	Masses For The Week
Monday	- December 10
6:30	John P. Murray
	Peter Loretta
Tuesday	- December 11
	Doris Charney
9:00	John Lettis
Wednesd	lay - December 12
6:30	Camille Odierna
9:00	Edward & Shirley Miller
	y - December 13
6:30	William Spencer
9:00	Joseph Furrey
	December 14
	Fr. Thomas Schmidt, CSSR, 5th Anniversary
	Josephine Ferro
	v - December 15
	Multiple Intentions Announced
	John J. Jauregui
	Madeline Stein
	December 16
	Fr. Vincent P. Crotty, CSSR, 1st Anniversary
8:30	
10:00	, .
11:30	
1:00	
5:30	Frances Perez
	Readings For The Week
Mon.	Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26
Tues	Isaiah 40·1-11· Matthew 18·12-14

Tues. Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14

Wed. Zechariah 2:14-17; Luke 1:26-38

Thurs. Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15

Fri Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 Sat.

Zephaniah 3:14-18a Be joyful, Jerusalem! Sun. The Lord will come and save you from your enemies. Do not be discouraged or lose heart, for "the Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior."

Philippians 4:4-7 "Rejoice in the Lord always," wrote Paul. "I say it again: rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God; then the peace of God that surpasses understanding will guard vour hearts and minds.'

Luke 3:10-18 John the Baptizer said to the crowds, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." In that way he preached good news to the people.

St. Martin of Tours HOP Club

Dec. 3 #263	Ann Hughes	\$25.00
Dec. 4 #187	Linda Menendez	\$25.00
Dec. 5 #118	Dorothy Branston	\$25.00
Dec. 6 #350	Rev. Henry Sattler, CSSR	\$25.00
Dec. 7 # 33	Patricia Gaynor	\$50.00

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Last Week December 1/2 Collection Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00 Amount Received: \$21,979.56

Thank you for your support & generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship



Good stewards believe that God, Stewardship who has begun this good work in A Way of Life them, will carry it through to completion. In words and deeds, they

can sing with the psalmist, "The Lord had done great things for us; we are filled with joy!"

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who strive to respond to God's grace through service to our parish and the wider community, especially our parish social ministries and senior services.

Please pray for the women and men in our Military and their families and friends as they selflessly protect and defend our nal tion against all forms of terrorism. May



God protect them from all harm!

Charismatic Praver Group Presents vs. Presence



It's not the presents that are important. So many people are only focused on getting all the perfect presents that they forget about what's most important - the Presence of Jesus! He is the Gift that

keeps on giving!

Our next meeting is Monday, December 10th at 7:30 p.m. in St. Alphonsus Hall. Give yourself a gift - Jesus wrapped in song and praise. Call 516-993-9672 for more info or answers to any questions.



Divine Mercy Novena

Every Friday at 2:00 p.m. in the Eucharistic Chapel ALL ARE WELCOME!

Letter from the Pastor

Second Sunday of Advent

He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. - Isaiah 2:4

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. - Isaiah 11:6

Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased. - Luke 2:14

I love these beautiful words from the Sacred Scriptures. They capture one of the major themes of Advent: reconciliation. Three of my favorite stories of Christmas, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life*, and Dr. Seuss' *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* are all stories of conversion and reconciliation. The main character in each story, Ebenezer Scrooge, George Bailey, and the Grinch are angry and bitter about their lot in life and they are miserable at Christmas time when the rest of the world is rejoicing. However, they encounter grace in different ways and they become reconciled and desirous of loving everyone. This is a common theme in the Hallmark Christmas stories we will see during the holidays. They tug at our hearts and seek to move us to tears as some alienated person discover the true meaning of Christmas and is restored to happiness.

One of my favorite stories of Christmas reconciliation is a true one. It is called the Christmas Truce of 1914 and here is a summary of it:

The Christmas truce was a series of widespread, unofficial ceasefires that took place along the Western Front around Christmas 1914, during World War I. Through the week leading up to Christmas, parties of German and British soldiers began to exchange seasonal greetings and songs between their trenches; on occasion, the tension was reduced to the point that individuals would walk across to talk to their opposite numbers bearing gifts. On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, many soldiers from both sides – as well as, to a lesser degree, from French units – independently ventured into "no man's land" where they mingled, exchanging food and souvenirs. As well as joint burial ceremonies, several meetings ended in carol-singing. Troops from both sides were also friendly enough to play games of football with one another. The truce is seen as a symbolic moment of peace and humanity amidst one of the most violent events of modern history.

There is something about hearing a children's choir singing *Silent Night*, seeing a Christmas tree all lit up, the hearty greetings of Merry Christmas from a stranger, and sidewalk Santa that can touch the hardest of hearts. At least for a day, at least for an hour, we want to believe in peace on earth, good will to all. However, frazzled and worn out we may become, there is a longing in the human heart for the dreams of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah and the angels singing over the hills of Bethlehem to be come to life.

Is there a person with you need to be reconciled with this Advent or Christmas season? Perhaps, it is someone who was loved and cared for and with whom you are not angry. This is a great season of grace. Reconciliation takes two, but even if the other party is not interested in restoring harmony, we can still make the effort-perhaps a Christmas card to someone we have long written off or an email with a simple Merry Christmas. It may be that the Lord is inviting us to a reconciliation by going to confession and letting of some burden we have carried for a long time. If you enter into the Advent season, you will feel that old familiar nudge calling you to open your heart to another or to the mercy of God.

Father Patrick Woods, CSSR woodscssr@aol.com www.smtbethpage.org

THE ORIGIN OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Saint Boniface, an English missionary and often called the "Apostle of Germany," in the year 722, came upon a group of men who were about to cut down a huge oak tree. The purpose of the men cutting down the



tree was to create a stake in which a human sacrifice could be offered to a pagan god. As the story goes, Saint Boniface felled the massive tree with one single blow and as the tree split, a beautiful young fir tree springs from the center, its branches pointing upward to Heaven.

Boniface told the people that this tree was indeed a holy tree, the tree of the Christ Child and a symbol of Christ's promise of eternal life. He then instructed the people to carry the evergreen from the forest into their homes and to surround the tree with gifts that symbol-

ized love and kindness. Boniface, a priest, was martyred at the age of 75 but his gift of the Christmas tree continues today. As the years passed the fir trees were decorated with apples and small white wafers that represented the Holy Eucharist. These wafers were later replaced by small pieces of pastry that were cut into the shapes of stars, angels, hearts, flowers and bells. Eventually other cookies were introduces bearing the shapes of men, birds and other animals.

During the Middle Ages around the 11th century, religious theatre was born and one of the most popular plays was the German mystery play that dealt with the fall from grace of Adam and Eve and their expulsion from Paradise. In the play, the tree represented the Garden of Eden and was adorned with apples. The dual nature of the Tree of Life and the Tree of Discernment of Good and Evil were represented as both of them were present in Paradise. The play ended with the prophecy of the coming of Jesus and for this reason, the play was often enacted during the season of Advent.

The main part of the scenery, the "Paradeisbaum" of the Paradise Tree became a popular object and was often set up in churches and eventually found its way into private homes. It became a symbol of the Savior and since it represented not only Paradise and our fall from grace, but also the promise of eternal salvation, it was hung not only with apples but also with bread or wafers (symbolizing the Holy Eucharist) and sweets (symbolizing the sweetness of redemption). In sections of Bavaria today, fir branches and little trees that are decorated with lights, tinsel and apples are still called "Paradeis."

The German and English immigrants brought the Paradise Tree or Christmas Tree to Canada, the United States and South and Central America. Fruits, nuts, flowers and lighted candles adorned the early Christmas trees but will all of the decorations many of the trees sagged and drooped due to the weight of the decorations. Ingenuity prevailed as German glassblowers began to produce lightweight glass balls and decorations to replace the heavier natural decorations. The lights and the decorations were symbols of the joy and the light of Christmas and at the top of the tree was placed a star that was symbolic of the "Star in the East" that led the Wise Men to the manager. Another legend surrounds the use of the Pine Tree as the Christmas tree. When the Holy Family was pursued by the soldiers of Herod, many plants offered them shelter. When Mary was too weary to travel any longer the family stopped at the edge of the forest to rest. A gnarled and withered old pine tree that had grown hollow from it s years invited the family to rest within its trunk. When the Holy Family did so, the branches closed around them and hid them from the soldiers who sought their presence. When the soldiers had passed the Holy Family left and when they did the Christ Child blessed the pine tree and the imprint of the Infant Jesus' hand was left forever in the fruit of the tree, the pine cone. If a pine cone is cut lengthwise, the little hand of Jesus can still be seen.

When you and your families place and decorate your tree this year you might want to thank God for the gift of Boniface and all the martyrs as well as thanking God for the true meaning of the Christmas tree: eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Wedding Banns No wedding announcements



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

The week the Food Pantry is in need of laundry soap, dish soap, diapers (sizes 5 & 6), mayonnaise, oil, pasta sauce, jams and jellies & coffee.

In addition to all of the Thanksgiving donations, the Pantry served 98 families (616 individuals) during the month of November. Thank you for all your tremendous generosity!

Food Pantry:

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

FOR THE PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN

Please note that while school is in session, the Religious Education Department will lock both gates leading to the school parking lot on the following days and times:

Monday and Tuesday 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Please park outside the gates during these days and times.

GLUTEN, PEANUT & DAIRY FREE HOSTS

St. Martin's always has a supply of hosts available for anyone who is allergy-sensitive to these types of foods. 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.

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Please pray for the sick of our parish:

Fr. Dennis Billy CSsR, Fr. Brendan Greany C.Ss.R. Fr. Tom Siconolfi CSsR, Fr. James Small CSsR Helena Carroll, Pat Pedone, Vincent Valenti Ledwin Mason, Leevalli Annearosa, Walter Looney-Fran Pignataro, Skylar Vega Catherine Dalessio, Leigh Murphy, Helena Mulligan Richard Piernini, John Tortorice, Donna Melkum Joseph Simon, Douglas Torres, Patricia Hall James Robertson, Amy Hayes, Mom & Dad, Gina Cava Helena Mulligan, Bill Kelly, Salvatore Milo, Jr. Matthew Messina, Anne Cramer, William John Staudt Jimmy Stiffa

> The five Advent Banners are in loving memory of the following:

Anita Amoroso Rev. Vincent P. Crotty, CSSR Christopher G. Onken (2 banners) Frances Perez

May their loved ones find great comfort in knowing that they are in heaven with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and all the Angels and Saints.



Week of Dec. 9 - Dec. 15, 2012 Altar Bread & Wine In Loving Memory of Robert P. Morana

Rest in Peace Acts 7:49: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Dorothy Mignone, Sarah M. Zura

Life Line Screening

Life Line Screen is partnering with St. Martin of Tours in an effort to help save lives on **January 11**, **2013 in St. Alphonsus Hall.** It is our mission to help bring awareness to vascular disease by offering to host a preventative stroke/vascular screening event. We are pleased to offer St. Martin's a \$10 donation for every member of the parish that signs up and attends this event.

Please sign up by calling the special Helping Hands registration number (1-800 324-9458). The first appointment is 9:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m.

Congratulations to Kyle Naranjo who has achieved honor roll status for the first quarter at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School.

Congratulations to the following students who have made the honor roll for the first quarter at St. Anthony's High School. Liam Furboter Vincent Giuliano Lauren Moratti Matthew Musetich Serena Pergola Kaitlin Skrypek Christopher Vaglica

Baptism Companions



St. Martin of Tours Baptism Program is in need! Volunteers called "Companions" are at the heart of this program. They are the people who reach out to these families with the

newborn babies. They guide and journey with them through the Gathering, Baptism, and Reflection.

Our parish has many young families with young children and in order to reach out to these families, we need more Companions. If you think that you may be interested in this ministry, please call Deacon Gene Capobianco at 516-933-4690.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

ANGELS, SHEPHERDS, KINGS Sign up below for the Christmas Eve Children's

Pageant at the 6:00 PM Mass, and return to the rectory to the attention of Genny Mitchell. Practice will be on Thursday, December 20th at 4:00 PM in the Church.



Name(s) & Ages___

Phone No.:

FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

Call Diana Mirando (C)830-5077 or (H) 605-1979 ROSELINE, LIFE CENTER 24 HOURS, RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT (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.

The Catholic Counseling Center

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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 <u>http://</u> thecatholiccounselingcenter.com.

Page Seven

Looking for Some Christmas Spirit?



There will be a showing of

"It's a Wonderful Life" starring Jimmy Stewart & Donna Reed

St. Alphonsus Hall Saturday, December 22 at 12:30 p.m.

Bring a cushion or a pillow or your own chair Snacks are Welcome

THE GIVING TREE



Thank you for returning all tags and gift cards to the rectory by Monday, December 10th. If you have not taken a tag, please know that gift cards for food, gas, movies, toys, etc. are always welcome. We can always use warm hats, scarves and gloves for children and adults.

Thank you for all your contributions. God bless you and your loved ones. May you enjoy a happy, holy Christmas!

WREATH SALE

The Bethpage Boy Scouts Troop 604 will be selling wreaths *THIS weekend*, *December 8 & 9 after all masses.* Your \$20 donation for these beautiful wreaths will be helping to support our scouting program here in Bethpage. Thank you and God bless you all!



RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

May we never take for granted our RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. May we be vigilant over its protection, embrace it, and watch carefully that it never be taken from us.

"The challenge facing you, dear friends, is to increase the awareness of the importance for society of religious freedom; to defend that freedom against those who would take religion out of the public domain and establish secularism as America's official faith. And it is vitally necessary for the very survival of the American experience to transmit to the next generation the precious legacy of religious freedom and the convictions which sustain it." Pope John Paul 11 (1995 on his visit to America).

THE HISTORY OF THE CHRISTMAS CAROL

"THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS"

During the centuries when it was a crime to be Catholic and to practice one's faith, in public or private, in Ireland and England "The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written as a "catechism song" to help young Catholics learn the beliefs of their faith. It was a memory aid-when being caught with anything in writing indicating adherence to the Catholic faith could not only get you imprisoned, but could get you hanged.

The songs gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the faith. The "true love" mentioned in the song doesn't refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God himself. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person.



A Partridge in a Pear Tree - Jesus Christ, the Son of God

Two Turtle Doves - the Old and New Testaments

Three French Hens - Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues

Four Calling Birds - the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists

- Five Golden Rings the First Five Books of the Old Testament (The Pentateuch)
- · Six Geese A-Laying Six Days of Creation
- · Seven Swans A-Swimming the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Seven Sacraments
- · Eight Maids A-Milking the Beatitudes
- Nine Ladies Dancing the Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Also Listed as the Nine Classifications of Angels)
- Ten Lords A-Leaping the Ten Commandments
- Eleven Pipers Piping the Eleven Faithful Apostles
- Twelve Drummers Drumming the Twelve Points of Doctrine in the Apostle's Creed.



St. Martin's Life Teen program is for all high school aged teens (9th-12th grade). Life Teen gathers every Sunday for the 5:30pm Youth Mass and every Sunday night from 7-8:30pm in the Youth Center (room 107 of the school) for our Life Nights. Each week we gather to grow in faith and friendship with Christ & each other. Check out our parish website for a calendar of events at www.smtbethpage.org or contact Erin at EKHoran@yahoo.com.



The Edge program is for all middle school aged student (6th-8th grade). Edge meets every other Thursday evening from 7-8:30pm. This program is a wonderful way for young adolescents to grow in their faith as well as build lasting friendships.



Parent Life is designed to give parents an opportunity to support their parish ministry programs while strengthening their own relationship with Christ and His Church. Parent Life meets once a month on Sundays following the 5:30pm Mass in the school building. **All parents and adults are welcome!**



EUCHARISTIC 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. <u>The</u> next service is Tuesday, December 11th.

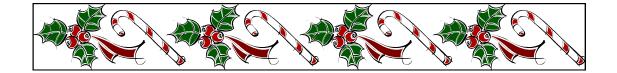
Young Adult Club

The introductory meeting that was scheduled for the Young Adult Club was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy. The meeting to measure interest would be on Sunday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory.

Some of the ideas that might be discussed as possibilities are:

- Faith on Tap: 25 to 40 year old Catholic singles and divorced.
- go to a bar/restaurant and get to know one another.
- explain what the group is about
- difficulty of meeting new friends in a nice environment
- day group trips
- nights out once or twice a month (if it's a good crowd possibly more)
- once a month prayer group (Fr. Pat or Fr. Henry)
- speakers on life and religion for our age group

Please contact Danielle at <u>danic627@yahoo.com</u> if you are interested in such a group.



A Visit with Santa And His Friends St. Nicholas St. Anne, the Grandmother of Jesus

Sunday, December 23rd after the 10:00 a.m. Children's Mass St. Alphonsus Hall

Bring Some Christmas Cookies (Santa is a big eater) Bring your camera Children of All Ages are Welcome

Santa is promising new players for the Mets!



DRIVER EDUCATION CONSULTANTS

Martin Z. Hirschfield, Executive Director

St. Martin of Tours is hosting a 6-hour Class 1 Defensive Driving course

> Saturday, January 26, 2013 from 8:30AM—3:00PM

St. Alphonsus Hall 38 Seaman Avenue, Bethpage

REGISTRATION:

call Driver Education (631) 360-9720 Monday-Friday 9AM to 4PM. Minimum enrollment: 15 people Maximum enrollment: 40 people

A Parish Family In Need

On Sunday, November 25th, John and Linda Henehan's house in Bethpage was completely destroyed by a fire and they lost their home. John and Linda have three young children. They are presently staying in the rectory guest house. I would ask if you could make either a financial donation or a gift card donation for them, it would be most helpful. We are not looking for clothes at this time. You may leave your donation at the rectory. Thank you for your kindness at this most difficult time in their lives. - Father Pat

VIRTUS

Virtus training is a <u>MUST</u> for anyone who would like to volunteer your time in the parish. The next training session at St. Martin's is on Wednesday, December 12th at 7:00 PM in the Faculty Lounge of the school.

Please register by visiting drvc.org and click on Virtus on the homepage. Come by St. Martin's rectory office and ask for Screening Consent Forms prior to the training date.

▲ New York Blood Center

Excellence Quality Service Innovation Leadership

New York Blood Center - B L O O D D R I V E

St. Martin's is hosting a BLOOD DRIVE on Wednesday, December 19th from 2:30—8:30 PM St. Alphonsus Hall (Parish Hall). To be a good donor you must:

- Bring valid photo or signature ID
- Minimum weight of 110 lbs
- Age 16-75 (16 year olds must have parental consent available at www.nybloodcenter.org)
- Eat well (low fat) and drink fluids
- No tattoos for past 12 months unless applied in NJ.

Time slots begin at 2:30 and every 15 minutes up to and including 8:15 p.m.

You may call the rectory at 931-0818 to leave your name, phone number and the time you would like to reserve, or you can email gennysmt@hotmail.com.

If you have any questions about your eligibility to give blood, please call 1-800-688-0900.

A Christmas Homecoming

Christmas is a wonderful time to celebrate our faith in Jesus Christ. Whether you are a daily Mass attendee or an occasional Mass participant, the Parish of St. Martin of Tours welcomes you and invites you to grow more deeply in the love of our God who so loves us that he came among us as a baby.



Advent Homecoming Celebration

December 5th December 12th December 19th 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.

I'll Be Home For Christmas Don't Miss the Star O Come, Let Us Adore Him Songs of Christmas

These services will be about 50 minutes in length.

This and That

- I would like to thank the several plumbers who have stepped forward to offer assistance to the repair of the Baptismal Font. We are still waiting to hear from one company that seems promising so I have not yet turned this project over to you yet since I want to see what they have to offer.
- Our bells are chiming! We played our new bells for the first time on Thanksgiving Day and almost everybody is happy with them. We have the Angelus ringing at 8:55 a.m. so as not to interfere with Mass beginning at 9:00 a.m. We also have the Angelus toll at 6:00 p.m. We have kept away from 12:00 noon, a traditional time for this prayer, because the town fire alarm goes off at that time and there is always the possibility of a funeral going on at 12:00 p.m. We have these times set on a timer and they go off automatically. We are also using the bells for funerals and weddings. Additionally, we are using it before and after Masses on both weekdays and Sundays. I think the chimes lift us to prayer as we go into church. They help us carry the spirit of the liturgy home with us. I also think the bells tell the neighborhood that St. Martin's is here and the presence of God is felt not only by our parishioners but all who hear the lovely sounds
- The first song I played on the system was Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head. After that Elena took the remote from me and has not given it back. As I wrote several months ago, we purchased these bells with funds from the sale of the old convent. The convent netted the parish \$275,000.00 and the bells cost about \$10,000.00. The rest of the money will be kept in the bank for future work on the property. The former bell system had fallen into disrepair and was unsalvageable. I think this is a good investment. I hope to have a blessing of the bells before Christmas.
- St. Bernadette has arrived and is praying before our Blessed Mother in our outside grotto. I want to thank the Christian Mothers for their very generous donation to pay for the statue. I love this saint and she has much to teach us. She was a young uneducated girl in a poor village and had the privilege of seeing the Blessed Mother many times. She suffered much because people doubted her and persecuted her and her family. She was most humble and we pray she brings many blessing to our parish, especially to the children of the parish.

BOOK CLUB NEWS: Our First Book: *FAITH*, by Jennifer Haigh

The first meeting of our book club was held on Saturday, December 1st. Father Pat gave a warm welcome and made us feel that our thoughts and tastes were most important in this club. We all felt that the book club will truly be a collaborative experience. Father Pat gave inspiring direction about the books we will choose to read. He shared that hopefully our future book selections will be good literature, involve universal truths and engage us to think and to laugh. They are not aimed to be about religion.



The members showed a true collaborative spirit as they shared books like The Shack or movies like "The Way," which might be used in the future. The interaction from the group was positive and energetic. We may in time even create a personal book club library. Everyone agreed that our discussions will help us connect the book ideas to ourselves, other books, movies and many issues in life and in the world. We felt excited to be learning from each other. The group of 18 was a large amount for a book club, thus we agreed to make two dates for our next session, one of which will be Saturday, December 15th at 10:00 in St. Alphonsus Hall.

I will email the questions or discussion points about our first book, *Faith*, to all who gave their email addresses or contact numbers at the meeting. I look forward to hearing your thoughts about the book when we meet. It is not too late to join so you can start reading the book. You may email Father Pat at woodscssr@aol.com or me, Ann Mele at ann111647@netscape.net.

"Happy reading" and a very Merry Christmas!

December	9,	2012
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淡	Adult Choirs Rehearsal Schedule	
	Monday December 10th	
	7:00 pm - Midnight Mass Christmas Rehearsal (seasonal singers please attend)	
	Thursday December 13th	×
	7:00 pm - 8:30 and 11:30 Choir Practice	*
	Monday December 17th	*
	7:00 pm - Lessons and Carols Rehearsal (All members of music ministry must attend)	*
淡	We day and easy Descent loss 104h	
	Wednesday December 19th 7:30 pm - LESSONS & CAROLS (PLEASE BE IN THE CHURCH AT 6:30 PM)	
	Thursday December 20th	*
	7:00 pm - 8:30 and 11:30 Choir Practice 8:00 pm - Midnight Mass Christmas Rehearsal (seasonal singers please attend)	*
		**
	Sunday December 23rd - Mass as usual	**
淡	Monday December 24th - Midnight Mass Pre Concert/Midnight Mass	
	Concert begins at 11:00 pm (PLEASE BE IN THE CHURCH AT 10:45 PM)	
	Tuesday December 25th - Christmas DayMass as usual	11
	Tuestay December 25th Christinus Duythuss us usuar	1
	REGULAR 8:30 AND 11:30 CHOIR PRACTICES WILL RESUME	*
	ON THURSDAY JANUARY 10TH.	*
	LIFE TEEN BAND, PLEASE CHECK WITH CHRIS FOR YOUR REHEARSAL	SCHEDULE. 🌺
2	***********	
T	Children's Music Ministry Christmas Rehearsal Schedule	*****
4	Monday, December 10, December 17– Extra Christmas practices at 5:00 PM	*
ŧ	Wednesday, December 19 - Advent Lessons and Carols at 7:30 PM (we will practice	songs on 🕴 🛉
	Wednesdays)	
Ŧ	Thursday, December 20 - Christmas Pageant Practice at 4:00 PM for anyone who is	participating ቾ
4	followed by Choir Practice at 5:00 PM.	
Ť	Monday, December 24 - Family Mass and Christmas Pageant in the Church at 6:00	PM 🌲
	Wednesday, December 24 - Failing Wass and Christina's Fageant in the Church at 0.00 Wednesday, December 26 & January 2 - NO PRACTICES THOSE DAYS!	
ŧ		
Ŧ	Sunday, December 30, January 6 - Sing at 10:00 AM Mass as usual. (We will just si Carols)	ng Christmas 🛔
Ŧ	*********	*****
-		



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2012

CONFESSIONS <u>TUESDAY</u>, December 18 2:00 - 3:00 P.M. & 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

<u>WEDNESDAY</u>, December 19 2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. <u>SATURDAY</u>, December 22 2:00 - 3:00 P.M. & 8:00 - 9:00 P.M.



PLEASE NOTE: There was a misprint in the Christmas Schedule you received with your envelopes. <u>All Advent Services will begin at 7:30 P.M.</u>

ADVENT SERVICE: Wednesday, December 12th at 7:30 P.M. ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS: Wednesday, December 19th at 7:30 P.M.

4:00 P.M.	CHRISTMAS EVE, Monday, December 24 Church & Auditorium
4:30 P.M.	Knights of Columbus, Fr. Hartigan Council Hall - Central Ave.
6:00 P.M.	Children's Mass in Church
9:00 P.M.	Life Teen Mass in Church
11:00 P.M.	Pre-Midnight Mass Concert in Church
12:00 A.M.	Midnight Mass in Church



CHRISTMAS DAY, Tuesday, December 25 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M. & 1:00 P.M.

No evening Mass on Christmas Day

NEW YEAR MASSES Mary, The Holy Mother of God, Holy Day of Obligation

> NEW YEAR'S EVE, Monday, December 31 9:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, Tuesday, January 1, 2013 9:00 A.M., 12:00 NOON & 7:00 P.M.

