

***Masses For The Week*****Monday - April 1**6:30 **NO 6:30 MASS**

9:00 Julia &amp; Robert Pellnitz

**Tuesday - April 2**

6:30 Teresa M. Holt

9:00 Karen Naclerio-Negrin

**Wednesday - April 3**

6:30 Peter M. Moschera

9:00 Michael &amp; Amelia DeCicco

**Thursday - April 4**

6:30 Rudy Casal

9:00 Kenneth Donato

**Friday - April 5**

6:30 Patrick Curtin, 1st Anniversary

9:00 William E. Nugent

**Saturday - April 6**9:00 **Multiple Intentions Announced at Mass**

5:00 Eddie Adkins

7:00 Malachy Mulligan

**Sunday - April 7**

7:00 The People of the Parish

8:30 Andrew M. Bartolozzi

10:00 Alfred J. Murphy

11:30 Carmelita A. DeGuzman

1:00 Patrick Curtin

5:30 Christopher Anthony Profita

***Readings For The Week***

Mon. Acts 2:14, 22-33; Matthew 28:8-15

Tues. Acts 2:36-41; John 20:11-18

Wed. Acts 3:1-10; Luke 24:13-35

Thurs. Acts 3:11-26; Luke 24:35-48

Fri. Acts 4:1-12; John 21:1-14

Sat. Acts 4:13-21; Mark 16:9-15

Sun. **Acts 5:12-16** *Through the work of the apostles, many signs and wonders took place among the people. People in great numbers became believers, and many sick people were cured.*

**Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19** *The author of Revelation had a vision of seven gold lampstands. Among the lampstands was one like a son of man dressed in a robe, with a gold sash around his chest.*

**John 20:19-31** *One of the Twelve, Thomas, was absent when the risen Lord first appeared to the others. Later, when Thomas was with them, Jesus came and said, "Bring your hand and put it into my side and...believe." Thomas cried, "My Lord and my God!"*



Saint Maria  
Faustina

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

***Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift*****Last Week March 23/24 Collection**

Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00

Amount Received: \$21,535.84

Easter Flowers: \$509.00

***Thank you for your generosity & support!*****Reflection & Living Stewardship**

In the 2nd reading today, St. Paul reminds the Colossians that they have been raised with Christ, exhorting them to "be intent on the things above rather than on things of earth." We, too, have been raised with Christ. Let us rejoice and be glad!

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who, like St. Paul, strive to share the "good news" of salvation by sharing their gifts of time, talent and financial resources.

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

1 cross

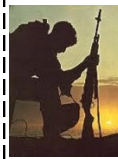
+ 3 nails

4 given

If you want to be forgiven by God, you must forgive others first. If Jesus could do it, so can you!

***Our next meeting is Monday, April 8th at 7:30 PM in the Church. Call (516) 993-9672 for any prayer requests or more information.***

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 especially during this Easter Time.

**St. Martin of Tours HOP Club**

Mar. 25 #371 Barbara Hoolahan \$25.00

Mar. 26 #626 Robert Wendelken \$25.00

Mar. 27 #438 Richard &amp; Evelyn Velting \$25.00

Mar. 28 #635 John Lundy \$25.00

Mar. 29 #177 Yvonne &amp; Danielle Iovieno \$50.00

***St. Martin of Tours Wedding Banns*****3rd Timothy Kissane & Elizabeth Stea****2nd Christopher Lenz & Kelly Delaney****2nd Joseph Sinacori & Jennifer Sigona****Banns Only (marriage at another church)****2nd Joseph O'Neill & Meghan Coiro**

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

Thank you all for your tremendous generosity!

This week the Pantry is low on tuna, mixed vegetables, peas, evaporated milk, mayonnaise, ketchup, oil, salt, chili, Chef Boyardee canned pastas, jams, jellies, juice bottles and pouches, sugar, laundry detergent, dish detergent, toilet paper, diapers sizes 5 & 6, coffee, cake mix and icing.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Space does not allow us to accept clothing or toys. If you have any in good condition, please drop them in the St. Vincent de Paul box on Broadway.

**Food Pantry:**

208 Broadway, Bethpage

Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Thursday: 2:00PM - 7:00PM

Phone: (516) 931-7332

***Adult Confirmation***

Any adult interested in being confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2013, please call Deacon Jim Biggin at (516) 822-9768 or home 796-5520.

Classes will begin on Monday, April 8, 2013 and will continue for three successive Mondays. Baptism and Eucharist are required for reception of the sacrament of Confirmation.

**Please pray for the sick of our parish:**

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

*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, Gina Cava  
James Robertson, Amy Hayes, Mom & Dad  
Helena Mulligan, Bill Kelly, Salvatore Milo, Jr.  
Matthew Messina, Anne Cramer, Donna Pellicano  
William John Staudt, Jimmy Stiffa, Sharon Shiepk  
Christopher Gratton, John Mitchell, Salvatore Accardi  
Mary Donahoe, Robert Cakoyanis, Christine Ketchem  
Peggy Namiotka, Pat Cannata, Barbara Thompson  
Nicole Cagna, Donald Castor*

**Please note the Rectory office hours on the following dates:**

- **Holy Saturday:**  
**Open from 9AM—6PM**  
**(Closed for lunch from Noon to 1PM)**
- **No hours on Sunday as usual**
- **Easter Monday: Closed**
- **Rectory opens with normal hours on Tuesday, April 2 at 9:00 AM.**

**The Rectory Staff wishes all our parishioners a most Blessed & Happy Easter.**

*He has risen! Alleluia!*



*Week of March 31 – April 6, 2013*

*Altar Bread & Wine*

*In Loving Memory of  
Kristine Benasutti*

***Rest in Peace***

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

***Robert Wright***

## *Easter Message from the Pastor*

### *Do you believe in the Resurrection of the Dead?*

If a person was an avid card player in life, a family member will say Dad is now up there playing cards with a bunch of his old buddies. If you Mom was always telling people what to do, it might be said that she is now telling God what **He** needs to do to improve heaven. A friend of mine put three dollars in his father's coat pocket while in the casket. When asked why he did this, he responded, "*Mom always sent Dad to the store. When he gets to heaven, Mom is going to ask him to give her her change from the shopping trip.*"

There is a story I love about a mother and daughter who went to the cemetery to visit the grave of their husband and father. It had snowed the day before and they were having a very hard time finding the grave. They walked up and down the rows and could find the stone marking the grave of their loved one. Finally, the exasperated woman shouted, "*Where the hell are you Harry?*" I saw a family put a pack of Pall Malls in the coffin of their deceased Aunt. It was probably the cigarettes that killed her but they wanted her to have cigarettes in heaven in case God was like Mayor Bloomberg and had banned all smoking. So, please put a pack of Twinkies with my remains in case God wants to treat me like one of the trainers from *The Biggest Loser*.

### *Do you believe in the Resurrection of Jesus?*

Is this the truth or is it a story that we tell ourselves to make ourselves feel good and a little less afraid of dying. Is it a fantasy, a myth, a fairy tale of the divinely revealed truth? Certainly, belief in the Resurrection begins with the conviction that Our Lord Jesus Christ, after the brutal death of the crucifixion and after being placed in a tomb with a large stone rolled in front of it for three days, was raised from the dead by his Father in Heaven through the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the core truth of the Catholic faith. This is what brings us to Church this Easter Sunday. This truth is what leads us to have our children baptized and moves us to come forward and say "*Amen!*" to the Body of Christ as we receive the Body of the Risen Jesus. This truth comforts us and gives us hope as we bury our parents, our spouses, or God forbid, our children. We all fear death, the end of life, and wonder if there is anything to come or just complete darkness and extinction. The Resurrection of Jesus proclaims there *is* more to come after death and that we shall live forever in the kingdom of God.

We believe in this truth, but we have our doubts and questions. We want so much to trust in this teaching, but we wonder...is it so? On the New York Times Best Seller list there is book entitled, "*Proof of Heaven*" by Dr. Eben Alexander. Here is a brief blurb about the book: "*A Scientist's Case for the Afterlife: Thousands of people have had near-death experiences, but scientists have argued that they are impossible. Dr. Eben Alexander was one of those scientists. A highly trained neurosurgeon, Alexander knew that near death experiences **feel** real, but are simply fantasies produced by brains under extreme stress. Then, Dr. Alexander's own brain was attacked by a rare illness. The part of the brain that controls thought and emotion—and in essence makes us human—shut down completely. For seven days he lay in a coma. Then, as his doctors considered stopping treatment, Alexander's eyes popped open. He had come back! Alexander's recovery is a medical miracle. But the real miracle of his story lies elsewhere.*"

*While his body lay in coma, Alexander journeyed beyond this world and encountered an angelic being who guided him into the deepest realms of super-physical existence. There he met, and spoke with, the Divine source of the universe itself. Alexander's story is not a fantasy. Before he underwent his journey, he could not reconcile his knowledge of neuroscience with any belief in heaven, God, or the soul."*

*"Today Alexander is a doctor who believes that true health can be achieved only when we realize that God and the soul are real and that death is not the end of personal existence but only a transition. This story would be remarkable no matter who it happened to. That it happened to Dr. Alexander makes it revolutionary. No scientist or person of faith will be able to ignore it."*

Although I once had open heart surgery, I have never had a near death experience, except maybe from some rides in a New York cab. But I certainly have heard many accounts of people who felt they had encountered the mystery of eternal life from signs and hints they received after a love one died. I remember a cousin of mine as she faced a serious illness, telling me about a dream of her favorite deceased uncle who came to her and told her she would be fine. She said this was no dream but an experience that she felt was as real the chair she sat on.

You've read about a scientist's thoughts on eternal life. Let me now turn to one of my favorite writers of all time, Thornton Wilder. In the wonderful play *Our Town*, he wrote the following: *"We all know that something is eternal. And it ain't houses and it ain't names, and it ain't earth, and it ain't even the stars . . . everybody knows in their bones that something is eternal, and that something has to do with human beings. All the greatest people ever lived have been telling us that for five thousand years, and yet you'd be surprised how people are always losing hold of it. There's something way down deep that's eternal about every human being."* I have felt that and I bet you have too. There is something eternal in all of us. We might call it our spirit, our core, our being, or our soul. Whatever words we use to try to describe this indescribable sense, we believe there is more that we can and touch.

For me, the fact that we are here, telling the story of the Resurrection of Jesus two thousand years later, is a powerful witness to the Resurrection. Some have said the apostles made the story up. I find that unconvincing since almost all of the apostles were martyred for their beliefs. People do not die for made up stories. Through the years, in spite of the sinfulness and failures of the Church and its leaders, we continue and live. Only the Love and grace of God can explain that. So, today on this Easter Sunday, let us stand and rejoice and shout *Alleluia! Jesus Christ is Risen!* Our beloved deceased are home with God and we shall see them again. You and I are to live forever. God's love is stronger than death.

Father Pat CSSR  
woodscssr@aol.com  
www.smtbethpage.org



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr. 2: Christian Mothers Auction
- Apr. 4: The Bereavement Group begins
- Apr. 9: Youth Ministry Adoration 7PM
- Apr. 10: Christology course begins (Dcn Tom)
- Apr. 13: Book Club 10AM
- Apr. 26: Life Teen's Annual Auction

### **St. Martin of Tours Bereavement Group**

For all those suffering the loss of a loved one, the Bereavement Group of St Martin of Tours is beginning again.



The group will start on Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 PM and meet weekly for 8 weeks until May 23 in the St. Alphonsus Hall. Please call the rectory to leave your name and number and you will be contacted.

*"Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted."*

### **ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CLASS OF 1982**



Anyone who graduated from SMT in 1982, please come to our class reunion!

**PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE**  
**Friday, April 26th - from 5 - 7 PM**  
**The Library Café, 274 Main Street**  
**(corner of Conklin Street)**  
**Farmingdale NY 11735**

**If you need further info,  
 please email [maryp@optonline.net](mailto:maryp@optonline.net).  
 Hope to see you there!**

### **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.

### **HANDICAPPED ENCOUNTER CHRIST - HEC**

#### **Helping Men and Women Who Are Physically & Mentally Challenged**

For the last month or so you have been made aware of HEC's retreat weekend scheduled from April 25th - 28th through postings in the bulletin. It is a weekend that Deacon Frank and Michelle Barone from our neighboring parish of St. Kilian have been organizing for many years. To help with the cost, raffle tickets will be sold after all masses the weekend of April 13th and 14th in the Fellowship area (Seaman Avenue side) of the church.

Tickets are \$1 each, 6 tickets for \$5 or a full book of 30 for \$25. The raffle drawing will be held on Saturday April 27th offering the following prizes:

- 1st Prize: Digital Camera
  - 2nd Prize: Portable DVD Player
  - 3rd Prize: Two Yankee tickets (apologies to Father Pat!)
- ...and many other prizes.

If you would like to pre-order tickets, you can do so by emailing Carol Smith at [parent-lifeonedge@aol.com](mailto:parent-lifeonedge@aol.com). Any support you can give would be most appreciated. God bless you and a Happy and Blessed Easter from all of us connected with HEC!





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.smtbethepage.org](http://www.smtbethepage.org) or contact Erin at [EKHoran@yahoo.com](mailto:EKHoran@yahoo.com).



The Edge program is for all middle school aged student (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 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!**

**Please join us for Holy Face Devotions on Monday, April 1st in the Eucharistic Chapel. A Happy and Blessed Easter to one and all.**

#### FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS:



April 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Eucharistic Chapel in reparation for the sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS:** April 6th at 8:30 a.m. consisting of Rosary of Reparation, reading about Fatima and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

#### 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, April 9th. 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!

#### LIFE TEEN'S ANNUAL AUCTION

**Our auction date is Friday, April 26th 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!

#### FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

Call Diana Hart Mirando  
(C)830-5077 (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.

## 2013 Over The Edge Charity Event to Help Raise Funds For FREE Drumline

The **FREE Players Drumline**, comprised of individuals with autism and other disabilities, is raising funds to fulfill their dream of performing at Downtown Disney's Waterside Stage, part of Disney's Performing Arts Program, on Saturday, May 11th. The Drumline is excited about this unique event to fulfill an opportunity of a lifetime. The National Foundation For Human Potential is hosting our 2013 Over The Edge Charity Rappeling Event to help them raise the funds to get there.

### How can our parish help with this worthy fundraiser?

**Applebee's**, located at 938 S. Broadway in Hicksville, will be having an **Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser Breakfast** to support them on Saturday, April 27th from 8 to 10 AM. Tickets are \$10. St. Martin's will have someone from **FREE** selling tickets in our Fellowship Area (Seaman Avenue side) the weekends of April 7th through 21st. Please consider supporting these extraordinary men and women as they continuously strive to live life to the fullest as God intended.

## WHAT DOES "FREE" STAND FOR?

**Family Residences & Essential Enterprises, Inc.** also known as **F.R.E.E.** is among the largest and longest-established not-for-profit providers of innovative services for children and adults with developmental disabilities and/or mental illness or traumatic brain injury on Long Island. We recognize that every person has a unique set of needs, interests and goals. Our hallmark strength is our ability to create highly personalized services for each individual, drawing from one of the regions most diverse array of services and supports. Our interdisciplinary team ensures that those we serve can access all of the residential, day, medical, therapeutic, vocational and other services that best meet their goals and preferences. As individuals' age and progress, we are able to provide a unique continuity of care to meet their evolving needs.

### FAMILIAR FACES? THEY, TOO, ARE CLIENTS OF FREE!



Look at the picture on the left and you will see **Steve Malerba** (handsome mustache, Steve!!) and his wife, Linda. Steve was a long-time member of our parish who belonged to the Folk Group and expertly played drums at the 10:00 mass when it was celebrated every Sunday in the auditorium well before our church was renovated.

Now look to the right and you will see **Jenny Pace** who is one of our current Altar Servers. Jenny is multi-talented. She is not only the longest member of our Servers Ministry, but also acts, sings, dances and is now a member of the Drumline.



We are so proud of both Steve and Jenny for all their talents and accomplishments. God bless you both!

## RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE - EASTER BLESSINGS

The angels filled the sky with praise because of Jesus; may our lives be lit up with joy at the good news of the gift of Jesus Christ to all the world, today and always.

- Lord our God, we thank and praise you for the greatness of your love shown to us in Jesus Christ, who was willing to die for us and to bless us with the life that lasts forever.
- We thank you for the new life we celebrate at Easter; help us to keep growing in the life that never comes to an end.
- We pray for our families, our friends, and all those we care about - fill them with hope and happiness.
- We pray for people who are unhappy today; those who are hungry, or homeless, those who fear violence or harm; may they find protection and peace.
- We pray for those who are ill, or facing difficulties - may they find hope in the cross of Christ, and be strengthened by the knowledge of your love.
- Bring healing and comfort to those who are anxious, upset, lonely today, encourage those who help and care for them. May all who suffer be led from pain to peace.
- We pray for those who seek employment, or those starting a new business in these difficult times.
- We pray for our country Lord, that we find peace with each other. We ask for patience to listen to each other and join together for an America that is strong and united within and with the world.
- We pray for our Pope Francis, that he find peace and happiness as he leads us into this new century. Lord, accept our prayers and be with us now and for ever.



**THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO WISH THE BEAUTIFUL  
PARISH OF ST. MARTIN'S AN EASTER SUNDAY FILLED WITH LOVE AND PEACE.**

### Christian Mothers Rosary Confraternity CHINESE AUCTION

Our CHINESE AUCTION is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2nd. Tickets are \$5.00.

Dessert, coffee and tea only will be served. The auction will consist of you bringing a NEW unwrapped gift worth \$10. You will receive an envelope of 10 chances to win a gift. You can purchase additional envelopes for \$1.00 each. There will also be raffles and 50/50. Checks should be made out to CMRC for \$5.00. You may contact Janet Dion for tickets at 433-9340.

*Looking forward to seeing  
everyone at the Auction!*

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**ANNOUNCING**  
**ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ADULT EDUCATION COURSE IN CHRISTOLOGY**  
**Y'SHUA**  
**THE JEWISH WAY TO SAY**  
**JESUS**

Jesus of Nazareth is the central figure of our Catholic faith. Born and raised an observant Jew, Jesus is recognized by all those who profess orthodox Christian faith as the Son of God sent into the world as the Savior of humankind and as the fulfillment of Messianic Prophecy found in the Hebrew Scriptures.

This Christological course will examine in detail the life, death and resurrection of the Lord as we focus on Jesus, the Messiah as the fulfillment of the Old Testament law and the prophets.

Let us gather together joyfully as we grow in the knowledge of the great gift of our Heavenly Father known to his contemporaries as Y'shua, which is the Jewish way to say Jesus.

If you feel the movement of the Spirit attracting you to attend, Don't resist...Do something for yourself; come and join us!

**DATES:** Begins Wed., April 10, and continues on Wed., April 17, 24, May 1, and 8, 2013. Attendance at all sessions is **not** required.

**TIME:** 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

**LOCATION:** St. Alphonsus Hall

**INSTRUCTOR:** Deacon Thomas R. Hennessy

**REGISTRATION:** Required before course begins. Complete the form below with a **check for \$10.00** for course materials **made out to Deacon Thomas Hennessy**

**REQUIRED MATERIAL:** The Holy Bible

**REGISTRATION**

Please enroll me in the Christology course, **Y'shua**, beginning Wednesday, April 10 at 7:30 P.M. in St. Alphonsus Hall. My \$10.00 check payable to Deacon Thomas Hennessy is enclosed.

**(print)**

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Mail or drop off completed form to the rectory office c/o Deacon Tom.)**

## Everything tells a story...

### He is risen!

**The Lenten season is over on the calendar but certainly not in its message.** The readings and the Eucharist remind us of our journey with those in the Old Testament and our story of salvation through those in the New Testament. All is linked in the saving plan of God's love. In the sanctuary we used "**Love**" as our theme throughout Lent and followed it up with the display in the Fellowship area. What a glorious time! Yet, the follow-up message for the Easter season is *still* love and forgiveness!



**Let us consider the story in the sanctuary.** The three crosses are symbols of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the salvation of the thieves that hanged with him. The cross of Jesus is covered with white lilies. Lilies are the Church's Easter flower and have a religious connection. They symbolize purity, virtue, innocence, grace, hope, and life. They are associated with motherhood. In early biblical paintings, the angel Gabriel extends a bunch of white lilies to the Virgin Mary announcing that she was to be the mother of Jesus Christ. They are honored because they also were found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Christ's agony.

**You see some gold on this cross** representing the majesty of the Lord. It symbolizes happiness, joy, and celebration and it is often used with white on high Holy Days such as Easter. The other crosses are multiple colored spring flowers representing joy, celebration and new life. Jesus died in agony for our salvation and we recognize, through the symbols, those virtues and grace that God shares with us. The two crosses beside that of Christ are examples of new life. The landscape changes in the springtime as leaves and seedlings push through the soil and announce newness. Color abounds and grass grows abundantly. Easter is God's gift to us. He gave us His only Son to save our souls and give us eternal life. One thief hanging on the cross reminds Jesus that He should save himself and the other asks for forgiveness. No greater love can a person have then to lay down his life for another and Jesus reminds those hanging with him that they will be in paradise with him that very day.

**This year, the cross of Christ has some multi-colored flowers in the center** that match the center of the other two crosses. This is the story of our relationship with God. Jesus holds all of mankind within His heart and He is always part of us. We are one in Christ, thus the same flowers on all three crosses. We share in this relationship all the virtues and grace of Our Savior and He shares, as no other, the grace, love, and forgiveness of a "forever" friend and savior. Christ's Light at our Baptism may dim but He is always with us lovingly fanning the flame of love and forgiveness. There are gold butterflies on each cross representing the universal symbol of hope. Jesus dies to save us and give us hope for salvation and for times of despair. We nurture that hope so that we know that our life on earth is not "all there is" and that with devotion, reverence, and good deeds we, too, will be with Him in paradise.

**Take some time to sit in Church** and, not just look at beautiful flowers, but to rethink and rehear in your mind, heart, and soul the awesomeness of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

- Ann Hughes

## Summer Bible Camp

**Update on the Summer Bible Camp:** There has been a good response to the idea of a Summer Bible Camp. We have adults willing to assist us in the program, as well as good interest on the part of families with children between the ages of five to ten. If you are an adult willing to help with the Bible camp, please contact me.



There were at least forty or so children whose parents expressed a desire to participate in such a program here at St. Martins. We have one key goal: to help the children learn about God in a fun-filled way.

We are looking at the week of August 12<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00. We have decided on a fee of \$15.00 for one child and \$25.00 per family with more than one child. More information about registration and the program will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

We are also looking for some responsible teenaged volunteers to assist the adults in the Bible Camp. Any teen interested can contact me by email at [woodscsr@aol.com](mailto:woodscsr@aol.com). Thank you to all who responded and showed such great interest.

- Father Pat CSSR

## From the Music Ministry

*The entire Music Ministry which includes the Contemporary Choir, The Children's Choir, The Traditional Choir and the Life Teen Band, all musicians and cantors, wish you, our Parishioners and all those who are visiting St. Martin of Tours Church, a very Blessed, Holy and Joyous Easter.*

*"This is the day the Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!"*

*Elena, Dawn, Larry and Chris*

## Why Easter Eggs?

The origin of the Easter egg is based on the fertility lore of the Indo-European races. To our pre-Christian ancestors it was a most startling event to see a new and live creature emerge from a seemingly dead object. The egg to them became a symbol of spring. Long ago in Persia people used to present each other with eggs at the spring equinox, which for them also marked the beginning of a new year.

In Christian times the egg had bestowed upon it a religious interpretation, becoming a symbol of the rock tomb out of which Christ emerged to the new life of His Resurrection. There was in addition a very practical reason for making the egg a special sign of Easter joy since it used to be one of the foods that was forbidden in Lent. The faithful from early times painted Easter eggs in gay colors, had them blessed, ate them, and gave them to friends as Easter gifts.

The custom of using Easter eggs developed among the nations of northern Europe and Christian Asia soon after their conversion to Christianity. In countries of southern Europe, and consequently in South America, however, the tradition of Easter eggs never became popular.

The Roman ritual has a special blessing for Easter eggs:

*"We beseech thee, O Lord,  
to bestow thy benign blessing  
upon these eggs, to make them a  
wholesome food for thy faithful,  
who gratefully partake of them  
in honor of the Resurrection  
of our Lord Jesus Christ."*



### 8th Annual St. Patrick's Spring Car Show



St. Patrick School in Smithtown will host its 8th Annual Spring Car Show on the grounds of St. Patrick Church on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> (rain date April 21st) from 9 AM to 4 PM. All are invited to enjoy a day of fun for the whole family.

Admission is \$5 for adults, no charge for children. Car enthusiasts are invited to bring their cars, motorcycles and trucks. Show will include a large section of movie replicas, monster trucks, and a huge variety of cars.

Admission for cars is \$15 and \$5 for motorcycles. All car clubs and private owners are welcome. The first 200 cars receive a goodie bag. Craft vendor space is also available.

If you would like to display your car, truck or motorcycle, or if you are interested in vendor space, call John Forlenza at 631-588-2696.



### 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>.

### Some Easter Thoughts

Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there. ~Clarence W. Hall

The joyful news that He is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice. ~Henry Knox Sherrill

Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him longer;  
Death is strong, but Life is stronger;  
Stronger than the dark, the light;  
Stronger than the wrong, the right...  
~Phillips Brooks, "An Easter Carol"

Let every man and woman count himself immortal.  
Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him say not merely, "Christ is risen," but "I shall rise." ~Phillips Brooks

Celestial spirit that doth roll  
The heart's sepulchral stone away,  
Be this our resurrection day,  
The singing Easter of the soul -  
O gentle Master of the Wise,  
Teach us to say: "I will arise."  
~Richard Le Gallienne

Where man sees but withered leaves, God sees  
sweet flowers growing. ~Albert Laighton

Let the resurrection joy lift us from loneliness and weakness and despair to strength and beauty and happiness. ~Floyd W. Tomkins

And he departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here. ~St Augustine

The story of Easter is the story of God's wonderful window of divine surprise. ~Carl Knudsen

I lied on my Weight Watchers list. I put down that I had three eggs...but they were Cadbury chocolate eggs. ~Caroline Rhea



**LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:**

required for all those who are beginning as Ministers. Session "A" is required of **all** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to homebound persons are also required to attend Session "B". Please write a letter to Father Pat expressing your desire to become an EM. **TO REGISTER FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER TRAINING:** the pastor of the parish must send a letter to Bishop Murphy **at least 10 days in advance** requesting the training for each person attending. **This letter must mention the date and location of the session the person will attend.**

**TIMES AND PLACES FOR MINISTRY TRAINING:****In Nassau:****EM "A" Session**

April 6, 2013; 9 AM—1 PM

Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale

**"B" session for Extraordinary Ministers**

April 27, 2013; 9 AM—1 PM

Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale

**In Suffolk:****EM "A" Session**

April 13, 2013; 9 AM—1 PM

McGann Mercy High School, Riverhead

**"B" Session for Extraordinary Ministers**

May 18, 2013; 9 AM—1 PM

McGann Mercy High School, Riverhead

**EVENING SESSIONS** for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at St. Elizabeth, Melville.

Session "A" - Wednesday, April 10, 2013; 7:30—10 PM

Session "B" - Wednesday, April 17, 2013; 7:30—10PM

**WORKSHOP FEES:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: \$30 per person (fee paid by St. Martin's)**Many Thanks from Father Pat**

I want to thank all who made our Holy Week and Easter so very prayerful here at St. Martin's. In particular I thank Elena and all the musicians and choirs for their beautiful music.

Sue Mafri is a tireless worker in the sacristy. Ann Hughes uses her gifts and talents to make our church reflect well the wonder and mystery of the season. Pat Ricci and Jerry Della Rocca are most helpful in making sure that we have the necessary participants for the services.

I also thank all those who assisted in any way during the Holy Week services. A special word of thanks to Jim Belmonte and all who help in our lovely tradition of Stations in the Park on Good Friday. Thank you all for being so generous to the parish with your time and talent



**The Diocese of Rockville Centre  
GOLDEN WEDDING LITURGY  
Honoring Couples Married  
Fifty Years or More**

This spring, couples that have been married 50 or more years will be honored at liturgies on:

**Sunday, April 14 at the Church of St. Lawrence the Martyr in Sayville and on Sunday, May 5 at the Church of Maria Regina in Seaford. Both liturgies will begin at 2:30 p.m.**

Couples please register for only ONE liturgy by calling the Rectory at 931-0818 and ask about the registration form. Forms must be received by the Office of Worship by March 28 for the April 14 liturgy and by April 18 for the May 5 liturgy.

There will be additional celebrations in the fall for those who may find that more convenient. If you have any questions, please call the Diocese at 516-678-5800 x 207.



*It is with the greatest of joy that*

*The Redemptorist Community*

*The Deacons & their Families*

*Staff and Volunteers*

*and All Our Church Ministries*

*Extend A Blessed and Glorious Eastertide*

*To the Parishioners of*

*The Church of Saint Martin of Tours*

*And All Those Visiting*

*as we come together to celebrate*

*The Resurrection of our*

*Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!*

*This is the day the Lord has made!*

*Let us Rejoice and be Glad!*