

Masses For The Week

- Monday - February 2**
 6:30 Dolores Cook
 9:00 Richard Gulde
- Tuesday - February 3**
 6:30 Stanley & Joseph Drobig
 9:00 Charles Schimmel
- Wednesday - February 4**
 6:30 Sarah Clarke
 9:00 Mark Joseph Ridge
- Thursday - February 5**
 6:30 Mary Rabbitte
 9:00 Frances Sanfilippo
- Friday - February 6**
 6:30 Catherine & Silvio Sita
 9:00 Thomas Kearns
- Saturday - February 7**
 9:00 INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
 5:00 James Boglioli
 7:00 William J. Csajko
- Sunday - February 8**
 7:00 The People of the Parish
 8:30 Dr. Santiago Granada, Jr.
 10:00 Marie T. Moran & Margaret Moran
 11:30 Stella Agnese, Anniversary
 1:00 Theresa Posillico
 5:30 Jean & Joe Puntorno

Readings For The Week

- Mon. Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18;
 Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
- Tues. Hebrews 12:1-4; Mark 5:21-43
- Wed. Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6
- Thurs. Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24; Mark 6:7-13
- Fri. Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29
- Sat. Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34
- Sun. Job 7:1-4, 6-7** *Job lamented his "months of misery and troubled nights." Could human life on earth be no more than drudgery? Shall he never see happiness again?*

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 *By preaching the good news, Paul said, he willingly made himself a slave to all in order to win them over. He did everything for the sake of the good news.*

Mark 1:29-39 *Jesus healed ill people and exorcised possessed people. So many sought him that he had to seek out deserted places for prayer*



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

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00
Amount Received:
 1/24 & 25/2015 \$15,808.15

Reflection & Living Stewardship



Moses told the people, "A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for you from among your own kinsmen." God still provides among His people the gifts and talents necessary to continue the work of His Church. What gifts are yours to share?

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who set time aside with the Sunday readings throughout the week so as to be better prepared to hear the Word of God and act on it.

Charismatic Prayer Group

The next meeting is Monday, February 2nd at 7:30 PM in the Church. Everyone is welcome! Call (516) 993-9672 for prayer requests or more information.

Feast of Saint Blaise - Tuesday February 3rd

There will be a general blessing at the January 31 and February 1st weekend masses.

Throats will be blessed at the 6:30AM and 9AM Masses on Tuesday, February 3rd.

HOP Club

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|------|
| 1/26/15 #7 | Steven & Barbara Damiani | \$25 |
| 1/27/15 #546 | Angelena Caccavale | \$25 |
| 1/28/15 #238 | Donna Granata | \$25 |
| 1/29/15 #469 | M/M Gonzalo Zuniga | \$25 |
| 1/30/15 #186 | Henry J. Dolan | \$50 |



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

This week, the Pantry could use cereals, white rice, oatmeal, pancake mix, pasta sauce, salmon, black beans, mayonnaise, oil, evaporated milk, hot chocolate, pudding, Jell-O, mixed vegetables, tissues, shampoo, paper towels, toothpaste and baby wipes.

Thank you for your tremendous generosity. It means so much to our clients.

Parish Outreach Food Pantry:

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

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

All of us are called to serve the Lord and to serve one another.



Week of February 1-7, 2015

Altar Bread & Wine

In Loving Memory of Thomas Critelli

Week of February 1 - 7, 2015

Sanctuary Candle

In Loving Memory of Bernie Lavin



Please pray for the sick of our parish:

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

Ledwin Mason, Leevalli Annearosa
 Pattie Meegan, Fran Pignataro, Leigh Murphy
 Richard Piernini, John Tortorice, Joseph Simon
 Douglas Torres, James Robertson, Amy Hayes
 Mom & Dad, Bill Kelly, Matthew Messina
 Sharon Shiepkco, Christopher Gratton, John Mitchell
 Pat Cannata, Barbara Thompson, Donald Castor
 Dorothy Quinn, Zachery Duff, Sam Zubov
 Patricia Marrone, Mary Henson, Mary Lynn Brassil
 Catherine Battiata, Brendan Rodriguez, Rebecca Passaro
 Dot Widyn, Annette Giuliano, Madeline Ciaravino
 Nicole Cagna, Gary Vlahov, Christopher Wezel
 Eileen Catalano, Tom Schuerlein, Katie Walsh
 Chris & Raymond Mirendia, Louise Sandberg
 Jennie Ruggiero, Nicholas Tiseo, Florencio Carmenate
 Anthony Luisi, Deacon Gene Capobianco, Mary McCarthy
 Christina Macchio, Karen Kilgard, Angela Calendrille
 Tess Steubing, Ann Marie Frayler, Nicholas Balducci
 Robert Kennan, Corey Voboril, Charles Walsh
 Baby Scarlett May Duffey, Vincent Mescia, Tommy Johnson
 Margaret Amarosa, Joey Boncic, Harry Smith
 Joseph Vareed, Joseph Antonakos, James Cardillo
 Grace Pastorello, Anna M. Bosco, Baby Daniel
 Janet Medina, Kevin Henson, Marie Newman, Jane Moore
 Lee Berkowitz, The Mascia Family, Caleb Haniquet
 Edward Brown, Ceil Hollander, Ann Mirto, Vicki Perri
 Daniel Costa, Nikki Eleanor Behrik, Hector Valentine
 Theresa DuRoss, Bob Baciуска, Lorraine Dennan
 Deacon Jim Biggin, Baby Aubrey, Carol Ann Scudder
 John Scudder, Thomas Napoli, Joan Spira
 Gerald Campbell, Nicki, Vincent Esposito, Terry Hall
 Maria Osicki, Joe Bauer, Catherine A. McCarthy
 John Terence Ruane, Paul Granberg, James Fanning
 Antoinette Diana



Rest in Peace

Acts 7:49: “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”

**Dolores DeFanis Lees
 Theresa C. Cordiner**

The Pastor's Homily

January 25, 2015

Get Out of the Boat!

"As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him." Mark 1: 16-20

There is a story I like about a mother telling her son to get out of bed on a Sunday morning and go to Mass. The son is in bed, covered with blankets, doing all he can to ignore his mother's call. She shouts, "Get out of that bed and go to Church." He mumbles back, "I don't want to," and rolls over. But she is persistent. She comes to the door and begins to knock loudly on it. Again she demands, "Get up and go to Church!" Again, he says no. Finally, he says to her, "Give me two good reasons why I should go Church today!" The mother firmly speaks, "I'll give you your two reasons: You're fifty years old and you are the pastor!"

What got you to Mass today? I might even push the question further and say, "*What got you out of bed today?*" I am sure all of us have our routines of waking up in the morning. I usually wake up at about 5:30 a.m., but I would confess that is not the exact time I get out of my bed. I usually turn the radio on and listen to WFAN, an all sports station. But it takes about an hour before my feet actually hit the floor, and there have been a few times when Sue, our sacristan had to knock on my door at 6:30 a.m. and remind me that I have the 6:30 Mass!

What gets us up in the morning? I suppose the most direct answer is that most of us have to work for a living. We can't stay in bed all day. We work to provide for our families and ourselves. We work so we can eat and have a roof over our heads. Perhaps, we get up because we're yearning for that first cup of coffee in the morning, or a nice bagel with cream cheese and jelly. It could be that today is the day of the big game and we excited about watching our son play soccer, or to see our daughter dance. Maybe it's a holiday and the whole day is pretty much mine to enjoy with my family. You may be one of those persons who wakes up fully alive and vibrant. You welcome the day with joy and delight. Or, you may be one of those folks who are grumpy until noon. There is an old joke that Redemptorists wake up twice a day, at 5:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., but the value of an afternoon nap will be a discussion for another day.

I wonder what got Peter, Andrew, James and John out of their fishing boats as they hear Jesus say to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." What led them to make that incredible leap of faith out of the boat and onto the dry land to follow this young Rabbi Jesus? The Gospel of the call of these disciples is rather stark; there is little dialogue. Did the Apostles ask Jesus a million questions about what he was inviting them to? Did the Andrew take out his iPad and google Jesus to find out who this man was and what this invitation was all about? Did Peter ask about the benefits that Jesus was offering: was there going to be a retirement plan and what kind of health care was being offered? Did John wonder about the salary that would be offered? Can we picture poor Zebedee, the father of James and John, as his two sons step out of the boat? This is the family business. I can picture him saying, *How I am going to leave you this boat when I die. You can't leave.*

As I ponder this Gospel, it is a shocking story. One of our challenges as Catholics is that we hear these Gospels over and over again, to the point that they no longer really surprise us; we get use to them. We know Peter has a wife. We wonder if any of these men had children-what about their responsibilities to family? By all evidence, this seems to be a rather hasty and poorly planned decision. Still, when God calls, when the Lord touches your heart, what other response would we expect? I often heard the one thing a parent or a priest can not do is talk a couple out of marrying when they are madly in love. The whole world may think the couple is making a mistake, but love, emotional and irrational as it can be, has captured their. That is what is going on in this Gospel account. Jesus has captured the heart of these disciples. There is something about him that is different and amazing than any other person they have ever known and they long to be with Him.

There is foreshadowing note in the Gospel that following Jesus will have a price. This account begins with the news that John the Baptist has been arrested. King Herod and the Roman do not want any preachers upsetting the people with talk of the kingdom of God. I love the fact that Jesus chose working men with calloused hands who were use to laboring through the day to be his first disciples. He did not seek out the most talented and the brilliant to be his first followers but these plain men. Jesus is building up a community; he will not preach the Gospel by himself. He will teach others about his Father's message and send them into the world when he returns to the Lord.

I have been often asked in my life, When did you get the call? I jokingly say that I got it about five years after I was ordained. When did you decide to get married? Perhaps and even better question, how many times since you have been married, have you chosen to continue to love and be commit to your spouse. Loving another person is never a one-time decision. Many of us grew up with the language of call and vocation. God calls people to be priests, brothers and nuns. The rest of us were in the category of the laity. Vatican II emphasized what has always been a truth of our faith: we are all called to be disciples of Jesus by our baptisms. That is the sacrament in which we became followers of Jesus. It is at our baptisms, with a deepening as we receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, that we make our commitment to get out of the boat and follow Jesus as did the first disciples.

Jesus keeps on inviting us to our mission to follow him: he invites you and me to get out of the boat a hundred times a day as we seek to be good spouses, parents, grandparents, children, family, friends, parishioners. Each of us can easily choose to become selfish, complacent, unforgiving, unchanging, and cold to the people of our lives. We can roll under the covers and be alone. Yet, by the grace of God, we can also say Yes to those many little nudges, invitations, whispers that Jesus through his Holy Spirit will bring to us today.

Today at this Mass, we are welcoming the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Nassau County. Their patron is the great Irish Saint Brigid of Kildare whose feast day is February 1st. Most people know the great saint of the Irish is Patrick, but there are many other great Irish saints and chief among them would be Brigid. She lived in the 6th century and her family was brought into the Christian faith by St. Patrick. Brigid became a nun and founded great monasteries in Ireland.

The Ancient Order of the Hibernians is the oldest and largest Irish Catholic organization in the United States. Their core values are friendship, unity and Christian charity. Through its charitable arm, Hibernian Charity, the AOH is able to raise money for a number of Irish and Catholic causes in the America and in Ireland. They hear the invitation to get out of the boat by seeking to love and serve those who are need as did their patron St. Brigid. St. Brigid was famous for helping the poor and needy. I will end this homily with a somewhat humorous poem about her desire to love and serve God's children.

"The Giveaway" (from *The Love Letters of Phyllis McGinley*, New York, Viking Press, 1957)

Saint Brigid was a problem child.
Although a lass demure and mild,
And one who strove to please her dad,
Saint Brigid drove the family mad.
For here's the fault in Brigid lay:
She would give everything away.
To any soul whose luck was out
She'd give her bowl of stirabout;
She'd give her shawl, divide her purse
With one or all. And what was worse,
When she ran out of things to give
She'd borrow from a relative.
Her father's gold, her grandsire's dinner,
She'd hand to cold and hungry sinner;
Give wine, give meat, no matter whose;
Take from her feet The very shoes,
And when her shoes had gone to others,
Fetch forth her sister's and her mother's.
She could not quit.
She had to share; Gave bit by bit
The silverware, The barnyard geese,
The parlor rug, her little niece's christening mug,
Even her bed to those in want,
And then the mattress of her aunt.
An easy touch for poor and lowly,
She gave so much and grew so holy
That when she died of years and fame,
The countryside put on her name,
And still the Isles of Erin fidget
With generous girls named Bride or Brigid
Well, one must love her.

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

**2015 SAT Exam Prep Course
For May 2nd SAT Exam**

The course is held on
the following Saturdays:

February 28
March 7, 21 & 28
April 18 & 25

9:00 - 11:30AM in Marian Hall
Course Fee: \$250.00
Includes textbooks

Contact:
Mrs. Stutzmann
(516) 922-4888 x 5241
ST. DOMINIC HIGH SCHOOL

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.

Widows and Widowers
Divorced and Single Catholics of L.I.
Our 39th Year
Nassau County Chapter No. 1
PO Box 2031

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

NON-DENOMINATION - ALL ARE WELCOME

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015
8PM**

**THE MEETING IS HELD EVERY 4TH TUESDAY AT
ST. FRANCES DE CHANTAL SCHOOL
1309 WANTAGH AVENUE, WANTAGH**

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

**FOR MORE INFO, PLEASE CALL:
CAROL AT 516-794-4933 or
EILEEN AT 516-661-4353**

**POLICY & PROCEDURE
REGARDING THE SAFETY OF
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS**

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 since this area becomes a **SAFE ZONE FOR PEDESTRIANS ONLY.**

PLEASE - park ONLY in the church parking lot or municipal lot during these days and hours. Thank you.



There is NO Life Night on February 1st.



Edge meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month in the OLPH Youth Center from 7-8:30pm.

Upcoming Event: February 5: Edge Night 7-8:30PM OLPH Youth Room

To see our full schedule, please visit SMTBethpage.org!

For questions about Youth Ministry at SMT or to inquire about joining our team, please contact Erin Horan-Baudille at SMT_Lifeteen@Yahoo.com.

The Youth Ministry has an office phone now! It is (516) 870-5669.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Youth Ministry Adoration is Tuesday, February 10th at 7:00 PM
in the Church.

Everyone is welcome!



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>

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.

PLEASE PRAY CONSTANTLY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

Please call the rectory at 931-0818 or email woodscsr@aol.com or gamit1946@hotmail.com to add your loved one to this prayer list.



Lord of Hosts, we commend to Your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with Your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that beset them; and grant them Your abiding presence wherever they may be. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



MAJ Brian McGrath, US Army
 CPT Gregory Holownia, US Army
 PO3 Matthew Sadecki, USCG
 SGT Zachary John Sheehy, USMC
 PVT Travis Ruggiero, US Army, Afghanistan
 L CPL Dennis Diesel, USMC
 L CPL James Kruper, USMC
 PFC Matthew P. Sirianni, US Army
 CPT Conor B. Murphy, USMC, Okinawa, Japan
 2LT Victoria Meyer, US Army Nurse Corp
 PO1 John Paul Pedalino II, US Navy
 CPT Thomas P. Shea, USAF, Afghanistan
 SGT Michael John Kelly, USMC
 1LT Brian McGrath, US Army
 SPC Matthew Castellano, US Army
 PFC Michael Patrick Murphy, US Army, Korea
 PFC William Corrigan, USMC
 PFC Salvatore Battiata, USAF
 LT Daniel Cloonan, USCG
 PVT Daniel Kuhlmann, US Army
 LCPL Jonathan M. Gordon, USMC
 2LT Sean O'Donnell, USAF
 SGT Matthew C. Windisch, USMC
 E3 CORPSMAN Robert Fidnarick, US Navy
 1LT Brian Thorpe, USN Pilot, Persian Gulf
 PO3 Joshua Zimmerman, US Navy
 MAJ Brendan McEvoy, US Army, Afghanistan
 PVT Matthew F. Mayerhofer, US Army
 BUCN Sean Bourke, US Navy
 PO3 James Fischer, US Navy
 LTC John Evans, US Army
 STS2(SS) James McDevitt, US Navy
 ABHAA Michael Creagh, US Navy
 PVT Steven DiPaolo, USMC
 SSGT Sean V. Oliva, US Army

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Married Couples!

Are you looking for the perfect Valentine's Gift?
A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend
just might be what you are looking for.
The original and still the best communication weekend for married couples.

The next weekend on Long Island is scheduled for

February 13-15, 2015 at the Montfort Spiritual Center in Bay Shore, NY.

Space is limited. For more information about the weekends or to apply,
call 1-877-697-9963 or visit our web site at <http://www.wwme.org>.

FUNDRAISER FOR JOEY

Join us for a fundraiser for the Boncic Family at ***Governor's Comedy Club in Levittown on Wednesday evening, February 4th at 8PM.*** Joey is putting up a good fight, and we need to continue to rally behind him!

FOR TICKET SALES:

Courtney Fenyo: courtneyfenyo@hotmail.com

Jennifer McAuliffe: nyjenn1974@yahoo.com

FOR RAFFLE DONATIONS:

Mary Ann Botoska: marybotoska@gmail.com

*Ash Wednesday is February 18th.
Ashes will be distributed at
the following Masses:
6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.*

*And at the following services:
12 NOON & 4:00 p.m.*



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 2: Holy Face of Jesus Devotion 1:00PM Church
- Feb 6: First Friday Devotions 7:00PM Church
- Feb 7: First Saturday Devotions 8:30AM Church
- Feb 10: Youth Ministry Adoration 7PM Church
- Feb 12: Respect Life Meeting 11AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Feb 17: Padre Pio 7PM Church
- Feb 21: Parish International Night 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Feb 25: Annual Soup Supper 6:00PM School Cafeteria (Emmaus Hall)
- Mar 20: Life Line Screening begins at 9AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Legion of Mary: Every Tuesday at 10AM
at St. James Parish, Seaford
- Holy Face Devotions:
1st Monday of the Month 1:00PM Church

To donate furniture: St. Vincent de Paul at 516-746-8250

**POPE FRANCIS HOSPITALITY CENTER LOCATED AT
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
SCHOOL BASEMENT, 1510 DE PAUL STREET, ELMONT NY 11003**

Every Saturday 9AM to 1PM

LIFE LINE SCREENING

**ST MARTIN OF TOURS AT ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH HALL
38 SEAMAN AVENUE, BETHPAGE NY 11714**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2015 - FIRST APPOINTMENT BEGINS AT 9AM
MUST REGISTER WITH LIFE LINE SCREENING**

Life Line Screening is a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings. Five screening will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs, atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat, and a bone density screening for men and women. **REGISTER** for a wellness package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$140 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete.

In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

Come to First Friday Devotions on February 6th at 7:00 P.M. in the Eucharistic Chapel in reparation for the sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

These devotions will be prayed on February 7th at 8:30 A.M. consisting of the Rosary of Reparation, reading about Fatima and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. All are welcome!

Holy Face of Jesus Holy Hour

Please join us on Monday, February 2nd at 1:00 p.m. in the Church for the Holy Face of Jesus Holy Hour in reparation for the blasphemy and the wounds to His Holy Face. All will be blessed with Saint Anne's oil.



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

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" **in addition** to Session "A". Please write a letter to the pastor, Father Pat Woods, CSSR expressing your desire to become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the Church and/or Hospital Homebound.

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:**

**"A" Session Training for Extraordinary Ministers
ENGLISH AND SPANISH**

April 18, 2015; 9 AM—1 PM

Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale

In Suffolk:

**"A" Session Training for Extraordinary Ministers
ENGLISH AND SPANISH**

April 25, 2015; 9 AM—1 PM

McGann Mercy High School, Riverhead

In Nassau:

"B" session for Extraordinary Ministers

May 16, 2015; 9 AM—1 PM

Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale

In Suffolk:

"B" Session for Extraordinary Ministers

May 9, 2015; 9 AM—1 PM

McGann Mercy High School, Riverhead

EVENING SESSIONS for Extraordinary Ministers at St. Elizabeth, Melville.

Session "A" - Wednesday, May 6, 2015; 7:30—10 PM

Session "B" - Wednesday, May 20, 2015; 7:30—10PM

WORKSHOP FEES: Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: \$30 per person (fee paid by St. Martin's).

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

UNDERSTANDING PLANNED PARENTHOOD:

PLANNED PARENTHOOD - #1 IN DESTRUCTION OF INNOCENT LIFE BY ABORTION IN THE U.S.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA operates the NATION'S LARGEST ABORTION CHAIN. It has hundreds of facilities across the country and admits to committing 327,166 abortions in 2012. Planned Parenthood has always prided itself on the number of communities where it has facilities. In 1993, when it had 922 facilities nationwide, it announced a goal of 2,000 facilities by 2000. Due to strong opposition from everyday CITIZENS, the highest number was 938 facilities in 1995. The AMERICAN LIFE LEAGUE has been fighting Planned Parenthood since 1979. Their STOPP International Project has focused exclusively on Planned Parenthood since 1985. Over the years, they've been joined by so many other groups that today, it seems like almost every PRO-FAMILY GROUP in the country has its own fight against Planned Parenthood. According to STOPP, in 2013 Planned Parenthood Federation of America had 695 clinics, the FEWEST FACILITIES it has had since 1973. UNDERCOVER VIDEOS, RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION, CUTTING OFF STATE AND LOCAL TAXPAYER FUNDING, and PEACEFUL, PRAYERFUL street activities right outside Planned Parenthood's doors have all contributed to reaching this milestone.



source: Adapted from "Planned Parenthood Hits a Record Low," 6/23/14 by Jim Sedlak, Vice President of American Life League.

The 42nd MARCH FOR LIFE in Washington received record numbers of our youth traveling from all over our country. It has been reported that it was the largest protest to date. The Sunday before the March in Washington, The Long Island Coalition For Life held a silent, prayerful protest outside of Nassau University Hospital, where abortions are performed. In spite of the wind and rain, over 100 people came and stood for the hour and a half vigil. On the day of the March, St. Martin's held a Prayer Hour at 3pm. Thanks to all who attended.

There will be a poster next week in the Gathering Place with the total of the money collected from St. Martin's for the BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN back in October. Thank You!

Long Island Coalition for Life

P.O. Box 243, Ronkonkoma NY 11779

P.O. Box 247, Old Bethpage NY 11804

www.ProlifeLI.org

LOVE THEM BOTH - Pro-life vigil:

Saturday, February 14th; 9:30AM to 10:30AM. Huntington Station office of Stony Brook Women's Health (33 Walt Whitman Rd.; Whitman Atrium just north of Jericho Tpke.) In honor of St. Valentine's Day, pro-lifers are invited to stand in peaceful vigil on the sidewalk outside the abortionist's office to show that unborn babies need love too. Rain or shine. Signs provided. Sponsored by LI Coalition for Life: 631-243-1435 / info@prolifeLI.org



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

January 20, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated around our nation from January 25 -31, 2015. Once again, the theme for this year is **Catholic Schools - Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service**. This theme truly captures the essence of Catholic schools. Our schools strive to build community, share faith, increase our students' knowledge and encourage them to give service. It has been my experience as I visit the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Rockville Centre that our administrators, teachers and parents are committed to making sure that each student lives up to his or her potential to learn and to be formed in the Catholic faith.

During my time as Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, I have been so impressed by the dedication to, interest in, and concern for each student that the administrators and teachers show each day. To each of them I say thank you for all that you do to make our schools places where academic excellence is expected of all and where the faith is taught, experienced and lived out on a daily basis.

Parents have a fundamental right and responsibility to make sure that their children are educated. All parents, whether they choose independent, religious or public school for their children, bear additional expenses beyond what they pay in state and local taxes. As we see more and more, all schools need additional revenue to offset the rising costs of educating our children today.

I continue to encourage you to go to the New York State Catholic Conference web site (www.nyscatholic.org) and become a member of the Catholic Advocacy Network. We need to work together so that we can strengthen both public and non-public schools in the State of New York. Many of our educational programs are needed to insure that all students meet and have the opportunity to exceed the standards for 21st century learning and working.

Our Diocese has much to be proud of. Our Catholic elementary and high schools are wonderful examples of academic and spiritual excellence. Our schools are committed to always growing in faith and living the Gospel. We invite you to come and see this for yourselves during Catholic Schools Week where you will experience our **Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service**.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Rockville Centre

Notes From The Music Ministry

HEY KIDS. DO YOU LIKE TO SING? COME JOIN OUR **CHILDREN'S CHOIR** AND HAVE FUN MAKING MUSIC WITH US! REHEARSALS ARE WEDNESDAYS AT 5:00 PM IN THE CHURCH AND WE SING AT THE 10:00 AM MASS ON SUNDAY.

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR **ADULT SINGERS** AS WELL. (Ability to read music would be great). WE REHEARSE AN HOUR A WEEK ON THURSDAY NIGHTS AT 7:30 PM AND YOU HAVE THE CHOICE OF SINGING AT EITHER THE 8:30 AM OR 11:30 AM MASSES ON SUNDAY. High School/College students welcome.

PLEASE CALL THE MUSIC OFFICE AT (516) 931-4573 FOR MORE INFO.

**** AS THE CONGREGATION, YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED THAT WE ARE SINGING SOME NEW SERVICE MUSIC AT SOME OF OUR MASSES. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SING ALONG WITH US. THE NEW MASS SETTING IS "MASS OF CHRIST THE SAVIOR" AND CAN BE FOUND IN THE HYMNAL BEGINNING ON PAGE 919. THE MASS SETTING SUNG AT THE 10 AM AND 5:30 PM MASSES ON SUNDAY IS NOT IN THE HYMNAL BUT WE ASK THAT YOU SING ALONG ANYWAY. ****

*"Through all the turmoil and the strife, I hear the music ringing.
It sounds and echoes in my soul, How can I keep from singing?"*





St. Martin of Tours Annual International Night
Saturday February 21st
St. Alphonsus Hall @ 7:30 p.m.

This has become a fun tradition as parishioners share culinary delights from all over the world in honor of their ethnic heritage and in the name of good food. We have had Italian lasagna delights, Polish wonders, German sausages, French fries, America hot dogs, Spanish paella, Mexican tacos, Filipino adobo, and Irish soda bread.



Father Pat brings *Beers of the World* to the Party! Just bring a food, any food, but especially an ethnic food. (Dunkin Chocolate Donuts are considered an ethnic food!)

Please call the rectory office at 931 0818 and let us know what type of dish you will bring. As always this promises to be a fun night!

L.I. Catholic Widows & Widowers Club

This Club is for those Catholics who have lost a spouse. They meet on the first Thursday of the month at 8:00PM and are located at the V.F.W. Post 7277 Hall, 191 Veterans Boulevard, Massapequa.

Proof of widowhood is required to join. The annual dues is \$24.00. Please call Maureen at (516)781-4763 for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

More info in future bulletins!

It's That Time Again!
ANNUAL LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2015

WHERE: SCHOOL CAFETERIA

TIME: 6PM - 8PM



Why do Catholics pray for the dead?

(this response is from Busted Halo)

The earliest Scriptural reference to prayers for the dead comes in the second book of Maccabees. The books of Maccabees were among the latest written books found in the Old Testament. They recount the struggle of the Jewish people for freedom against the Seleucid Empire, around 100-200 years before the birth of Christ. They are written from an Orthodox Jewish point of view. The second book of Maccabees tells how Judas Maccabee, the Jewish leader, led his troops into battle in 163 B.C. When the battle ended he directed that the bodies of those Jews who had died be buried. As soldiers prepared their slain comrades for burial, they discovered that each was wearing an amulet taken as booty from a pagan Temple. This violated the law of Deuteronomy and so Judas and his soldiers prayed that God would forgive the sin these men had committed. (II Maccabees 12:39-45).

This is the first indication in the Bible of a belief that prayers offered by the living can help free the dead from any sin that would separate them from God in the life to come. It is echoed in the New Testament when Paul offers a prayer for a man named Onesiphorus who had died: "May the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that day." (II Timothy 1:18). The cave-like tombs under the city of Rome, which we call catacombs, bear evidence that members of the Roman Christian community gathered there to pray for their fellow followers of Christ who lay buried there. By the fourth century prayers for the dead are mentioned in Christian literature as though they were already a longstanding custom.

The practice of praying for the dead is rooted first in Christian belief in the everlasting life promised in Jesus' teachings and foreshadowed by his disciple's experience that God had raised him from the dead. After death, even though separated from our earthly body, we yet continue a personal existence. It is as living persons that God invites us into a relationship whose life transcends death. Praying for the dead has further origins in our belief in the communion of saints. Members of this community who are living often assist each other in faith by prayers and other forms of spiritual support. Christians who have died continue to be members of the communion of saints. We believe that we can assist them by our prayers, and they can assist us by theirs.

Our prayers for the dead begin at the moment of death. Often family members will gather in prayer around the bedside of the person who has died. The Order of Christian Funerals includes a Vigil Service for the deceased, which can be held in the home, in the church, or in a funeral home chapel, the funeral Mass and the Rite of Committal (which generally takes place at the burial site). The prayers express hope that God will free the person who has died from any burden of sin and prepare a place for him or her in heaven. Death remains a mystery for us—a great unknown. Yet Christian language evokes a hopeful imagination in the presence of death, an assurance that our love, linked to Christ's love, can help bridge whatever barriers might keep those whom we love from fully enjoying the presence of a loving and life-giving God.

Why do we Catholic pray for the dead? The above articles gives some scriptural evidence, found both in the Old and the New Testament, for the value of praying for our beloved deceased. Catholics believe in Purgatory. Here is what I think is a good definition of Purgatory:

Purgatory (Lat., "purgare", to make clean, to purify) in accordance with Catholic teaching is a place or condition of temporal punishment for those who, departing this life in God's grace, are, not entirely free from venial faults, or have not fully paid the satisfaction due to their transgressions.

What I find very helpful in this definition is that Purgatory is called either a place or a condition. I think there is a natural tendency to think of Purgatory as a place of punishment, something like a jail, where we have a sentence of ten or twenty years to undergo. I prefer the word condition that the above definition uses. Purgatory is about letting go of the world as we know it, about reviewing our lives and how we lived them, about seeking forgiveness for our sins, and about waiting to be with God for all eternity. God's time is not our time. Purgatory may be a brief moment when all our life flashes before us, or it may be a longer time. No one really knows.

What we do know is that we love our beloved deceased. They were and always will be part of our lives. I love the Catholic Church's teaching of the communion of saints. We the living share in the life of God with all those who have died and are with God or waiting to go home to God. Above our five saints in Church, we read the words from the Letter to the Hebrews: we are surrounded by a Great Cloud of Witnesses. I like to think of our relationship with the deceased as the crowds that line the streets for the New York Marathon. The crowds are cheering the runners home to the finish line. They give them encouragement and support. We are both the runners and the crowd. We are encouraging with our prayers those who have died, we are cheering them on to God. And, our deceased are with God cheering for us as we seek to get home to the Lord.

Why Mass stipends?

The Mass is the greatest prayer we have as believers. At the Eucharist, we go to the Father, in the name of Jesus, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Every Mass is in union with the Last Supper, the Death of Jesus on the Cross, his Resurrection, and the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the world. There is really only Mass and every daily or Sunday Mass shares in the divine offering of Jesus to the Father. So it is only natural that we on earth would do all the we can to have our beloved deceased remembered at Mass.

The Mass stipend, the donation, is to help support the priest in his ministry. You are not paying for Mass, but rather the money given is a donation in support of the ministry of the priest as he goes about his priestly duties. At St. Martin's, we do our best to keep this stipend at a low suggested donation. If there is any person in the parish, who longs to have a Mass said for someone, and cannot afford any donation, please let me know and we will have a Mass said for your intention.

The Church is very serious about Mass intentions

Once a mass intention is accepted, it is a serious obligation on the part of the Church and parish to make sure that Mass is properly recorded and said. We take this responsibility most seriously. Rarely we may make a mistake and announce the wrong Mass, but we always try to address the situation as quickly as we can.

How many Masses should we have said for our deceased:

That is a personal question. The Church teaches that the Mass is of infinite value because it is the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. A mass said for any of our beloved deceased is part of the infinite value. Still, I know many, as do I, take comfort in remembering our beloved deceased on special days such as the anniversary of their deaths, their birthdays, and so. This is a lovely custom and one that brings great comfort to families. It is part of belonging to the communion of saints.

When will the Mass books open for 2016?

On the practical. For many years, Carmella Biggin has and will continue to guide the process of Mass intentions. We are most grateful for how well she does this ministry. Part of our challenge in opening the Mass books for 2016 is that there are certain times (not too often) when all the Redemptorists are called to their annual meetings. Unfortunately, these meetings are often announced only about six months before they are held. With the election of a new Provincial Redemptorist Provincial, I anticipate that it will take him some time to plan the schedule for our future meetings. This makes saying the announced Masses at the time very difficult. Additionally, there is no guarantee that there will always be four priests stationed at St. Martin's. We also have about 150 funerals a year, and occasionally we get ill or go on vacation. Saying Mass is not exhausting; it is a great honor. Yet, the mind of the Church is that priest should not say too many Masses on one day lest it become almost a routine to him. It is the preference of the Church that a priest limit how many times he says Mass on one day.

When you go to a baseball game, there is a warning in small print on the ticket that if you get hit with a bat or ball, the team is not liable. God bless small print. Well, I want to say to you that I want to open the Mass books for 2016 as soon as possible, but I want to say in large print that there is outside chance, if unforeseen circumstances develop and the clergy is either not able to be here due to their annual meetings or because of sickness of some other cause, we may have to ask those who have Masses signed up for to be flexible to a change. The Mass for your intention will be said, but there is a remote possibility that we might have to change the date. I think that is fair and understandable. God bless our beloved deceased and you their loving family and friends who remember them so faithfully.

I plan on opening the parish mass books after Easter. I also hope that our first day will be on a Saturday so all can have equal access to having the opportunity to have Masses said for special occasions.

Prayer for the Dead

**God our Father, Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives,
and by Your command we return to dust.**

**Lord, those who die still live in Your presence,
their lives change but do not end.
I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends,
and for all the dead known to You alone.**

**In company with Christ, Who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family,
to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen.**