

Masses For The Week**Monday - March 26**

6:30 Catherine & Silvio Sita
 9:00 William J. Zura, Anniversary

Tuesday - March 27

6:30 Leila Dorego
 9:00 Monica Horner

Wednesday - March 28

6:30 Cacilia Mazzaro
 9:00 Marjorie Start

Thursday - March 29

6:30 William & Margaret McCabe
 9:00 Lawrence Territo

Friday - March 30

6:30 Richard Godek
 9:00 Teresa Flynn

Saturday - March 31

9:00 **Intentions Announced at Mass**
 5:00 Peter S. Rossello
 7:00 Edna & Harry LePorin & Family

Sunday - April 1

7:00 The People of the Parish
 8:30 Peter Michael Moschera
 10:00 John, Anna & Ed Helldorfer
 11:30 Doris Urbanski
 1:00 Rae Adams
 5:30 Rudy Casal

Readings For The Week

Mon. Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10
 Luke 1:26-38
 Tues. Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30
 Wed. Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42
 Thurs. Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59
 Fri. Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42
 Sat. Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56
 Sun. **Isaiah 50:4-7** *The servant of the Lord God was rebuffed but did not turn back; he was beaten and spat upon. The suffering one knew the Lord God was with him.*

Philippians 2:6-11 *Christ was in the form of God but did not consider equality with God a thing to be grasped at. He emptied himself, took the form of a slave, and was obedient unto death! Therefore, God exalted him, and all proclaim him Lord.*

Mark 14:1-15 or 15:1-39
The Passion of the Lord



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

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**Last Week March 17/18 Collection**

Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00

Amount Received: \$16,848.16

Thank you for your generosity & support!

Reflection & Living Stewardship

If anyone would serve me, "says Jesus in today's Gospel, "let him follow me; where I am, there will my servant be."

In what ways is Jesus inviting me to follow Him? What service is He asking of me?

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who embrace every aspect of their lives - sufferings as well as gifts - by surrendering to Christ their very selves through service to the parish and wider community.



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***LIFE'S LITTLE "PAUSES"***

Do you get annoyed by life's little "pauses?" Like when you are at a red light? Or when you are in back of a school bus that stops at almost every corner? Or when you are in line at the slowest cashier? Use these little "pauses." Pray for the people on the road with you; pray for the children on that bus; pray for that cashier - maybe he or she is new or having a bad day!



Our next meeting is Monday, March 26th at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Call 516-993-9672 for answers to any questions or for prayer intentions. ALL ARE WELCOME!

St. Martin of Tours HOP Club

Mar. 19 #330 Eileen Horan	\$25.00
Mar. 20 #573 M/M Sal Auletta	\$25.00
Mar. 21 #473 Maureen Gallagher	\$25.00
Mar. 22 #411 M/M Michael Damato	\$25.00
Mar. 23 #136 William & Marie Dorsch	\$50.00

EASTER CARDS

We have Easter cards in the rectory office from the Redemptorist Office of Mission Advancement. An octave of Masses will be said at Saint Alphonsus Church in Rome in the presence of the original picture of the Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help who is the great patron of the Redemptorists. You are welcome to list the names of people you wish to have remembered at these Masses when you take one or more of these Easter cards. It is a lovely card to send to someone at Easter since you will be including them in eight Masses that will be celebrated in a very special site.

EASTER FLOWERS

There are envelopes in your packets to donate to the Church for the flowers that we will use at Easter. You are welcome to list the names of people you wish remembered in prayer on the envelopes. These envelopes are kept on the altar during the Easter season as a way of holding these special people in prayer. For those who do not receive envelopes, there are some available in the Church and in the rectory office if you wish to make such a donation in memory of loved ones.

SAINT PATRICK AND SAINT JOSEPH

I want to thank Frank and Debbie Mekalainas for the great work they did on the St. Patrick statue and a great big thanks to Francis Meehan for his work on the St. Joseph statue. These two statues will be on display in the prayer space during this coming week so people can see them.

-Father Pat, CSSR

MANY THANKS!

I want to express my gratitude to Cory Robinson who framed our parish mission statement that hangs in the Gathering Space. He did a terrific job. God bless him and his family.

HOLY HOUR

We have a beautiful Holy Hour every month that is hosted by our Life Teen Youth Ministry at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. The music and prayer time are very moving.

Some people have asked me if I would consider having another Holy Hour during the day with the Blessed Sacrament exposed. I am happy to try this and see the response. We will have this Holy Hour on Wednesday, March 28th at 3:00 p.m. It will be a time of prayer and quiet reflection and all are invited to come for all or part of it.

Our Lord has given us an incredible gift in His Real Presence in the Eucharist. We think of Jesus' words before he went to the Garden of Gethsemane: "Could you not watch with me for an hour?"

- Father Pat, CSSR

Oceanside Christopher Catholic Credit Union is looking for three candidates for 3 positions that they currently have open and is reaching out to local parishes. If you think you qualify, please contact:

Luke Gould, Vice President, Recruiting\

D. Hilton Associates, Inc.

Office: 281-719-2148

Toll Free 1-800-367-0433 x 148

Fax: 281-364-9433; luke@dhilton.com

Marketing Specialist—Oceanside NY

The individual will manage all delivery channels, organize special events and educational seminars and have a working knowledge of the credit union's products and services. Minimum of five years experience with demonstrated management skills. Bachelor degree preferred.

Mortgage/Consumer Lender—Oceanside NY

To guide and assist underwriting and consumer lending areas of the credit union. Must have a minimum of three to five years management experience. Bachelor degree preferred.

Credit/Debit Card Specialist—Oceanside NY

To guide card department initiatives set by the credit union. Minimum of 3 to 5 years experience with demonstrated leadership and highly effective interpersonal communication skills. Chargeback experience preferred.

Wedding Banns**3rd — March 25****Brian Roden and Christen Balducci****Banns Only***(couple getting married at another church)***3rd — March 25****Christopher Longo and Alicia Ribando**

Please call the rectory at 931-0818 if you or a loved one are able to be taken off the sick list.

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
 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 Nelson
 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, Patricia Heitzman
 Fr. Tom Siconolfi, CSsR, Mom and Dad, Barbara Hunsinger
 Marion Astonino, Fred Tavarrelli, Lucille Pantucci
 William John Staudt, Patricia Marcel, Bonnie Castora
 Jim Robertson, Frances Sutton, Janice Lipp, Joseph Pierini
 Robert Hennessy, John St. Angelo, Harold Hand
 Colin Flood, Paul Remsen, Louise Wilson, Alfred J. Murphy
 Kevin O'Toole, Frances Sharkey, Joni Lora, Frank Livoti*



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

This week the pantry is low on mayonnaise, canned and bagged beans, peas and mixed vegetables, canned fruit, diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6, toilet paper, canned chicken and tuna, chicken soup, bar soap, laundry soap, canned beef stew and chili and pancake syrup. As always, we are very grateful for your generous support!

Food Pantry:

208 Broadway, Bethpage

Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Thursday: 2:00PM – 7:00PM

Phone: (516) 931-7332

Lenten Series on Catholicism**Last Session - April 1****9:45 a.m. to 11: 00 a.m. - Parish Hall****Facilitated by Father Patrick Woods, CSSR**

For the first time, in breathtaking and high-definition cinematography, the truth, goodness, and beauty of Catholicism are illustrated in a multimedia experience. Journey with Fr. Robert Barron to more than 50 locations throughout 16 countries. Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people. From the sacred lands of Israel to the beating heart of Uganda, from the glorious shrines of Europe to the streets of Mexico, Kolkata, and New York City, the mysteries of CATHOLICISM are revealed. Learn what Catholics believe and why. Discover the full meaning of the faith.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

*Week of March 25 - 31, 2012**Altar Bread & Wine**In Loving Memory of Monica Szmytkowski***Rest in Peace***Acts 7:49: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."**Pierina Balzarini, Joseph Elardo, Sr.**Peter Durr, Mary Hoerter*

Letter from the pastor

I love history, with a particular bent toward American history. Last summer, I stood on Little Round Top in Gettysburg, PA, the site of the most famous battle ever fought on American soil. I was with my great nephew Thomas, also a lover of the American past. Our guide described a pivotal moment of the battle that was fought ferociously by both Union and Confederate soldiers. Whoever could hold this hill would win the battle, and whoever would win this battle would most likely win the entire war. For a moment he invited us to think how differently our entire lives and world would be if this battle had had a different outcome.

I hold the American military, many of them teenage boys, who landed on D-Day, as well as *all* the soldiers who fight to protect our nation, in the highest regard. Again, this was an incredibly crucial moment in the history of the world. If this invasion had failed, then the horrors of Nazism might have survived and gone on to further inflict terrible agony on the world. Historians like to debate as to which are the key moments of history - those times and events that have been major turning points in human history.

I believe that the Feast of the Annunciation, the day that Angel Gabriel told Mary of Nazareth that God was inviting her to be the Mother of God, to give birth to the long-awaited Messiah, is the most important day in the history of the world. I am not sure if theologians and religious experts would agree with me; they might argue for Good Friday, Easter, or Christmas, or maybe Pentecost. The feast is usually on March 25th, exactly nine months before Christmas. This year, because the 25th falls on a Sunday of Lent, it has been moved to the 26th of March.

A young girl, perhaps no more than fifteen or sixteen years old, is frightened by this heavenly intervention from Gabriel. We can only imagine the confusion in her heart when she is asked to be the Mother of God. What a question to be asked of her! Although Mary is engaged to Joseph, there have been no sexual relations and she wonders how she can be pregnant. She asks Gabriel "how can this be?" since she is a virgin. The Archangel tells her that the Holy Spirit will overshadow her and that God will take root in her womb.

Ponder that for a moment: God is entering the womb of Mary. Cells become form and take shape that will eventually be the flesh and blood of the Son of God and the Child of Mary. Heaven and earth come together in this young girl! Our salvation and redemption, long promised and anticipated, is beginning in a most dramatic way. As we say every Sunday in the Creed, the Word becomes flesh and dwells among us.

It is important to note that Mary has a choice: God never forces; he invites. Mary can say yes or no to this amazing vocation. A theologian once said that after Gabriel has asked Mary, every angel surrounded her and whispered a prayer, "Please, say yes, please say yes!" Humanity chose to reject God when Adam and Eve chose to disobey God in the Garden of Eden. Now, at this moment of the Annunciation, the entire history of salvation and redemption depends on the choice of a young girl from Nazareth. Mary, in spite of the most incredible confusion and anxiety that must have been in her heart, simply says, "Yes, let it be done according to his plan."

The prayer that we learned as children from our mothers, "*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, and blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb*" are the words that the Archangel Gabriel spoke to Mary at the Annunciation. Every time we say this prayer, we are remembering this great moment in the history of salvation.

Father Pat, CSSR
woodscsr@aol.com

Annunciation

by Denise Levertov

'Hail, space for the uncontained God'

We know the scene: the room, variously furnished, almost always a lectern, a book; always the tall lily. Arrived on solemn grandeur of great wings, the angelic ambassador, standing or hovering, whom she acknowledges, a guest. But we are told of meek obedience. No one mentions courage. The engendering Spirit did not enter her without consent. God waited. She was free to accept or to refuse, choice integral to humanness.

Aren't there annunciations
of one sort or another
in most lives? Some unwillingly
undertake great destinies,
enact them in sullen pride, uncomprehending.
More often those moments when roads of light and storm
open from darkness in a man or woman,
are turned away from
in dread, in a wave of weakness, in despair
and with relief.
Ordinary lives continue. God does not smite them.
But the gates close, the pathway vanishes.

She had been a child who played, ate, slept
like any other child – but unlike others,
wept only for pity, laughed
in joy not triumph.
Compassion and intelligence
fused in her, indivisible.
Called to a destiny more momentous
than any in all of Time,
she did not quail, only asked
a simple, 'How can this be?'
and gravely, courteously,
took to heart the angel's reply,
perceiving instantly
the astounding ministry she was offered:
to bear in her womb
Infinite weight and lightness;
to carry in hidden, finite inwardness,
nine months of Eternity; to contain
in slender vase of being,
the sum of power –
in narrow flesh,
the sum of light. Then bring to birth,
push out into air, a Man-child
needing, like any other,
milk and love – but who was God.

NEW ST. MARTIN OF TOURS WEBSITE COMING SOON

We have such an active parish - we need a website to match! Many of you have asked for an updated website with parish news, events and more, and this is now in the works. We have assembled an SMT Website Team, who is working with the staff and key volunteers to put together the new site to keep you better informed.

It's not too late to give us your suggestions! To provide suggestions, email the team at smtwebsite2012@gmail.com.

To receive text messages with news and announcements regarding the launch of the new website, text smtwebsite2012 to the number 90210, or watch for more information coming soon!!!

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS ROSARY CONFRATERNITY

CHINESE AUCTION AND DINNER Tuesday, APRIL 3, 2012

Doors open at 6:30—Dinner at 7:00 P.M.

Chinese Bingo and Dinner in the Parish Hall with Cash Prizes, Raffles and 50/50! Tables of 10 or share a table. Tickets donation is \$20 per person. A full Chinese dinner, dessert & refreshments will be served.

Upon entrance you will receive one bingo card. Additional cards are \$1.00 each. For tickets please call Janet at 433-9340.

March 25 is the Queenship of Mary and falls on a Sunday. Any mass you go to remember to say the Prayer Before the Crucifix for the indulgences you will receive on that day.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE DMV Approved-Insurance/Point Reduction

Driver Education Consultants is offering a 6-hour Class 1 defensive driving course on **Saturday, April 21 in the Parish Hall from 8:30 - 3:00.**



The cost is \$45.00 with a minimum enrollment of 15 people and maximum of 40.

The 6-hour classroom course is presented by the National Safety Council-certified instructor who with the help of modern, multimedia techniques, offers you a new approach to learning accident prevention skills. You'll receive a course guide to use in class and to keep for future reference.

Call the Rectory at 931-0818 to leave your name and phone number.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre

Golden Wedding Liturgy Honoring Couples Married 50 Years or More



This spring, couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at liturgies on Sunday, April 22nd at St. Lawrence the Martyr in Sayville and Sunday, May 20th at Maria Regina in Seaford. Both liturgies will begin at 2:30 p.m. Couples may register for ONE liturgy. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the rectory.

Registration must be received by the Office of Worship by April 5th for the April liturgy and by May 3rd for the May liturgy. There will be additional celebrations in the fall for those who may find that more convenient. If you have any questions you may call (516) 678-5800 extension 207.

Liturgically Speaking...

How do we know that liturgy is good and that faith is alive and doing well? Think about this! The soup supper was a delicious event and people who did not tell us that they were bringing soup, showed up with soup. We could have used more soup "eaters" but for everything there is a reason. The left over soup was heated by the wonderful volunteers at Outreach and brought to the homeless and others in need. The Thursday after the soup supper was a rainy, damp day. How good hot soup must have been received! Our logo for the supper was: "Sharing a meal warms the heart as well as the stomach. Warming the heart stirs the soul."

We tied the supper into the mission and Father Kevin at the Mass on Thursday evening spoke of the Eucharist. He challenged us to be the Eucharist and a great big "Thank You!" to all the warm hearts and souls who took the time to welcome others on Thursday morning after the Mass and all those who made the soup, the Knights of Columbus who contributed the bread, the workers who set up and served, and Outreach for going to the community.

Thank you for being the Essence and the Presence of Eucharist and rising to the challenge. How do we know that liturgy is good? How do we know our faith is alive and well? *We know because our church family listened and then became the hands and feet of Jesus Christ!*

Thank you, St. Martin of Tours!

Ann Hughes, Chairperson
Liturgy Committee

**St. Martin of Tours CYO Basketball
2011-2012 End of Season Party
Sunday, March 25, 2012
following the 1:00 p.m. Mass**



**Players can wear their jerseys to Mass.
\$30.00 per immediate family
Please make checks payable to:
St. Martin of Tours**

**Give to your coach or mail to:
Larry Reilly, 50 Crestline Ave
Bethpage NY 11714**

Please include the number of family members attending. Volunteers are needed for set up and clean up. Please help if you can. Many thanks!

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION TRAINING

For those interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Communion, please write a letter to the pastor stating your desire to do so. The following are locations for mandatory ministry training. *Please state which sessions you prefer for both "A" and "B."*

**E.M. "A" Session -
Sat., April 14 from 9AM to 1PM
Kellenberg High School, Uniondale**

**E.M. "B" Session -
Sat., May 19 from 9 AM to 1PM
Kellenberg High School, Uniondale**

**IF YOU PREFER EVENING SESSIONS:
"A" Session
Wednesday, May 2 from 7:30 to 10 PM**

**"B" Session
Wednesday, May 9 from 7:30 to 10 PM**



Life Teen: There is a Life Night after the 5:30 p.m. mass this Sunday. All high school aged teens are welcome.

Edge: Our next meeting is on March 30th. 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. Contact Erin for the next meeting date or for more information.

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

PROM DRESS DRIVE

Life Teen is teaming up with a local Long Island charity to collect prom dresses that are no more than 5 years old and in good, clean condition. You can drop off your gown at the parish hall on Saturday, March 24th from 1:00 - 4:00.

LIFE TEEN'S AUCTION

Our auction date is Friday, April 13th in the cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. We are collecting any new and unused items for auction that can be dropped off at the rectory. Please be sure to mark it "*for the Life Teen Auction.*" Thank you!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



The Life Teen Ministry has Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction on the 2nd Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:00 PM in the Church. Our next Adoration service is Tuesday, April 10th. Everyone is welcome to join us in adoring, praising and loving Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Any baptized adult who has received Eucharist can attend a four-session Confirmation class which will begin on Monday, April 16, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, please call Deacon Jim Biggin at the Religious Education office at 822-9768 or home at 796-5520. Confirmation for adults will take place on Pentecost Sunday, May 27th at the 11:30 Mass.

St. Martin of Tours Bereavement Group

There is currently an eight week group session that began Thursday, March 22 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall for anyone who has recently lost a loved one.

Please call the rectory to register your name and phone number.

***"Come to me all who are weary and burdened
and I will give you rest." Matt 11:28***

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>.

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS

St. Martin's always has a supply of hosts available for anyone who is on a gluten free diet. Please seek out the sacristan **before mass** so that the priest is prepared to include it for consecration. Please be sure to follow this procedure every time you attend mass.

**RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE
GOD IS THE BIGGER ELVIS**

Mother Dolores Hart, O.S.B., a former actress turned cloistered nun, attended the Academy Awards show to support an Oscar nominated documentary, ***"God is the Bigger Elvis,"*** about her and her abbey.

Mother Dolores was an award-winning actress who performed in two Elvis Presley movies. In 1963 she was about to sign a seven figure contract and was engaged to a Los Angeles businessman when she decided to join the Benedictine Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Connecticut where she is now prioress. The 37 minute documentary talks about Mother Dolores' story and about life at the abbey. It was nominated for the best documentary/short category and is set to premiere APRIL 5th on HBO." Mother Dolores said, "I left Hollywood at the urging of a mysterious thing called "vocation." It's a call that comes from another place that we call God because we don't have any other way to say it. It's a call of love. Why do you climb a mountain?"

She allowed cameras to access the abbey to help those who are soul searching. "We wanted to invite the world into another order of life that might give some hope," she said. The documentary interviews Mother Dolores and other nuns like Sister John Mary, an Oxford-educated former advertising executive who came to the abbey after a period of addiction. The director said she made the film to explore what makes someone with Mother Dolores' level of success chose the religious life. Mother Dolores remains a voting member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

**FOR HELP IN A
CRISIS PREGNANCY**
Call Diana Mirando
(C)830-5077

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.

**Weekly Stations of the Cross
DURING LENT
Friday March 30 in Church at 7:30 p.m.**

**THE LIVING STATIONS
OF THE CROSS**



Come and journey with the St. Martin of Tours Players as they present the *Living Stations of the Cross* on Palm Sunday, *April 1st at 7:30 PM* in the Church.

Beginning with hymns that reflect the Passion of Christ, the narrations will bring you back to the time of Jesus' trial, Passion and Death. It is an excellent way to begin Holy Week.

**DIVORCED, SEPARATED AND
SINGLE CATHOLICS OF LONG ISLAND
WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS**

**NASSAU COUNTY CHAPTER NUMBER ONE
PO BOX 2031**

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTAION
NON DENOMINATION-ALL ARE WELCOME
TUESDAY, MARCH 27 AT 8PM**

**THE MEETING IS HELD AT
ST. FRANCES DE CHANTAL SCHOOL
1309 WANTAGH AVENUE, WANTAGH**

**PLEASE BRING PROOF OF SINGLE STATUS TO JOIN.
REFRESHMENTS ARE SERVED AFTER THE MEETING.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CALL CAROL AT 516-794-4933 BEFORE 9PM
OR MIKE AT 516-799-6541**

VIRTUS TRAINING

For those who need to attend Virtus training St. Martin's is having one on Wednesday, March 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge. You can register online at drvc.org. or call the rectory at 931-0818 if that is not possible.

St. Martin of Tours Baptism Program

Our baptism program was revised 9 years ago, and has evolved with changes to better accommodate our parishioners. Baptisms are scheduled for Sunday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. The process begins when parents contact Deacon Gene Capobianco at (516) 933-4690. At that time, he schedules the family for Gathering, Baptism and Reflection dates. The following is a description of the program, detailing each step:

The Home Visit: The first step in our process is a visit to the home of the family whose baby is to be baptized. The program volunteers, called Companions, make this visit to greet the family and welcome them. The Companions fill out the required paperwork for church records and pray with the family.



The Gathering: The Gathering is once a month for those babies being baptized the following month. It is a prayer service with scripture reading, a review of the baptism process and a DVD called "Your Baby's Baptism." The Gathering takes place on a Sunday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The Baptism: The third part of the program occurs on a Sunday afternoon usually on the first or third Sunday (except when there is a holiday) at 3:00 p.m. where the sacrament of Baptism takes place.

The Reflection: The Reflection is scheduled every two months at the 1:00 p.m. mass and is for all of the babies that were baptized in the previous two months. There is also a special blessing for the mother and father. At the conclusion of the mass, the families are invited to the Parish Hall for a reception and an evaluation of their experience with the whole process. Baptism certificates are distributed at the end of the Reflection.

COMPANIONS

At the heart of this very rewarding ministry are the volunteers called *Companions*. They are the people who reach out to families with newborn babies and are representatives of the Parish of St. Martin of Tours. Since our parish has many young families with young children, we need more Companions to reach out to them. If you think you may be interested in this ministry, please call Deacon Gene Capobianco at (516) 933-4690.