, goodness and generosity lead to happiness. Saint Bernadette said, "I am happier on my bed of pain than a queen on her throne." "To obey is to love, suffering in silence for Christ is joy; to love sincerely is to give everything, above all suffering."

Penitence, Conversion, Purification: "Penitence, Penitence, Penitence" was addressed when the Virgin Mary spoke to Bernadette. This was not a new word used, as Jesus used this word during his preaching, "if you do not repent you will die in the same way." The Virgin Mary reminds us of this during the apparition. When visiting the domain you are encouraged to make changes to your interior life. The Virgin Mary adds "Pray to God for sinners!" This is a wonderful message to remember when you make pilgrimage to Lourdes or in everyday life.

ST. DOMINIC HIGH SCHOOL
110 Anstice Street
Oyster Bay NY 11771 Attn: Mrs. Mascia

Students accepted on a first come—first served basis. There will be no refunds once the course begins. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Dillon at (516) 922-4888 ext. 6522. Send your name, address, phone number and school you are presently attending to the above address.

2012 PSAT/SAT EXAM PREP COURSE
For May 5th SAT Exam

Course will be held on the following Saturdays:

March 3, 17, 24 & 31

And April 21 and 28

9:00 - 11:30 a.m. in Marian Hall

Course Fee: \$250.00 (includes textbook)

Contact: Mrs. Mascia at
 (516) 922-4888 x 5315

Volunteers Needed for Annual HEC
#28 Weekend

Handicapped Encounter Christ (HEC) is in need of volunteers for its annual retreat which will be held Thursday, April 26 through Sunday, April 29, 2012 at Camp Alvernia in Centerport NY.

HEC is a retreat weekend for persons 18 years and older with special needs. Each candidate has a team member with them throughout the weekend. It is a prayerful experience of song, talks, sharing, Eucharist and many other joyful moments.

There are many roles to be filled. We are in need of team members, kitchen help, setting up and taking down the camp, as well as drivers for our candidates.

Our first planning meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 7 PM at St. Francis of Assisi in Greenlawn. Two follow-up meetings are planned for Wednesday, March 7 at 7 PM and April 4 at 7 PM. We request that those interested in assisting a candidate make every effort to attend at least two of the meetings. **Please call Deacon Frank & Michele Barone at 516-420-1207 or email at Mrbarone@verizon.net for further information.**

HAPPY SUPER BOWL DAY

The Origins of the Hail Mary Pass

A Hail Mary Pass or Hail Mary route in American football refers to any very long forward pass made in desperation with only a small chance of success, especially at or near the end of a half. Although the expression had been used before, it was made famous when it was used to describe the game-winning touchdown pass by Dallas Cowboys quarterback, Roger Staubach to Drew Pearson in a December 28, 1975 NFL playoff game against the Minnesota Vikings. Afterwards, it was reported that Staubach (a Roman Catholic) said, "I closed my eyes and said a Hail Mary."

An early print appearance of the term was an Associated Press story about the upcoming 1941 Orange Bowl, appearing in several newspapers (the 31 December 1940 Daytona Beach Morning Journal for one: "Orange Bowl: [Georgetown] Hoyas Put Faith in "Hail Mary Pass"). As the article explained, "A 'hail Mary' pass, in the talk of the Washington eleven, is one that is thrown with a prayer because the odds against completion are big."

Prediction: God made lots of **blue** skies! (don't bet the house of the parish collection: all winning bets must pay a 10% tithe to St. Martin's!

Personally: This is another day of Purgatory since we Jet fans can't stand the Patriots and are not too wild about the Giants either. Woe is me! - **Fr. Pat**

FOR HELP IN A
CRISIS PREGNANCY

Call Diana Mirando

(H) 605-1979 or

(C)830-5077 or Peg McGeary 938-1391.

ROSELINE, LIFE CENTER 24 HOURS
(631) 243-2373. Baby Safe Haven, Safe Babies, Safe Place at 1(877) 796-HOPE. Adoption, Foster Care, Maternity Services, Catholic Home Bureau 1(800) 592-4357.

**MESSAGE FROM
Zorn's Poultry Farms**

Due to the positive response, Zorn's is extending this fundraiser to March 31st so you have an extra month to visit Zorn's and help St. Martin's at the same time! The details are as follows:



Zorn's is proud to announce their **"PROCEEDS MONTHS"** during **January, February and March 2012** which includes all three Zorn's located at 4321 Hempstead Turnpike, Bethpage; 1939 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow and 2495 Merrick Road, Bellmore.

This program is designed to help raise funds for local houses of worship, local schools and sports entities. The Zorn's Family is ever mindful of the rising cost of energy, upkeep and labor involved in maintaining buildings. **Customers who visit any one of the Zorn's locations and who mention St. Martin of Tours, Bethpage will have 10% of the purchase price donated to the church.**

Please take this opportunity to experience great food and help your parish at the same time.

*Thank you in advance for your participation!
Sincerely, The Zorn Family*

The Catholic Counseling Center

Professional therapy, provided by NYS licensed therapists, is available to our parish. This program, under the direction of Dr. George Giuliani is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or the diocese.

Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored.

Confidential information and appointments are available by calling Dr. Giuliani at 631-243-2503 or go to their website at <http://thecatholiccounselingcenter.com>.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

MARCH FOR LIFE 2012

Allison O'Brien, director of our Respect Life Office stated that the Diocese of Rockville Centre registered 38 buses and 1,803 people for the 39th March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 23rd. Bishop Murphy gave the March for Life Opening Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, Jan. 22nd.

"Americans as a people are pro-life, because life and liberty are intertwined and form the core of our national character," House Speaker John Boehner told the crowd, including many from the Diocese of Rockville Centre, gathered at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. "God who gave us life, gave us liberty," said Boehner, a Catholic. He and other members of Congress who spoke at the rally said they were proud they had passed the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act and the Protect Life Act and voted to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and de-fund Planned Parenthood.

Grace Agolia, 13, Ashley-Marie Zambrano, 13, and Laura Dautzenberg, 14 are students at Sacred Heart Academy, Hempstead, wrote in the L.I. Catholic, "Why We Are Pro-life!" "The infinite question that has confounded millions of people and that continues to do so is, "What is Life?" In our struggle to define what life is, we have also been called to respond to the immorality of abortion. As Catholics, we firmly believe that all life is sacred because we are all God's children, brought to life by His will. Science confirms that life begins at the moment of conception and that same life should be preserved until natural death." *Youth Voice, Pg. 9. Source L.I. Catholic, Jan. 25, 2012.*

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Coming this July 2012!**

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**Contact Nancy Reisert at 516 749-2745 or
email itznr@aol.com asap please, for information
on the date, place and time.**