

Masses For The Week**Monday - January 28**

6:30 Dorothy & George Riggins
9:00 John Lettis

Tuesday - January 29

6:30 Tadas Alinskas
9:00 Vernon Sattler

Wednesday - January 30

6:30 Angelo Incorvaia
9:00 John & Angeline Serventi

Thursday - January 31

6:30 George & Catherine Ruff
9:00 Madeline Pellicano

Friday - February 1

6:30 Michael A. DiGuseppi
9:00 Frank Pepe, Anniversary

Saturday - February 2

9:00 **Multiple Intentions Announced**
5:00 Louis Ruggiero, Anniversary
7:00 Sam Malerba

Sunday - February 3

7:00 The People of the Parish
8:30 Josefina DeGuzman
10:00 Lena D'Amico
11:30 Stella Agnese
1:00 Mark Ridge
5:30 No Intentions

Readings For The Week

Mon. Hebrews 9:15, 24-28; Mark 3:22-30
Tues. Hebrews 10:1-10; Mark 3:31-35
Wed. Hebrews 10:11-18; Mark 4:1-20
Thurs. Hebrews 10:19-25; Mark 4:21-25
Fri. Hebrews 10:32-39; Mark 4:26-34
Sat. Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40
Sun. *Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you...They will fight against you but not prevail over you, for I am with you."*

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13 "Love is patient, love is kind...Love never fails." In the end there are three things - faith, hope and love - but the greatest of these is love."

Luke 4:21-30 God sent Elijah to no other widow than the widow of Zarephath near Sidon. Elisha cured no other leper than Naaman the Syrian. The crown grew angry. "But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away."

***Divine Mercy Novena***

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

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**Last Week January 19-20 Collection**

Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00

Amount Received: \$16,220.58

Thank you for your generosity & support!

Reflection & Living Stewardship

The U.S. Bishops' pastoral on stewardship reinforces today's reading from 1 Corinthians: *"Because its individual members do collectively make up the Body of Christ, that body's health and well-being are the responsibility of the members - the personal responsibility of each of us. We are all stewards of the Church."*



We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who care for and support our parish through ministry, service, participation and offertory.

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.

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

I was playing **Legos®** with my grandson, and he asked if there was a set for everything. I said "probably." So he asked if there is a set for God! Then I said, "what do you think it would be like?" He answered, "It would be BIG!" Kids say the funniest things. God **IS** big, and so is his love & mercy!

Our next meeting on Monday, January 28th in the Church. When God's in your life, the possibilities are endless. Call (516) 993-9672 for any prayer requests or more information.

St. Martin of Tours HOP Club

Jan. 21	#540 Dolores Volkommer	\$25.00
Jan. 22	#640 M/M Andrew Bartolozzi	\$25.00
Jan. 23	#108 Patrick & Rosemary Curtin	\$25.00
Jan. 24	#429 Brian & Maryann McGrath	\$25.00
Jan. 25	#413 Ann Papaccioli	\$50.00

Letter from the Pastor



I have been to lots of weddings in my life. Some of the weddings were wonderful, and others I wondered if they would ever end. I believe I have lost some of hearing from being too close to the band on Table 24 as it blasted *Celebrate* or *We Are Family* and grown hoarse over the sound as I tried to answer someone who wanted to know if the wedding counted for Sunday Mass. When I suggested that a Friday afternoon ceremony without a Mass didn't exactly fit the bill, they seem to be disappointed with my answer. I might have gained a pound or two from the appetizers that I have eaten during the cocktail hour, which supplied enough food to feed an army!

I have been particularly close to four weddings in my life - that of my sister, my two nieces and my nephew. The first thing that always surprised me was when the bride-to-be announced, *There is only 16 months to the wedding: how will we ever get everything done!!* Now I started to wonder if General Eisenhower was planning the D-Day invasion of Europe or was the Apollo team seeking to get us to the moon! *16 months!* These family weddings, seemed to me, would match the planning of Prince William and Kate Middleton, but I am not sure if Pippa attended. I think I would have remembered that.

But there are many questions to be resolved. Should we marry in the summer- but it might be too hot. If we marry in the Fall, the men will all be watching the football games including the groom. If we marry in the winter, it might snow, and if we marry in the spring, well, everyone else does that. What colors for the bridesmaid? Where shall the reception be? How many guests shall we invite? And that most serious question of all: who is paying for the wedding? What kind of food should we serve? What about the vegetarians? What will be our first song? Do we need to take dance lessons? Where shall we go on our honeymoon? Where will we have the rehearsal dinner? What shall the mother of the bride wear? I did read once that the mother of the groom is suppose to wear beige and be quiet. I do not think my sister lived up to that requirement. I think that brides sometime suffer from temporary insanity. One of my cousins had a wedding where she refused to sit at any point during the ceremony because she did not want to wrinkle her wedding dress. When our beautiful basilica of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Brooklyn was being painted and there was thousands of dollars invested in the scaffolding, another friend of mine asked me if I could get the scaffolding in the church taken down for the wedding. My niece, to this day, now married about fifteen years, wants to do her wedding over because she did not like her hair that day. *Brides!*

Now the guests also have some questions: what should we wear? Can we skip the church and just go to the reception? How much should we put in our envelope? A common response to the last question is 'let's see what kind of liquor and food they serve before we write the check.' Ah, the beauty of weddings!!

Before I get too grumpy, I must remember that Jesus himself attended a wedding at Cana. He and his mother Mary and the apostles were invited. I wonder if our Lord did the *Hokey Pokey*, but then again he really didn't need to, since he **knew** what it was all about! Did Peter do a classy dance version of the Village People's *YMCA*? Well, if Jesus was going to enter fully into human life, and he did, then he had to attend a wedding.

It must have been a great party since all the wine that had been ordered starts to run out. Now who would notice something like that? Only a **mother** would see that, and it is the mother of Jesus who notices that the wine is running low. Her heart breaks for the newly married couple since the people of Cana will gossip for years that the reception was a bust! And you could imagine the guests taking shekels out of their envelopes as they grew thirsty for wine. So Mary goes to her son Jesus and tells him, "*they have no more wine.*" Jesus tells Mary that it is not yet his time to do miracles, that he is not yet ready to reveal himself as the Son of God since that is not the plan of his Father. I love Mary's response. She right away tells the stewards to do whatever her son says. Even though Jesus said he will not do a miracle, she knows that Jesus will not refuse a request from his mother. So in a very quiet manner, our Lord turns six large stone jars of water into wine. He does so without notice since he does not want the attention on him. It is the day of the bride and groom. This Gospel of Cana is one of the reasons that Catholics seek the prayerful intercession of the Blessed Mother. They know Jesus cannot refuse his mother.



Beside this Gospel being such a moving account of our Lord and his love for his mother and a newly married couple, it brings us to a deeper reflection on our own lives. Think about that expression: *they have no more wine*. I think we have all felt like that in our lives. There are times when we believe ourselves empty: we have nothing left to give to God, to others and even to ourselves. We are tired and worn out. We have no more wine to give. We are tired and discouraged. I think of parents who face the illness of a child and find that however exhausted they are, they find the strength to go on and take care of their child. The wine of love is in their hearts.

I read about the school bus strike in New York City and how parents of special needs children who rely on the school buses, have gotten up three hours earlier to get their child where he or she needs to be. They find wine in their hearts when they think there is nothing left. Sometime in our families, when we struggle to forgive past hurts and resentments, to accept someone who has broken our heart, we seek more wine. I think of a married couple, when one of the partners has dementia and the other tries so hard to be patient and caring, they find the wine. Even in our lives as we battle a cancer, a depression, we wonder if we can go for another day, and we do. We are bone weary. And we get out of bed and begin again. We find the water turned into wine and the strength to continue.

I like to think of the word *grace*, the touch and presence of God, when I think about the word *wine* in this Cana Gospel. Our God is always ready to give us more wine, more grace. The Cana story tells us that Jesus turned six stone jars filled with water into wine. That is 150 gallons of wine! Our God is a God of abundance—there is always more wine that we can find in our hearts and souls.

At Mass, Jesus will not turn water into wine. He will turn ordinary bread into his Body and ordinary wine into his Precious Blood. Our Lord always looks into our hearts with the greatest compassion and seeks to pour the wine of his love into our spirits. We seek to turn to the Lord and drink the wine of his love. We **always** have more wine.



Wedding Banns**1st Brian Howe and Katiann Brosnan**

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

This week the Pantry could use white rice, macaroni & cheese, mayonnaise, mustard, ketchup, peanut butter, pasta sauce, canned Chef Boyardee pastas, canned chicken, black beans, chick peas, cannelloni beans, chili, beef stew, bar soap, dish soap, laundry soap, diapers sizes 5 & 6, and paper towels. Thank you for your tremendous generosity to the less fortunate.

Food Pantry:

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

A SET OF POSTCARDS WILL BE HANDED OUT AFTER ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND

It is 40 years since our nation legalized abortion across the land. The date of the Supreme Court decision was January 22, 1973. Since that time, it is estimated that there have been more than 50 million abortions in our country. **We are asking you to consider writing to your elected representatives in Washington, DC, as a new term of Congress begins. This is very user friendly since the postcards will be given to you as you leave church. You need only sign your name and provide the stamp.** I love the quote that appears in the Jewish Talmud and is quoted in the movie, *Schindler's List*, *"The man or woman who saves one person, saves the world entire."* **Our filling out a postcard may eventually save a life.** Additionally, we are asking the government to not force religious institutes to act against their consciences in terms of the new health care mandates.

Our elected officials are Sen. Charles Schumer, Sen. Kristin Gillibrand and Rep. Peter King.

Please consider filling out the postcards in defense of the unborn children of the present and future, as well as for the protection of religious freedom. Thank you, Father Pat

Please pray for the sick of our parish:

Reminder: please call the rectory at 931-0818 to remove a name off the list.

*Fr. James Small CSsR, Helena Carroll, Pat Pedone
Vincent Valenti, Ledwin Mason, Leevalli Annearosa,
Fran Pignataro, Skylar Vega, Catherine Dalessio
Leigh Murphy, Helena Mulligan, Richard Piernini
John Tortorice, 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, Sharon Shieppo
Christopher Gratton, John Mitchell, Salvatore Accardi
Christina Martuge, Barbara Mangiamiele, Audrey King
Patricia Heitzman, Peggy Namiotka, Pat Cannata*

2014 MASS BOOK

**Tuesday & Wednesday, January 29 & 30
ST. ALPHONSUS HALL**

Begins at 9:30 a.m. & ends at 11:30 a.m.

Begins at 1:30 a.m. & ends at 4:00 p.m.

FIVE Masses per family will be allowed. Please no telephone, mail or drop-off requests will be permitted. Please be present to request your masses.

**Pilgrimage: The Beauty of Ireland with an
optional tour of the Majesty of London.
Pilgrimage Chaplain, Rev. Thomas Coughlin**

June 16-30, 2013

**For information about the pilgrimage, call
206 Tours at 1-800-206-8687**

**Or visit the following website:
Pilgrimages.com/frcoughlin**

Rest in Peace

Acts 7:49: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Vincent A. Lopipero, Catherine A. Byrnes

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan. 30: Reconciliation Practice 6 & 7:15 p.m.
- Feb. 2: Reconciliation Service 11 & 1:00 p.m.
- Feb. 5: Christian Mothers Gen'l Mtg 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 9: International Night Supper 8:00 p.m.
- Feb. 13: Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 22: Blessed Seelos Performance 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 9-13: PARISH LENTEN MISSION

CHRISTIAN MOTHER ROSARY CONFRATERNITY

Our General Meeting is Tuesday, February 5th at 7:30 p.m. in St. Alphonsus Hall. We will be saying the rosary promptly at 7:30 followed by a guest speaker. Our speaker is the president of St. Martin of Tours Parish Council, Ed Indelicato.

Ed will be presenting a very informational talk about the workings of the council. Refreshments will be served.

If you have not paid your dues, you may do so at the meeting. We hope to see you then.

The Catholic Counseling Center 12 Ryder Court, Dix Hills NY 11746

Professional therapy, provided by NYS licensed therapists, is available to our parish and 147 other parishes. This program, under the direction of George A. Giuliani, PhD, Director/Psychologist, 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.

You may visit his website at
<http://thecatholiccounselingcenter.com>.

FAITH FORMATION

In an effort to improve existing security during our religious education classes on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays, we are in need of security/hall monitors. These monitors will observe the hallways a half hour before classes and during class times. Please call Religious Education at 822-9768 for more information.

Monday: 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

Parents escorting children to their 1st and 2nd grade classes on the first floor is acceptable, but no adults will be allowed on the 2nd floor. In addition, we are also in the process of upgrading/installing security cameras.

SCHOOL PARKING LOT

FOR THE PROTECTION & 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.**



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!**

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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



The Life Teen Youth Ministry has Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction every 2nd Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:00 PM in the Church.

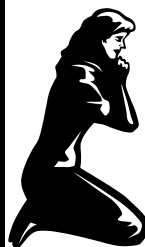
Our next service is Tuesday, February 12th. We fervently hope that you come and join us in prayer and adoration of our Risen Lord. The music and praise that are lifted up to Christ will bring you to a place of peace and hope. Everyone is welcome!

"It is not to remain in a golden ciborium that He comes down each day from Heaven, but to find another Heaven, the Heaven of our soul in which He takes delight."

- Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

Prayer Service for Sandy Hook

On Sunday January 27th at 7:00 P.M., the SMT Youth Ministry will be leading a prayer service for Sandy Hook.



The parish of Saint Rose of Lima in Newtown, Connecticut is an active Life Teen Parish. We have been asked to pray a Rosary for all those who have been affected by this great tragedy. Please join us as we lift our brothers and sisters up in prayer.

All are welcome!

SAVE THE DATE
SECOND ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL NIGHT
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2013—8:00 p.m.
ST. ALPHONSUS HALL

GREAT FOOD AND FUN!

Plan your menu: Irish Soda Bread, Lasagna, Tacos, German Potato Salad, Polish Sausage, Spanish Paella, Indian Curry (made by Father Ciya), British Fish 'n' chips, Vietnamese Goi cuon (summer roll), French Fries, Belgium Waffles, Potato and Cheese Pierogi, Tapa, and International Beers as selected by the famous connoisseur of great lagers, Father Pat! A wide selection of chocolate donuts from every nation will be served.



No charge--- Just prepare and bring your favorite food. Wear your ethnic clothes if you wish. Sing an international song or do a flaming flamingo or talented tango!



If you plan on attending this festive event, please contact Laura Leigh Agnese by email at llagnese@smtbethpage.org. She has a team of people who are coordinating the event and we would like to keep track of what foods people are bringing and how many tables are needed. If you do not have email, you can leave your name and number at the rectory.



HARTIGAN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #5033
HARTIGAN CATHOLIC WAR VETERAN'S POST #1938

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY XLVII

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2013

KICK OFF 6:30 P.M. — DOORS OPEN: 4:00 P.M.



WHO WILL IT BE? RAVENS VS 49ERS OR PATRIOTS VS FALCONS

- **ADMISSION CHARGE: \$10 PER PERSON (INCLUDES YOUR SEAT, FOOD AND MUNCHIES OF ALL KINDS).**
- **HEROS AND SALADS, WINGS AND SUCH! ALL BEER AND BEVERAGES AT LOW MEMBER PRICES.**

"YOUR HOST WITH THE MOST" - BARTENDER EXTRAORDINAIRE VINNIE ROMANO (516) 404-2531
SEE VINNIE AND LET HIM KNOW YOU ARE COMING. 10 BUCKS IN HAND WILL SAVE YOU A SPOT!

FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

Call Diana Mirando
(C) 830-5077 (H) 605-1979

ROSELINE, LIFE CENTER 24
HOURS, RACHEL'S VINEYARD RE-
TREAT (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.

**RotaCare**

Free Health Care for People in Need

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you have some free time to share to help
the poor get the care they need?

RotaCare is a free health center located in Uniondale run entirely by volunteers. We provide care for the uninsured poor of Nassau County and the surrounding areas.

We are looking for lay persons to help us complete paperwork to apply for free medications on behalf of our patients.

If you can commit to a few hours a week or even a few hours a month, please contact Mary Beth Welsh at (516) 429-9026 or at info@rotacareny.org.

Please visit our website at www.rotacareny.org to find out more about us.

This may be just the corporal work of mercy you are looking for.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

**“In the name of God, respect, protect, love
and serve life - every human life!”**

- Pope John Paul II

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT

The New York State legislature will once again try to pass the “Reproductive Health Act” in the 2013 session as S.438, sponsored by Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins recently elected to the position of New York State Senate Democratic leader.

This bill could limit restrictions on late term abortions, could allow non-physicians to perform abortions and could compel all medical facilities, *including Catholic hospitals*, to allow abortions.

Please contact your senator and assembly member to oppose this act. (see **Father Pat’s notice regarding sending out postcards on page 5 of this bulletin.**)

Download petitions at www.prolifeli.org or call the Long Island Coalition for Life at 631-243-1435.

Contact information: NYS Senator, Legislative Building, Albany NY 12247

Senate switchboard: 518-455-2800

Source: LI Coalition for Life, Life News

Eighty people stood in silent protest this past Sunday, January 20th for Face the Truth on Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow.

With bitter cold and winds blowing their signs, they stood together praying for an end to abortion in our country.

We trust that all those who journeyed to Washington DC on Friday, January 25th were safe in their travels on this 40th anniversary of Roe v Wade.



Central Nassau Guidance & Counseling Services Inc.
950 S. Oyster Bay Rd, Hicksville, NY 11801
Tel. (516) 822-6111 x 267
Fax (516) 342- 2496

NOW THAT YOU'VE HEARD OF US, WE'RE STILL HERE TO HELP!

Helping You Recover From the Hurricane: Project HOPE

Project HOPE helps you move forward by offering free & confidential support that assists you and your families understand the emotional & physical reactions to the impact of Hurricane Sandy.

How we help:

- Group/ Individual Crisis Counseling
- Informational/ Educational Support
- Group Crisis Counseling
- Public Education
- Community Networking & Support
- Resource Linkage
- Assessment
- Referral

We are here for you and we will be in your community for the next year. We are available and are eager to assist our neighbors in any way possible to ease the burden left behind by Hurricane Sandy.



The Hartigan Knights of Columbus and Catholic War Veterans Saint Valentine's Party



**Friday Night, February 8, 2013
From 8:00 - 12 Midnight**

RESERVATIONS A MUST!!!

Music by DJ Tim - Door Prizes

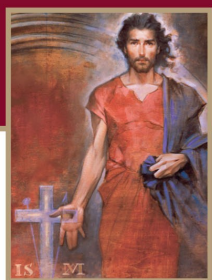
Menu Choices:

Prime Ribs, Chicken Condon Bleu, OR Fresh Salmon

Includes Tap Beer, Wine & Soda

Donation is \$40.00 per person

Contact Ray Haller at 516-790-4991 or Kevin Zaremba at 516-790-4992



The Redemptorists OF THE BALTIMORE PROVINCE

Redemptorist Office for Mission Advancement
107 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-2526
Tel 410-288-8755 (toll free) 877-876-7662
redemptorists.net

Contact: Stephanie K. Tracy
Communications Manager
Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province 410/288-8755, ext. 208 (toll free) 877-876-7662
communications@redemptorists.net

Take 5 for Faith with the Redemptorists

During the Year of Faith, the Redemptorists offer a series of short online videos on matters of faith.

January 10, 2013 — How do you respect the dignity of an aging parent who's lost the ability to care for himself? How do you start to pray? What does the Bible mean when it talks about redemption? These and many more questions will be explored by the Redemptorists in our new **Take 5 for Faith** series.

This online video series, debuting during the Year of Faith, is sure to offer food for thought and a chance to grow in and deepen your Catholic faith.

The Redemptorists will introduce several **Take 5 for Faith** series throughout the Year of Faith. Topics include Scripture, prayer, and discussion of some of today's hot-button social issues. And all it takes is about five minutes.

Life today is so busy and full of to-do lists. It can be hard to find time to focus on our relationship with God, but it's important to make that time. With **Take 5 for Faith**, the Redemptorists bring their trademark 'kitchen-table' style to these short talks aimed at busy people searching for answers.

Redemptorist Father Kevin O'Neil opens the series in January with a six-part discussion of human dignity. He explains where dignity comes from, how we respect it throughout our lives, and how we can navigate some of the more complicated moral situations, especially at the end of life.

Father O'Neil professed vows as a Redemptorist in 1975 and was ordained in 1981. He earned his doctorate in moral theology from the Accademia Alfonsiana in Rome, Italy, and taught for 22 years at Washington Theological Union in Washington, D.C. He is the co-author of several books including, *The Essential Moral Handbook: A Guide to Catholic Living* and *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices*. He is currently stationed at the Redemptorists' San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, NJ.

Watch the series at redemptorists.net/take5.

Who are the Redemptorists?

The Redemptorists were founded by St. Alphonsus Liguori in 1732 in Naples, Italy. The priests and brothers minister to the spiritual and material needs of the faithful, especially the poor and most spiritually abandoned. Their primary ministry is preaching. There are approximately 300 Redemptorists serving in the United States, and approximately 5,300 worldwide.

The Baltimore Province of the Redemptorists maintains its headquarters in Brooklyn, NY. The province was created in 1850 and took its name from its home city of Baltimore, MD. The name was retained when the headquarters relocated to New York.

For more information about the Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province, visit redemptorists.net.

St. Martin of Tours CYO Corner



The three girls basketball teams representing St. Martin of Tours of Bethpage all had successful seasons. ***The eight grade team*** coached by Lou Mayr, won the Catherine McCauley Tournament at Our Lady of Mercy in Hicksville. The team consisted of Jessica Losquadro, Danielle Losquadro, Taylor Hughes, Kelly Hughes, Marie Giacinto, Nicole Collins, Jillian Mayr, Kailey Skupinsky and Nicole Kopetz. Taylor Hughes was named tournament MVP and Nicole Kopetz was named to the all tournament team.

The sixth grade team coached by Brendon Cashell, and ***the seventh grade team*** coached by Jacqueline Zizzo, both qualified for the Nassau/Suffolk CYO playoffs. They play their first round games at home at the JFK Middle School in Bethpage on **Monday, January 28th.**

6:30pm - 6th grade – St. Martin of Tours vs St. Agnes, Rockville Centre
8:00pm – 7th grade – St. Martin of Tours vs Cure of Ars, Merrick

Admission is free so please come and support the girls in their quest for the Long Island Championship!

BLESSED SEELOS COMES TO ST. MARTIN OF TOURS!

Performer Casey Groves will be coming to St. Martin of Tours on **Friday, February 22nd** to do a reenactment of Blessed Francis Xavier Seeelos, CSSR. He will be performing a 1 1/2 hour play in our church beginning at **7:00 p.m.**



To get a glimpse of Mr. Groves in action, go to **You Tube** and type in *Casey Groves Blessed Seelos Mending Brokenness*.

So here's a chance to "get to know" Blessed Seelos and make a better connection to his statue that we have on our campus.

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS: February 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Eucharistic Chapel in reparation for the sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS: February 2nd at 8:30 a.m. consisting of Rosary of Reparation; reading about Fatima; consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Divorce and Beyond Separated and Divorce Support Group

This is a ten week program for those separated or going through the process of divorce. The program is designed to help men and women find encouragement as they explore the emotions and experiences often associated with separation and divorce.

The group meets every Friday beginning February 8, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at St. William the Abbot Church, 2000 Jackson Avenue, Seaford. Cost for the ten week program is \$20. For further information and registration, please contact: Angie at 516-868-2503 or Carol at 516-432-2241 or e-mail us at BeginningToday@gmail.com.

This and That

We are truly blessed by so many parishioners who have a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother and the saints. Some of you are moved to bring flowers and place them before your favorite statue. I know it is your loving heart that moves you to do this. At the same time, we want to provide some structure so that the needs of our church and liturgical norms are met. So I would ask if you wish to place any flowers in the Church that you first speak to me. I am sure we will come to a good approach to your desire to honor the saints and Our Lady.

I would also remind all of us as stated in my previous note about asking parishioners not to place any devotional images/pamphlets in the church or gathering space without my permission.

Thank you and God bless you! - Father Pat

COMING IN MARCH

Please mark your calendar for the **ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH LENTEN MISSION** planned for **March 9th through March 13th**. The Mission will be led by Redemptorist Fathers Kevin O'Neil and James Wallace.

More details to follow as the date comes closer, but it should prove to be a very powerful and spirit filled experience.



I am looking for a person or two who has an eye for interior decorating. Tremendous eternal life benefit plan! If you would be willing to speak to me about this, please email me at woodscsr@aol.com or call 931-0818.

Father Pat

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The 7th Grade of St. Martin of Tours CCD Students are tackling hunger Super Bowl weekend! Please support our confirmation candidates on Super Bowl weekend, February 2nd and 3rd and bring in a hearty can of soup. We will also be collecting \$1 at the end of each mass to donate to our food pantry to help the needy in our community. Thanking you in advance for your support in helping to tackle hunger!



SMT BOOK CLUB FRIENDS

It was so good to see all of you. Your participation, ideas and insights were terrific and appreciated by all. Our sharing helped us communicate our feelings and perspectives and brought new friendships, understandings and smiles. It was wonderful to learn from each other. Thank you!

Please email if you have any questions. You will be contacted with info on the next date with several questions for discussion of our new book and any other pertinent news. **Anyone who wishes to join please contact Ann Mele at ann111647@netscape.net.** We hope our new book, "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak, brings enjoyable and interesting moments.

Happy reading!



Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille—A lifeline for married couples You Can Help Heal Your Marriage

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped thousands of couples worldwide experiencing ALL TYPES of marital difficulties. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend that begins on Friday, February 8th at the Montfort retreat house in Bay Shore, please call 1-800-470-2230 and you will be connected directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.



Letter from the Office of Worship of the Diocese of Rockville Centre RE: FLU SEASON 2013

Dear Father,

In recent weeks, much attention has been paid to situations regarding the flu epidemic in our area. Some questions about certain liturgical practices have been raised by members of our parishes. Following the guidelines from the Secretariat for the Liturgy from the USCCB, the Office of Worship offers the following suggestions:

Holy Communion: Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should be especially encouraged to wash and sanitize their hands before Mass begins. If Communion ministers need to clean their hands during Mass, they need to do this discreetly. The best way for EMHC to clean their hands during the Mass is in their pew and not in the sanctuary area. The bottles of sanitizing liquids should have no place on the altar or among the Communion vessels and other sacred items on the side tables. The Communion Rite should not be destructed or refocused.

Communion from the Cup: Pastors are asked to inform their parishioners that the faithful should refrain from drinking from the cup when one has a cold or is fearful of being infected. All faithful should be reminded that only one form is needed for full participation in Communion. Everyone accustomed to receiving Communion on the tongue should prevent spreading saliva to the hand of the Communion minister by receiving Communion in the hand while sick. It is permissible for parishes to limit the use of the Cup a certain period of time.

Greeting of Peace: The faithful should use their own discretion and best judgment when invited to exchange the greeting of peace during the liturgy, limiting physical contact with others. At the Sign of Peace, they should be encouraged to offer a simple bow of the head to those around.

Mass attendance: If a Catholic person is sick, there is no obligation to attend Mass. Personal prayer and reflection on the scriptures is encouraged as well as viewing the Mass on television.

We are all encouraged to use common sense in these matters; to do all that we can to maintain health, wellness and limit the exposure to infection. Most importantly let's keep in our prayers those of our parish communities who are ill and are not able to participate at the liturgy with us. In case of any further questions in this matter please contact the Office of Worship.

Peace,

Rev. Msgr. Andrzej Zglejszewski, Director

(516) 678-5800 x 503

zandrzej@drvc.org

A Report Regarding Our Young Parishioners: The Best Article for Last

Confirmation is a Catholic sacrament displayed with ceremonious liturgy. The explicit help and verification of God the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, is given to those who receive this sacrament. "Confirm" according to Webster's dictionary means to make firm, strengthen, establish, encourage, validate and seek the truth. When one reflects upon the written statements of our young men and women in their early teens, one can clearly see that they understand the meaning of Confirmation and the grace of the Holy Spirit. On December 7th, the Vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception at two different Masses, Bishop Nelson Perez confirmed more than two hundred young people from our parish. We congratulate these young men and women, their parents and families, as well as the dedicated teachers and staff of St. Martin's Religious Education Program. As part of their preparation, the candidates wrote a letter to me, the pastor, saying why they wanted to be confirmed. It was very touching to read the sincerity and desire of our students to grow in God's love. Here are some excerpts from their letters written on their Confirmation retreat. - Father Pat

Spiritual Reflections from Some of the Young People of the Parish

Regarding their personal relationship with their Lord: "Every year I feel closer to God and Jesus." "I have let God into my heart." "I have never felt as close to God as I do now." "I have felt that Jesus has touched my soul with love and affection." "I feel I am ready because I met Jesus. I felt it was powerful. I could feel His presence. I am ready to be confirmed." "I feel it is time to move on and get closer to God. God is amazing and gave us life. It will be a huge honor to take in the Holy Spirit and be a part of Him even more." "I know how much He loves me. I have dreams about Confirmation."

Regarding prayer: "I pray every night and in the morning." "I pray a lot and not just when I need something. I feel I know a lot about this faith." "I pray every night. I feel that God is always watching over me." "I talk to God a lot now." "I believe God can help one in any way as long as they pray. God is my Father and can help me through anything." "All of my life I have felt close to God. I have been praying all my life because I truly believe He is in my heart. The Lord is my light. The Lord is my soul. The Lord shows me the way." "I have taken this very seriously and believed in God and prayed for all those 7 years, and after this experience I will be doing the same for many years to come."

Regarding their maturity as Catholics: "I am very excited to be confirmed because I have always worked very hard in my religious education. Also, I want to be an adult of the Church." "I would like to have a say in being a member of the Catholic Church. When I was baptized my parents made decisions for me. Now I'd like to be a member of the church by my own choice." "I remember when I first started religion class. From then until now I think going to religion has made me a more mature person." "I believe in and love God very much. I'm %100 sure that I want to be a practicing Catholic." "That's why I chose my aunt as a sponsor. I feel that she is a good role model." "My religion has made a difference in my life." "I feel that after I am confirmed I will be closer to God."

Regarding community and loving others: "I shall try to serve Jesus in my community better." "I have also realized in community service that I can make a big change by helping others in my community. The little things can help in life. By helping others it makes me feel like a better person." "I feel that I learned a lot this summer from doing the 20 hours of community service. It makes me feel caring, kind and generous." "I start to hurt if I know another has been hurt." "I feel empathy for those who have been hurt. I have helped and been there for my friends and family. I have made new kids to my school feel welcome and comfortable." "I think that to be a good Catholic you should go to Church and treat others the way you want to be treated."

Regarding gratitude: "I am grateful that God put me here on earth with my family." "I am also more thankful for everything I have and I will try my best to be a good person and be better than what I am now." "I really appreciate all the dedicated hard work of the faculty at school." "My family encourages me every day to continue with my faith." "My faith has not only come from religion classes but from my family and from meeting people in the Church." "I enjoy learning about the afterlife. It's like learning the next step in your life." "My teachers have taught me how to communicate with God and speak to Him, along with my parents and grandparents, who taught me how to live a good life, free of sin." "Hi Father Pat. How are you doing? I have learned a lot over the years at Saint Martin's." "I am thankful for every person and teacher who volunteered their time to teach us the great works of Jesus."

I pray these thoughts were cherished at Confirmation and always as the Holy Spirit dwells in their lives. These quotes are excellent food for spirituality for all of us!