

Masses For The Week**Monday - March 23**

6:30 Nicoletta Mattariello

9:00 Sophie Agiesta

Tuesday - March 24

6:30 Paul Fidnarick, 1st Anniversary

9:00 Harold J. Peterson

Wednesday - March 25

6:30 John Miele

9:00 Michael Zura

Thursday - March 26

6:30 Catherine & Silvio Sita

9:00 Joan Stadnik

Friday - March 27

6:30 Vincent R. Murphy

9:00 The Barry Family, Living

Saturday - March 28

9:00 INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS

5:00 Lawrence & Rose Territo

7:00 Monica, Frances & Teofil Szmythowski

Sunday - March 29 - PALM SUNDAY**OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

7:00 The People of the Parish

8:30 Miguel Acevedo

10:00 Emil, Margaret & Walter Schweiger

11:30 Margaret McCabe & Family

1:00 Doris & Alfred Urbanski

5:30 Rudy Casal

Readings For The Week

Mon. Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Jn 8:1-11

Tues. Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30

Wed. Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10

Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38

Thurs. Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59

Fri. Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42

Sat. Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

Sun. *Isaiah 50:4-7 The servant of the Lord God was rebuffed but did not turn back; he was beaten and spat upon. The suffering one knew the Lord God was with him.*

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

Mark 14:1-15:47 The Passion of the Lord

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**Amount Budgeted:** \$17,500.00**Amount Received:** March 14/15, 2015

\$17,736.50

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

"If anyone would serve Me," says Jesus in today's gospel, "let him follow Me.; where I am, there will My servant be." In what ways is Jesus inviting me to follow Him? What service is He asking of me?



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

Charismatic Prayer Group

There's been a picture going around the internet showing a dress that some say is white with gold trim and others say is blue with black trim. How can so many people have such opposite views of the same picture?

It was the same for Jesus. The apostles and disciples saw Him one way, while the Pharisees, Scribes and others saw Him totally different! Come and see Him as God intended.

Our next meeting is Monday, March 30th at 7:30 PM in St. Alphonsus Hall. Please call (516) 993-9672 for prayer requests or more information.

HOP Club

3/16/15	#447 Rita & Frank Carroll	\$25
3/17/15	#146 Lillian Nigro	\$25
3/18/15	#583 Linda & Ed Segretto	\$25
3/19/15	#529 Patricia Schmier	\$25
3/20/15	#603 Diane Sheehan	\$250

**Divine Mercy Novena**

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



Wedding Banns

Third Banns

John Moore & Lisa Caffrey



*"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: mixed vegetables, peas, tomato paste, pasta sauce, black beans, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, Chef Boyardee canned pasta, chicken soup, oil, brownie mix, sugar, flour, Jell-O, pudding, coffee, cake mix, juice & juice boxes, Rice-A-Roni, toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, laundry soap, diapers (size 5), and baby wipes.

Thank you for your tremendous generosity!

Parish Outreach Food Pantry:

208 Broadway, Bethpage

Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Thursday: 2:00PM - 7:00PM

Phone: (516) 931-7332

The Psalms of Lent

**The Lord is gracious & merciful,
slow to anger and of great kindness.**



Week of March 22 - 28, 2015

Altar Bread & Wine

*In Loving Memory of
Monica Szmytkowski*

Week of March 22 - 28, 2015

Sanctuary Candle

*In Loving Memory of
Josephine Paula Pfeffer*



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 Shiepkow, Christopher Gratton, John Mitchell
Pat Cannata, Barbara Thompson, Donald Castor
Dorothy Quinn, Zachery Duff, Sam Zubov
Patricia Marrone, Mary Henson, Mary Lynn Brassil
Catherine Battista, 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
Florencio Carmenate, Anthony Luisi
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
Joey Boncic, Harry & Louise Smith, Joseph Vareed
Joseph Antonakos, James Cardillo, Grace Pastorello
Anna M. Bosco, Baby Daniel, Janet Medina, Kevin Henson
Marie Newman, 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 Dennen, Deacon Jim Biggin
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, Little Sonny D'Ambrosio
Joann Sescila, Elsa Ryan, Sarah Messina
Michael Arato, Nicole Dreux, William Martuge
Joseph Mullaly, Deacon Jose Roa, Elizabeth Ryan
Steven Roberts, Jr., Ken Mannion, Jo Ryan
Linda Malone, Peters Family

Rest in Peace

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

Fred W. Tavarelli

The Pastor's Letter

My passion as a young boy growing up in Brooklyn was stickball. We played many street games such as stoopball, box ball, kings, Johnny on the pony, but my favorite was stickball. All you needed was a broomstick and a ball that we referred to in our Brooklyn accents as a *Spaldeen*. Home plate and second base were the manhole covers, and we drew first and third base with chalk. If you hit the *Spaldeen* over roofs of the row houses, it was an out because we did not want to have to pay for another ball. If you could hit the ball the length of the area between two sewers, you were considered a good player; if you could hit it three sewers, you were a legend.

Many of us as we came to bat, would bless ourselves and make a sign of the cross on the street with our broomstick. I suppose this was half superstition and half piety of a Catholic school child. As I was thinking about this memory, it struck me that the cross is probably the most well-known and ubiquitous of the many beautiful symbols we have in the Catholic Church. Since the celebration of the Mass is the living memorial of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, every Church has a crucifix either on or near the altar. At St. Martin's we have our magnificent crucifix of the Risen Jesus as well as the lovely crucifix to the side of the altar. Many of us wear a cross or crucifix around our necks. When we make the very sign of the cross, we are actually forming a cross with our hand. The green coloring of the main aisle joins with the marble in the sanctuary to form a cross.

Last year after Ash Wednesday, we had a few complaints that the people distributing the ashes were just touching the foreheads of the recipients and not forming a cross with the ashes. So, ever-attentive to the needs of the people, your pastor told the priests, deacons and lay ministers to make sure they formed crosses with the ashes. At the very beginning of a baptism, before the baptism has actually occurred, the priest or deacon makes a sign of the cross on the head of the infant. The parents and godparents are then invited to do the same. I think this would be a nice ritual for a parent to do over their child as they put them to bed. When a priest blesses an object, a person, or the entire congregation, he makes a sign of the cross with his hand.

When a person receives Confirmation, the Bishop anoints the person being confirmed with our most sacred oil: Chrism. As he does that anointing, he makes a cross with oil on the forehead of the person receiving the sacrament. A priest who anoints a person who is receiving the Sacrament of the Sick anoints the recipient with the Oil of the Sick, another special oil of our Church. Again, the priest makes a cross with the oil on the forehead and hands of the person.

Last summer, I visited the very moving Ground Zero Museum, and it was good to see that the Cross at Ground Zero had been placed in the museum. As you might remember, some rescue workers, as they were working at the site of 9/11, found two steel beams twisted together in the sign of a cross. For the workers, and for countless other people who viewed this cross, it became a source of great comfort and a place of prayer. Many saw it as a sign that God, even in this dark place where so much evil had been brought about by the terrorists, was still present.

I would presume that many of you have a cross or crucifix in your homes as a sign of your faith in the power of the death and resurrection of Jesus. We are more than at the halfway mark of Lent. These first days of warmth after the terrible recent winter gives hope that Easter and spring are on the way. In our Gospel, Jesus speaks to Nicodemus. Nicodemus is a Pharisee. Very often the Pharisees in the Gospel are seen as hypocrites who will eventually work to condemn Jesus to the cross.

However, Nicodemus is a good and sincere man. Jesus tells him: *Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.* The Jews while in the desert experienced an attack of snakes that bit them and many of the Jewish people died. God directed Moses to mount a bronze serpent on a pole and as the Jews looked at the mounted snake, they found healing. The snakes remind us of Satan. The pole lifted up to protect and heal the people is a foreshadowing of the cross. We will be healed from the power of death, evil Satan, and sin, not by a bronze figure but by the living Son of God, Jesus the Christ.

In the cross we see suffering and death but we also see the ultimate sign of Christian victory. When someone comes to me and tells me they are not loved by God or think he has abandoned them, I tell them to meditate on a crucifix. The crucifix is the great sign of the awesome love that God has for each one of us. In meditating on the crucifix, we come to deepen our knowledge of how loved we are by our God.

Jesus goes on to say to Nicodemus what is one of the key and most quoted Scriptures we have: *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.* The entire New Testament is summed up in that sentence. God is so in love with us that he died for us. God is so in love with us that he promises us we will live forever. The cross is our door to victory and eternal life.

With some reluctance, I will tell a New York Yankee story. When Mickey Mantle was dying of cancer in 1995, he asked to see his old teammate Bobby Richardson. Richardson was a lay Protestant minister and he came to the hospital to pray with Mickey. As you may know, Mickey Mantle lived a pretty wild and excessive life. Richardson asked Mickey what he was going to say to God when he entered eternity. Mickey, after some reflection, quoted John 3:16 from the Bible: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

*We adore you O Christ and we bless you,
because by your holy cross,
you have redeemed the world.*

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



Breakfast with the Easter Bunny



On Sunday, March 29th at 9:00 am, our Council will host its annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. We will have a delicious Pancake Breakfast followed by fun activities for the children to enjoy (egg coloring, crafts, face painting, egg hunt).... and of course a visit from the Easter Bunny himself!

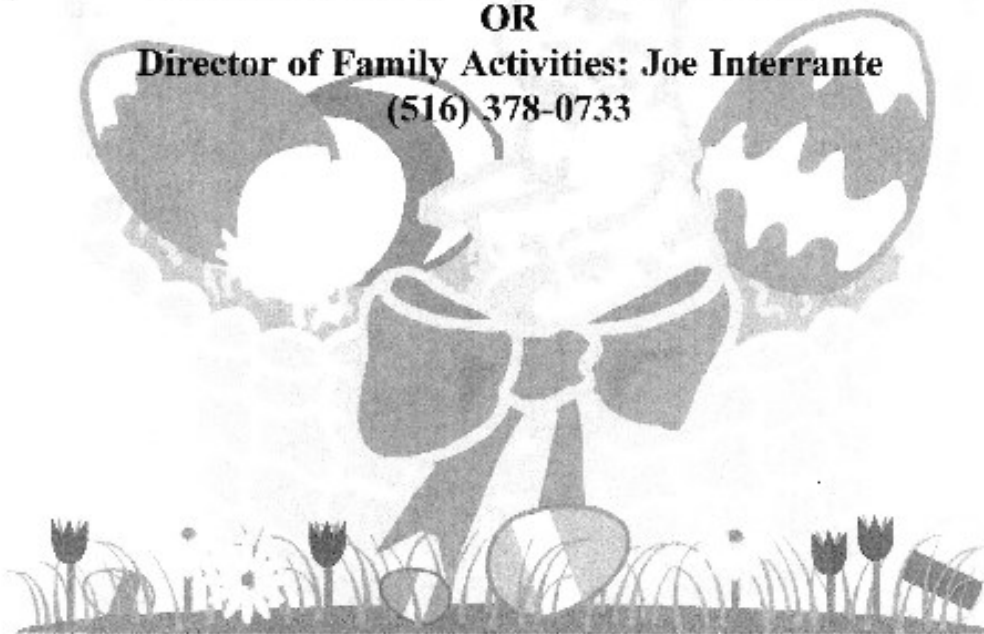
The cost is \$8.00 for each person 3 years and older. Reservation Payment by Cash or Check by March 22 payable to Rev. Michael J. Hartigan K of C #5033.

For Reservations, please call with the number of guests at your table:

Chancellor: Peter Gentilini (516) 579-8608

OR

**Director of Family Activities: Joe Interrante
(516) 378-0733**



Our Lady of Mercy CYO Track**2015 Spring Registration**

The mission of the Our Lady of Mercy CYO Track Program located in Hicksville is to provide a fun, relaxed environment where boys and girls, kindergarten through 8th Grade can learn the basics of track and field while also developing sportsmanship and teamwork skills. No experience required.

The 2015 season runs from April to June. Track meets are held outdoors on weekends at fields throughout Nassau and Suffolk. All athletes competing in meets will receive medals and/or ribbons. At the conclusion of the season, we hold our annual awards night in June. All participants will receive a trophy.



To register your child, please contact coordinator Gynni Farrell at gynnifarrell@verizon.net



We offer a great big thank you to Father Richard Bennett, CSSR for leading us in our Lenten Mission. From all that I heard from various parishioners, he did a great job and people were graced by the good news of Jesus. I am delighted that many of our parishioners participated in the mission. I also thank you for your prayers for the mission that Father John McGowan, CSSR and I conducted in the Parish of St. Edward the Confessor. Several people asked me to say hello to family and friends in our parish, but I must confess I can't remember the names!

I also thank Marliese Coveney and Rosemary Curtin for their work on organizing the children's St. Patrick's festivities at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. We had a great parade with **no** snow. Even the Grand Marshal of Bethpage's St. Patrick's Day Parade attended! A thank you to Vic O'Sirianni and Seamus Belmonte for preparing the coffee for the St. Patrick-St. Joseph Party. And as always, thanks to the St. Clement's Bakers for providing excellent baked goods.

Father Pat

VIRTUS TRAINING

Protecting All God's Children

If you wish to volunteer in any capacity in a parish, the Diocese of Rockville Centre requires that you **first register** for Virtus **by logging on to www.virtus.com**.

Look for "registration" at the left column and follow the instructions. If you do not have access to the internet, please pick up a packet at the rectory office. Complete it and bring it with you to the Virtus training session.

Next Virtus at St. Martin of Tours
Wednesday, March 25th @ 7:00PM
in the Faculty Lounge
School Building

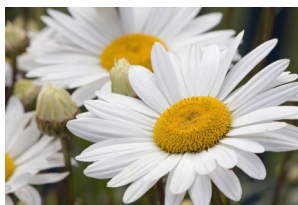
CHRISTIAN MOTHERS ROSARY CONFRATERNITY

SPRING FLING: Save the Date!!
This event is open to all women.

...And bring a friend! This year our Spring Fling is **Tuesday, April 7th** at 7PM in St. Alphonsus Hall. \$3.00 gets you in the door for a book of Bingo cards. Additional cards are \$1.00. Raffles and 50/50 will be sold as well.

Coffee, tea and desert will be served. For tickets please call Janet Dion at 433-9340.

If you would like to become a member of the Christian Mothers Rosary Confraternity, please speak to Mary Colavolpe at 495-4408. Dues are still \$10 per year!



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Saturday, March 21st
8PM - 11PM
Church

Christian Mothers Rosary Confraternity
Wednesday, March 25th is the feast of the Annunciation. We will celebrate as a group at the 9AM Mass. Special indulgences and graces to all who attend. Special reserved seating.

Lenten Movie
The Passion of the Christ
Friday, March 27th at 7:30PM
St. Alphonsus Hall

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
CPT Erika 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
1LT 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 Battiatia, 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
2LT Samantha Lopez, U.S. Navy

ANNOUNCING
ST. MARTIN OF TOURS ADULT EDUCATION COURSE
READING THE NEW TESTAMENT
(AN INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW)

St. Gregory the Great uses a classic phrase to describe the New Testament as ***“Letters from our heavenly fatherland.”*** This precious legacy is the foundation of our faith and the rule and criterion of the Christian life.

Join us as we acquaint all participants with the basic information needed to adequately contextualize the New Testament by placing it within the first century world in which it was written.

Topics to be covered include: An Overview of the New Testament. The Apostolic Church and Teaching, The Formation of the Gospels, The Letters of Paul and the Catholic Epistles and The Formation of the New Testament Canon.

There will be ample opportunity for prayer, the sharing of faith experiences and the enjoyment of Christian fellowship.

If the Spirit is attracting you, pay attention to it. **Do something for your spiritual and intellectual growth by attending this basic course in Scriptural Theology.**

DATES: Begins Wed., April 8, 2015 and continues on Wed., April 15, 22, 29, May 6. Attendance at all sessions is **NOT** required.

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

LOCATION: St. Alphonsus Hall

INSTRUCTOR: Deacon Thomas R. Hennessy, Spiritual Director

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

REQUIRED TEXT: The New Testament

REGISTRATION

Please enroll me in the **Reading the New Testament** course beginning Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 7:30 PM in St. Alphonsus Hall. My check for \$10.00 for course material made out to Deacon Thomas R. Hennessy is enclosed.

(print)

Full Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

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

SUNDAY to SUNDAY

FACT OF FAITH THE ANNUNCIATION by Rev. Larry Rice, CSP

During the season of Lent, Catholic churches are adorned in purple, symbolizing repentance and solemnity. There are at least two occasions during Lent, however, when the liturgical colors change, at least briefly. One such occasion is the fourth Sunday of Lent, which used to be called Laetare Sunday. On that Sunday, churches—if they have them— can use rose-colored vestments and paraments. Another occasion to put away the purple for the day is the



Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. The feast of the Annunciation is on March 25, for reasons that I hope are obvious. Start with Christmas on December 25, and subtract nine months, and you'll get the reason for the feast. The Annunciation celebrates the coming of the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary and announcing to her that she is to be the mother of the Savior. This event has been one of the classic religious subjects of Western art for centuries. The next time you're at your computer, go to the Google search engine, and search for the word "Annunciation," then click on the tab that says "Images." You'll find hundreds of painting of the Annunciation. Most of these depict the archangel appearing to Mary. She is depicted holding a book; a visual reference to the fact that her child would fulfill the words of the Old Testament prophets. The coming of the

Holy Spirit is portrayed by a descending dove or by a ray of light shining from heaven. On the feast of the Annunciation, we switch to white vestments and pray the Gloria at the beginning of the Mass, both are symbols of the joy that accompanies the Incarnation— Christ becoming human and choosing to be born as one of us. Even during the solemn penitential season of Lent, the Church acknowledges the coming of the Savior with hope and joy. *Father Rice is*

Vocations Director for the Paulist Fathers.

SALT AND LIGHT: GAINING SPIRITUAL STRENGTH FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR by Louise McNulty

As a child, I thought I deserved to celebrate on Easter if I'd managed to go forty days without eating chocolate, biting my nails, or humming in church. My grandmother, however, threw a monkey wrench into such thinking when she said, "You can't judge your success in Lent by how you feel on Easter Monday." Lent is a way for us to imitate Christ by doing penance for forty days—a kind of "thank you" for coming to earth to suffer and die for our sins. Lent isn't a time for "achieving" anything. It is a time of preparation. In Luke 6:12, we're told that "in those days he departed to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God." Christ didn't spend forty days in the wilderness to prove he could resist temptation. He did it to prepare for the days ahead when he'd be mocked, scorned, beaten, crowned with thorns, and mercilessly crucified. He did it to strengthen himself and show us how to resist the Devil. In a sense, we're like athletes of a different kind during Lent. Athletes don't just go out and play a game or compete in a marathon without first going through rigorous training. Even Second Timothy 3:16 says that Scripture is "useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction and for training in righteousness."

Athletes watch their diet, exercise appropriate muscles, and build up a wellspring of strength and resistance to pain and fatigue. They prepare for the perils ahead by increasing their capacity for achievement and tolerance of pressure. Like athletic training, we employ a diet of Scripture, we exercise in the form of prayer and we build up reserves during Lent that will come in handy when we face our toughest battles throughout the year. Remember that once it's over, Lent doesn't come around again for more than 300 days. So, it's important to maintain this spiritual strength gained during Lent. A marathon runner trains for a race for months. Win or lose, when it's over he might modify his grueling regimen. But he doesn't want to lose the stamina and muscle tone that took so much effort to build up. He'll continue, as should we, a moderate workout, a maintenance program. In our case, it should include a maintenance program of Scripture, good deeds, and fasting. Training during Lent will provide us with a touching stone to go to for spiritual strength. Perhaps modifying instead of abandoning Lenten behaviors will merit spiritual gold medals. Everyone has seen smokers who gave up their habit for Lent but made it the start of quitting for life. Daily Lenten Mass-goers sometimes add a weekday Mass to their routine throughout the rest of the year. People who shed a few pounds because of a Lenten diet often continue to eat healthier. Perhaps extending Lenten behaviors is the key to retaining the moral stamina built up in the season and keeping the joy of Easter alive all year long.

McNulty is a freelance writer who lives in Akron, Ohio. This article was originally published in CNS's Faith Alive! Copyright © 2015, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved.

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3rd
10:00 A.M. Stations of the Cross
Bethpage State Park - Picnic Grounds**

PLEASE NOTE:

**IF IT IS RAINING,
the Stations of the Cross will be in the Church.**



**MOVING SALE TO BENEFIT
ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH**

**All house contents...50 Years of Accumulation!
493 Corral Run, Bethpage
Island Trees School District**

The sale dates are as follows:

Saturday, March 21 from 10AM to 5PM

Sunday, March 22 from 1PM to 5PM



Dear SMT Book Club Friends,

We hope you are warm and safe in this “frosty” weather! Our new book is ***“Orphan Train”*** by Kristina Baker Kline. The meeting will be **Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 10:00 AM in Saint Alphonsus Hall**. Warm conversation and insightful comments hopefully will be enjoyed by all. New and seasoned members are most welcome. The book doesn’t need to be completed by the meeting date.

A memo about the meeting and some thoughts for discussion will be emailed to you about 10 days before. If you have any concerns, please contact Ann Mele ann111647@netscape.net or call (516) 330-3039.

Till then happy reading! - Father Patrick Woods & Ann Mele

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

END OF LIFE SEMINAR IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 6th AT 10 AM IN ST. ALPHONSUS HALL.

St. Martin's will be holding an END OF LIFE seminar this June, as we did a few years ago. Because of NYS trying to pass legislation for PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE, it is important that issues about end-of life be addressed. There will be more about this very important topic and plans for the Seminar posted in the bulletin. **LIFE IS PRECIOUS, EVEN WHEN YOU ARE TERMINALLY ILL.**



Dr. Lisa Honkanen, a geriatric physician and member of the board of directors at the LIFE CENTER, speaks of the critical components surrounding this extremely important issue. Dr.

Honkanen's practice has a dual focus on the delivery of care to the most frail geriatric population (in facilities and private homes) and fulfilling the mission to uphold the dignity of all human life as created by GOD IN HIS IMAGE through clinical, educational, and advocacy efforts.

Excerpts from Dr. Honkanen's article in the Life Center News: "In February, Canada's Supreme Court overturned the ban on physician assisted suicide (PAS) and joined a growing number of progressive nations that have legalized euthanasia (Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland and the Netherlands). In the U.S. PAS laws have been executed on the state level in Oregon, Washington and Vermont. There is no PAS law in Montana, but a court ruling has shielded physicians from criminal liability if a patient has given consent for PAS. With the highly public and partisan story of Brittany Maynard, a California woman diagnosed with terminal brain cancer who availed herself of Oregon's PAS law, there is mounting pressure in many other state legislatures to legalize PAS. Currently NY suicide assisted by a physician is illegal and can be prosecuted as second degree manslaughter. However, in February, a lawsuit was initiated to carve out an exception against prosecuting physicians who assist a terminally ill patient to commit suicide in New York. At the same time, NY Senators have introduced legislation (S.3685) New York End of Life Options Act, modeled after Oregon's Death with Dignity Act."

"It is important to distinguish the very real difference between letting one die a natural death by foregoing disproportionate measures and deliberately accelerating death by prescription and/or administration of a lethal dose of drugs. Laws that forbid PAS exist to protect people. Laws that sanction PAS protect the doctor from criminal prosecution but do little to nothing to safeguard patients from abuses. Advocates for PAS often cite unbearable pain as justification for a controlled death. However, advances in pain medicine, when made available, have eradicated virtually all cases of intractable pain. In fact, the most common reasons patients seek PAS are existential in nature: emotional suffering of loss, dependence and isolation. Besides that medical prognoses are often incorrect, unintentional consequences of PAS include: a suicide "contagion": normalizing suicide for some people, makes all suicides more acceptable and indeed, since PAS was legalized in Oregon, suicide rates have risen higher there than elsewhere; "a perceived "duty to die"; a loss of trust in the doctor-patient relationship because the time honored concept that medicine is a healing art, not a homicidal one, is breached, and diminished incentives to improve true palliative care, etc. Depression and isolation are recognized factors for suicide, but when we call PAS "AID IN DYING" "DEATH WITH DIGNITY" or SELF-DELIVERANCE, WE DEPRIVE PEOPLE OF THE MEANS, SERVICES AND SUPPORT THAT WOULD NATURALLY APPLY TO SUICIDE PERSONS. **PAS is the epitome of misguided compassion.** It is never acceptable to end the suffering by ending the sufferer. We must remember the root of COMPASSION is to SUFFER WITH, to walk the journey with him who suffers. It is the ultimate abandonment to assist in causing the death of another - even if guided by a false sense of altruism.

Let us stand strong to uphold the sanctity of ALL HUMAN LIFE. OPPOSE THESE BILLS - CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TODAY!" -- Dr. Lisa Honkanen

**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.

*****PLEASE NOTE:**

Due to the ice and snow, there are times when Religious Education cannot close the gates. This does not mean that cars are allowed to enter the school parking lot. It still remains a Safe Zone for PEDESTRIANS ONLY.

Your cooperation is most appreciated!

**Golden Wedding Liturgy Honoring
Couples Married Fifty Years or More**

**Sunday, April 19
St. Lawrence the Martyr in Sayville**

**Sunday, April 26
Maria Regina Seaford**

Both liturgies will begin at 2:30 PM. Please register for ONE liturgy by stopping by the Rectory office or calling 931-0818. Registration for the April 19th liturgy must be received by April 6. Registration for the April 26th liturgy must be received by April 13. If you have any questions, please call the Diocese and speak to Suzanne at 516-678-5800 x 207.

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.





**3/22: Life Teen's Laser Bounce Party! Open to all High School teens.
Contact Erin for more information.**

**Upcoming Events: 3/29: Palm Sunday - after the 5:30PM Mass we will have pizza then
back to the Church for the Living Stations of the Cross at 7:30PM.
Please contact Erin for more information.**

4/5: Easter Sunday - Youth Mass at 1PM in the Church.



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

Upcoming Events:

3/26: Edge Night 7-8:30pm OLPH Youth Room

**3/29: Palm Sunday - after the 5:30PM Mass we will have pizza then
back to the Church for the Living Stations of the Cross at 7:30PM.
Please contact Erin for more information.**

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.

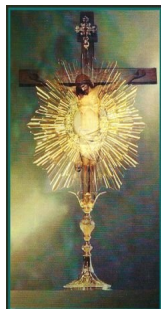
The Youth Ministry Office Phone: (516) 870-5669.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

CORRECTION

Youth Ministry Adoration

**Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00 PM
in the Church. Everyone is welcome!**



**To donate furniture:
St. Vincent de Paul
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

**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>

**Silent Vigil in Defense of the Right to Life
Good Friday Morning
April 3, 2015 from 10:30 AM to 12 Noon - RAIN or SHINE**

Nassau University Medical Center where abortions are committed. Pro-Life women, men and children stand in peaceful witness to the loss of children sacrificed by abortion at this hospital and throughout Long Island.



Nearly one baby an hour is dying from abortion in Nassau and Suffolk counties. We stand on the public sidewalk at 2201 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow. Signs are provided.

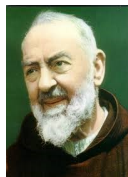
Please call (631) 243-1425 or email fortyDFLLI@gmail.com

Sponsor: Long Island Coalition for Life

VISIBILITY MATTERS!

SAINT PADRE PIO

The Saint Padre Pio Holy Hour is Tuesday, April 21st at 7PM in the Church.



Fr. Jim McCabe, CSsR's bible sessions have been covering the Passion, Death and Resurrection in the four Gospels. Similarities and difference will be discussed. The remaining session is in St. Alphonsus Hall from 7:15-8:15pm.

Stressed?

You don't have to be!

With a never-ending list of to-dos including parent-teacher conferences, soccer tournaments, ballet recitals, grocery shopping, birthday parties and First Communions, as parents, it's easy to forget that you have needs too. And meeting your needs is what makes you a better parent, spouse and person overall. We are going to show you how to meet those needs without faltering on those overwhelming to-dos.

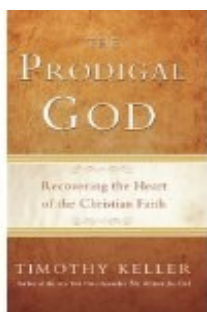
Join us for a workshop on Monday, March 23rd from 4:30-5:30pm in St. Alphonsus Hall. The LIU Post Clinical Psychology Doctoral Candidates, led by Parishioner Lauren Taveras, Ed.M., M.A., M.S., will facilitate a workshop that will equip you with concrete skills to help you lighten your stress load, improve your quality of life, and your familial relationships.

Breathe a bit easier knowing that there is something you can do to make life a lot more manageable!



Parish Spiritual Book Club**The Prodigal God****Written by Timothy Keller, Riverhead Books****Selection for Lent, 2015**

"This short book is meant to lay out the essentials of the Christian message, the gospel." So begins Timothy Keller's new book, ***The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith***. Keller targets both seekers who are unfamiliar with the gospel and longtime church members who may not feel the need for a primer on the gospel. Keller's book, as the provocative title suggests, is built on one of Jesus' most famous stories, the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15).



Keller consents that *"on the surface of it, the narrative is not all that gripping."* But, he contends that *"if the teaching of Jesus is likened to a lake, this famous Parable of the Prodigal Son would be one of the clearest spots where we can see all the way to the bottom."* Keller has taught from this passage many times over the years, and says, *"I have seen more people encouraged, enlightened, and helped by this passage, when I explained the true meaning of it, than by any other text."*

The book is laid out in seven brief chapters which aim to uncover the extravagant (prodigal) grace of God, as revealed in this parable. Keller shows how the parable describes **two** kinds of "lost" people, not just one. Most people can identify the lost-ness of the "Prodigal Son," the younger brother in Jesus' story, who takes his inheritance early and squanders it on riotous living.

But Keller shows that the "elder brother" in the parable is no less lost. Together, the two brothers are illustrations of two kinds of people in the world. *"Jesus uses the younger and elder brothers to portray the two basic ways people try to find happiness and fulfillment: the way of moral conformity and the way of self-discovery."* Both brothers are in the wrong, and when we see this, we discover a radical redefinition of what is wrong with us.

We will have our meeting at St. Alphonsus Hall on March 28th, at 7PM. You do not have to be a member of the book club to attend. This is one of my favorite books. Even if you have not read the book, you might enjoy the discussion. All are welcome. - Father Pat

**Stations of the Cross****Friday evening in the Church at 7:30PM****March 27**

Living Stations of the Cross



**Come Relive the Journey
of Jesus to Calvary**

Date: Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: St. Martin of Tours Church

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Stations of the Cross - Every Friday during Lent at 7:30PM Church
- Mar 25: VIRTUS 7PM Faculty Lounge of the School
- Mar 27: Movie: The Passion of the Christ 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 28: Spiritual Book Club: The Prodigal God 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 29: Breakfast with the Easter Bunny 9AM Knights of Columbus Hartigan Council
- Mar 29: Living Stations of the Cross 7:30PM Church
- Mar 30: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Apr 7: Christian Mothers Spring Fling Event 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Beginning Apr 8: New Testament Course by Dcn Tom Hennessy 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Beginning Apr 10: *33 Days to Morning Glory!* 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Apr 11: SMT Book Club 10AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Apr 14: Youth Ministry Adoration 7PM Church
- Apr 21: Saint Padre Pio Holy Hour
- May 24: ADULT CONFIRMATION (Mass time to be determined)
- June 6: Respect Life Ministry's End of Life Seminar 10AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- SEE SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER ON THE LAST PAGE

The Rectory Office Hours - Holy Week**Holy Thursday, April 2**

9:00AM - 2PM

Evening Staff: 2:00PM - 6PM

Good Friday, April 3

Closed - No evening hours

Holy Saturday, April 4

9:00AM - 5PM

Easter Monday, April 6

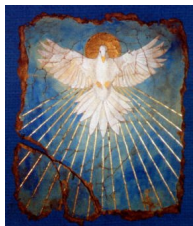
Closed - No evening hours

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Married Couples!

Looking for the perfect weekend? A weekend that will bring a husband and wife closer together? A WWME weekend is exactly what you are looking for. At a Worldwide Marriage Encounter, the original and continually updated marriage enrichment program, you get away from the distractions of everyday life and focus on each other. Enhance your good marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend!

Weekends are scheduled throughout the Metro New York area. The next weekend on Long Island is scheduled for April 24-26 at The Immaculate Conception Seminary in Lloyd Harbor, NY. For more information about the weekends or to apply, call 1-877-697-9963 or visit our web site at <http://www.wwme.org>.

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES



If you have been baptized and received your First Communion, but would like to receive confirmation, please call Father Henry Sattler, CSSR at (516) 931-0818 or Deacon Jim Biggin at (516) 796-5520 with your name and phone number and someone will get back to you. The schedule of classes are listed below.

**MONDAY EVENINGS at 7:30pm
ST. ALPHONSUS HALL**

April 13, April 20, April 27, May 3, May 11, May 18

**PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2015
ADULT CONFIRMATION DAY**

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**

Holy Week 2015

March 30, Monday

Mass: 6:30, 9:00 A.M.

3:00 - 5:00 P.M. Confessions

7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Confessions

March 31, Tuesday

Mass: 6:30, 9:00 A.M.

7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Confessions

April 1, Wednesday

Mass: 6:30, 9:00 A.M.

7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Confessions

April 2, Holy Thursday

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer

7:30 P.M. Liturgy of the Lord's Supper

9:00 P.M. Adoration until 11:00 P.M.

April 3, Good Friday

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer

10:00 A.M. Stations of the Cross -

Bethpage State Park

3:00 P.M. Liturgy of the Passion

7:30 P.M. Liturgy of the Passion

April 4, Holy Saturday

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer

1:00 P.M. Blessing of Bread/Food

8:00 P.M. Easter Vigil

April 5, Easter Sunday

Church: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.

& 1:00 P.M. (Life Teen)

Auditorium: 10:00 & 11:30 A.M.

NO EVENING MASS