

Masses For The Week

- Monday - April 13**
6:30 John Patrick Foley
9:00 Karen Negrin
- Tuesday - April 14**
6:30 Robert & Dorothy Bassemir
9:00 Jerry Saloy
- Wednesday - April 15**
6:30
9:00 Anna Marshall
- Thursday - April 16**
6:30 Cezar Abad
9:00 Anthony & Margaet Simone, Sr.
- Friday - April 17**
6:30 Thomas Fahy
9:00 Harold Owens
- Saturday - April 18**
9:00 INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
5:00 John Speelman, Anniversary
7:00 Madeline T. Stein
- Sunday - April 19**
7:00 The People of the Parish
8:30 Ronnie Lawlor
10:00 James & Lillian Manzolillo
11:30 Matthew McGrorty, Deceased
& Ashlynn McGrorty, Living
1:00 Pietro Sirianni
5:30 Walter Horan

Readings For The Week

- Mon. Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8
- Tues. Acts 4:32-37; John 3:7b-15
- Wed. Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21
- Thurs. Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36
- Fri. Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15
- Sat. Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21
- Sun. Acts 3:13-15, 17-19** *Peter said to the people, "The author of life you put to death, but God raised him from the dead." God brought to fulfillment what the prophets announced long ago: that the Messiah would suffer.*

1 John 2:1-5a *John told believers that Christ Jesus is a just intercessor who offers sacrifice for the sin of the whole world and that a person cannot know Jesus without keeping his commands.*

Luke 24:35-48 *The risen Christ appeared to the disciples and said, "Peace be with you." The Lord ate cooked fish in their presence and discussed the law, prophets and psalms with them, opening their minds to understand the Scriptures.*

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00
Amount Received: April 5, 2015
Regular Collection: \$11,503.00
Easter Collection: \$35,953.22

Thank you for your great generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship



The Christian community described in Acts understood and practiced total stewardship. St. Paul reports that the believers did not claim anything as their own, but held everything in common and distributed to each whatever was needed.

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who look beyond their own **wants** to help satisfy the **needs** of others.

Charismatic Prayer Group

For God so loved
 the wo**R**ld
 He gave H**I**s only
 Begotten **S**on that
 Whosoever b**E**lieveth in Him
 Should **N**ot perish,
 But have everlasting life.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 13 at 7:30 PM in the Church. Please call (516) 993-9672 for prayer requests or more information.



Divine Mercy Novena

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

HOP Club

4/6/15	#54	Catherine M. Vassallo	\$25
4/7/15	#302	Matt & Sara Messina	\$25
4/8/15	#180	Katherine McCabe	\$25
4/9/15	#368	M/M Daniel Esposito	\$25
4/10/15	#547	Janet McKenna	\$50



Third Banns
Sean Donahue & Barbara Crofton
Second Banns
Zach Davino & Keri Dodge



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

This week, the Pantry is low on cereals, boxed & canned potatoes, peas, carrots, mixed vegetables, canned chicken, tuna, salmon, pasta sauce, tomato paste, chicken soup, oil, hot chocolate, brownie mix, Jell-O, pudding, juice boxes, syrup, sugar, dish soap, laundry soap, bar soap and tissues.

Thank you so very much 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

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

**“For the sake of his sorrowful passion,
 have mercy on us
 and on the whole world.”**

**“Jesus,
 I trust in You!”**



Week of April 12 - April 18, 2015

Altar Bread & Wine

*In Loving Memory of
 Ann & William J. Csajko*

Week of April 12 - April 18, 2015

Sanctuary Candle

*In Loving Memory of
 Vito DeFanis*



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 Shiepkko, Christopher Gratton, John Mitchell
 Pat Cannata, Barbara Thompson, Donald Castor
 Dorothy Quinn, Zachery Duff, Sam Zubov
 Patricia Marrone, Mary Henson, Mary Lynn Brassil
 Catherine Battiatia, Brendan Rodriguez, Rebecca Passaro
 Dot Widyn, Annette Giuliano, Madeline Ciaravino
 Nicole Cagna, Gary Vlahov, Christopher Wezel
 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
 Tommy Johnson, Harry & Louise Smith, Joseph Vareed
 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 Dennon, Deacon Jim Biggin
 Carol Ann Scudder, John Scudder, Thomas Napoli
 Joan Spira, Gerald Campbell, Nicki, Vincent Esposito
 Terry Hall, 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, Christine Chiarappa
 Michael Kott, Jr.

Rest in Peace

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

***Jose Mendes, Olga Panetta
 Vincenza Nicchitta, Carmine (Dick) Bassano***

The Pastor's Letter

There is a quote I like to use by the great poet, WB Yeats. He said, "*The Irish have an abiding sense of tragedy which sustains them through their temporary periods of joy.*" I find there are two kinds of Irishmen: those who exhibit a happy-go-lucky personality, and those who we might call the dark melancholic Irish. Although I try to portray the happy-go-lucky man, I would say that I am far closer to the man of melancholy. I notice this particularly when it comes to sports, in particular the New York Mets. I suppose years of Armando Benitez blowing lead after lead in the ninth inning of games nurtured me to this state. If we have a six run lead and there are two outs in the ninth, and our pitcher walks someone, I suspect that we are about to lose the game!

Today's Gospel of *Doubting Thomas* brought to mind a Met game I went to on June 30, 2000. I was with another Redemptorist, Father Charlie McDonald. Charlie is one of the most laid back people I have ever met. Nothing bothers him. When he would tell me about problems he was having with his parish buildings, I would ask him, "*What are you going to do about them?*" His usual response was, "*I am putting that on the back burner!*" I still tease him that he must have had a back burner bigger than the grill at *Nathan's* in Coney Island!

By the time Charlie and I sat down in our seats, the Mets were already down 5 to 0 against our great rival at the time, the Atlanta Braves. I was getting grouchier by the moment. Charlie said, "*Pat, don't worry. We are here at the ballpark. It's summer, and we are having a good time. And maybe we will come back and win!*" His optimism only made me more upset and if the beer I was holding had not cost seven dollars a bottle, I would have poured a *Bud* over his head. But he kept the faith.

By the eighth inning, the Mets were losing 8-1. Even though it is against my moral principles to leave a game early, I was halfway out of my seat. Charlie said, "*Pat, we still have two more chances!*" "*Charley,*" I said, "*nobody comes back from being down 8-1!*" He mentioned something about Tug McGraw and "*you gotta believe!*" All I believed was that the Mets were terrible! Well, as Paul Harvey says, "*...you know the rest of the story!*" In the bottom of the eighth inning, with two outs, the Mets scored 10 runs, capped off by a Mike Piazza three run homer and they went on to win the game in one of the most historic games in Mets history!!

I can never see Father Charlie without his reminding me of this game. He usually begins with, "*O Ye of Little Faith,*" followed by several mentions of "*Doubting Thomas!*" It is one of the rare times when I can only respond in humiliated silence.

Still, I can understand where Thomas was coming from when he said that he did not believe Jesus had risen. He wanted proof and said he would only believe if he could put his finger in the wounds of Christ and his hand into his side. In spite of his three years with Jesus, and coming to know and love him, and being awed by his miracles, the brutal crucifixion and death of Jesus convinced Thomas that our Lord was dead. When the other apostles said they had seen the Lord, he was convinced they were just men having hallucinations. Jesus was dead and the dream that he was the one that God had promised was lost!

D*oubting Thomas!* Some nicknames stick. Thomas' nickname has stuck for almost 2,000 years! He doubted a dead man could come back to life. I believe even the most faith-filled person can have doubts. We are told that St. Therese of Lisieux was on the point of despair as she was dying. Her own blood sisters feared she would lose her faith. Yet ultimately, she trusted that God was with her. Mother Theresa had a similar story. After she died, her journals were open and studied. It was clear that she had many years when she felt God was distant and uninterested in her. Yet she continued to persevere in her good works and died faithful to the Lord.

What gives you doubts of faith? I believe in the Eucharist and the Blessed Trinity with relative ease by God's grace. But a dying child in pain or a natural disaster that leaves thousands of thousands of people dead does stab at my mind and heart, leaving me wondering, "*Is God really there and loving us?*" I do understand people with doubts.

Our faith is not in doctrine or creeds. No, our faith is in the living God. To have faith is to believe there *is* a God, that God loves me and cares for me, and that I shall one day see him face to face. You and I live in an age of science and great technology. They are not our enemies. Although I found physics and chemistry all but impossible in college, I do find that faith in God makes sense to me. To put it rather simply: either we are just a great collection of molecules smashing into each other randomly, or there is a design and a plan to this world.

When I read the Gospels, I feel the presence of Jesus. No one has ever spoken like this Man or acted in such a way of love and compassion. Faith is not blind. Rather, it invites us to use our minds and intellects in seeking the truth of the world around us. There have been moments when I have felt in a very overwhelming way the presence of God that has increased my faith.

Some scripture scholars say that Thomas did not believe when the apostles told them they had seen Jesus because he was absent from the community. Community, the Church, is a key place to experience the living God. We go to God together. Your faith helps me to believe and strengthens me in my weak moments. It is the community of faith, guided by the power of the Holy Spirit, that continues to make God so very present in the world. We do have personal experiences of God, but we need the faith community to sustain us on our journey to know and believe in Jesus.



We should not be too hard on Thomas as his doubts and questions are our own. Thomas *does* come to say, "*My Lord and my God!*" as he encounters Jesus. That can be our prayer as we receive Jesus today in Holy Communion. "*My Lord and my God!*"

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ED FLYNN!

Edward Flynn, a parishioner for over fifty years and a Past Grand Knight, is now residing at **Glengariff Home Care Center at 141 Dosoris Lane, Rm. I 128, Glen Cove, NY 11542**. Ed is unable to get around on his own and has few close family.

He will celebrate his sixtieth birthday on April 17, 2015. He has few visitors and cell phone service is poor and often non-existent. If you know Ed or even would just like to help him feel still a parishioner, a birthday card would be nice. He just got a new bulletin board and how great it would be to fill it with wishes from St. Martin of Tours! - Ann Hughes



A very special "Thank You" is due to the parishioners who helped create the flower display for our Repository on Holy Thursday and our Easter celebration. It is not easy to unwrap, gel, and water so many plants and then give each a special spot to show off.



Thanks to Jeanne, Frank, Debbie, Janet, Ed, Sarah, and Janet for being the foundation for these beautiful displays. With reverence and respect, I am sure that I can quote from Genesis and say, ***"And God saw that it was good!"***

Ann Hughes

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**

March 25, 2015 was a very blessed day at our parish. Bishop Andrzej J. Zglejszewski confirmed almost two hundred young men and women in two different celebrations that were held at 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. The Parish of St. Martin of Tours is very proud of them and pray that the Holy Spirit will always guide them. The names are as follows:

Sarah Asaro	Michael Donovan	Christopher Lewis	Michael Raman
Sergio Astudillo	Jacqueline Downey	Nicolette Lisa	Antonio Razzano
Sabrina Ayala	Peter Doyle	Raymond Lohman	Kaitlyn Remsen
Thomas Bachmeier	Justin Duemig	Jonathan Looney	Amanda Rigby
Kenneth Badger, IV	James Ehrlinger	Rocco Loscalzo	John Riggins
Angelina Badolato	Kyra Ehrlinger	Cara MacDonald	Julianna Robertino
Christopher Bello	Gianna Facarile	Matthew Mandolese	Hailey Rogers
Stephanie Benedictus	James Faicco	Michael Manfra	Victoria Romano
Brandon Bestany	Vincent Fariello	Julia Martins	Michael Rufrano
Cynthia Billovits	Brianna Fielding	Nicole Massaro	Jake Rusignolo
Olivia Binder	Nicholas Fina	Victoria May	Jesse Rusignolo
Ryan Bohringer	William Fitzgerald	Marisa McCarthy	Alex Salvata
Jackson Bonade	Devin Flynn	Emily McDonald	Kaley Santonocito
Samantha Borgese	Andrew Freiberg	Alexa McDougall	Andrew Sapuppo
Jovanna Bove	Steven Gabrinowitz	Rebecca McGlynn	Kyle Saugy
Aidan Brocco	Taylor Galgano	Bernadette McGuckin	Peter Schimmel
Regan Bruno	Richard Gennaro	Steven McGuckin	John Schmidt
Madison Buttice	Michael Gentilella	Marie McGuckin	Madeline Schmidt
Dylan Bystron	Marisa Giammanco	Matthew Meneses	Matthew Schneider
Samantha Cadwallader	Matthew Goldstein	Alexa Miranda	Samantha Schneider
Gavin Cafiero	Alexa Gonzalez	John Modica	Alexa Schultz
Kristina Calamia	George Grammer	Aidan Monteleone	Andrew Scigliabaglio
Nina Carlomusto	William Greco	Katherine Moran	Elena Serio
Grace Carney	Kaitlyn Guthertz	Emma Mortelliti	Daniel Sheehan
Alexander Chiaramonte	Amanda Hartwig	Allie Mossner	Gabriela Shkreli
Adriana Ciminelli	Emily Hicks	Kathryn Mullin	Christopher Stronstad
Marissa Cittadino	Anthony Hines	Jessica Najdek	Andrew Tarabokija
Elizabeth Cobb	Morgan Hlaing	Skylar Nicholson	Christopher Terrell
Emily Cohen	Scott Hochenberger	Nicholas Noren	Andrew Testani
Kevin Conway	Alyssa Host	Giavanna Novelli	Dylan Teuschler
Brianna Costa	Christina Hydo	John O'Connor	Marcus Torres
Thomas Costa	Amanda Imbriale	Kristin Oggeri	Erin Tracy
Ryan Crotty	Richard Imbro	Jessica O'Keefe	Rylie Trimble
Jonathan Crumb	Isabella Ingenito	Amanda O'Neill	Gavin Trzcinski
Peter Cucurullo	Alexander Keener	Anthony Ornellas	Mia Valenti
Liam Cusack	Lauren Kennedy	Kerri Pancoast	Frank Vertuccio
Gianna D'Aguanno	Thomas Kirk	Brody Paola	Gina Villareale
Sean Dalton	Christopher Klein	Nicholas Passaro	Angelo Vita
Samantha D'Aponte	Thomas Kratina	Courtney Perico	Brendan Volkommer
Sabrina Dawes	Kyle Kummenacker	Samantha Pilarte	Jackson Welna
Jenna DelRe	Meagan Kutzma	Jasmine Pimental	Chelsea Welsch
Madison DelToro	Carissa Leicht	Brandon Platania	Brandon White
Joseph DiGiovanni	Olivia Lerner	Jordan Prechtel	Connor Woods
Frankie DiMartino	KellyAnn Lettis	James Prince	Joseph Yarusso
John Doherty	Nicholas Leung	Sophia Quintieri	Daniel Zuk

Why Catholics Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday

On the Second Sunday of Easter of the Jubilee Year 2000, at the Mass for the canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska, Pope John Paul II proclaimed to the world that “from now on throughout the Church this Sunday will be called Divine Mercy Sunday.”



*Saint Maria
Faustina*

Pope John Paul II had actively promoted the message of St. Faustina. In his 1980 encyclical on God’s mercy, *Rich in Mercy*, he developed a scriptural and doctrinal basis for our faith in the mercy of God. By linking the revealed truth about God’s mercy to one of the most solemn Sundays after Easter itself, he illumined the fact that the liturgy already proclaimed the divine mercy. The truth has been embedded for two millennia in the worship of the Church. Once again we see an illustration of the ancient saying, “The law of faith is the law of prayer.”

On the Second Sunday of Easter, the responsorial psalm and Gospel for Cycles A, B and C center on the theme of mercy. In Psalm 118 we sing three times, “His mercy endures forever.” The Gospel, from John 20:19-31, begins with the risen Christ appearing to the apostles on Easter night. Jesus calms his disciples by saying and giving them “Peace.” He shows them the scars of his Passion, his wounded hands and side. His glorified body retains the evidence of his saving work through his suffering, death and resurrection.

He fills them with joy and again says to them—and produces in them—“Peace.” Then he breathes on them and explains what the divine breathing means with the words, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” He gives the apostles the power of God’s mercy for the sinner, the gift of forgiving sins from God’s treasury of mercy. The other texts speak of healing and give the assurance that there is nothing to fear.

From Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday to the Eighth Day of Easter, the divine love song of mercy is chanted amid abundant alleluias. For centuries in liturgy the Church has proclaimed the mercy of God through the Word of God and the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. The tables of Word and Sacrament are heaped with the promises of Divine Mercy and its grand effect in the lives of millions. The liturgy is the storehouse of the wisdom of God.

The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

How to Recite the Chaplet

The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades. The Chaplet is preceded by two opening prayers from the Diary of Saint Faustina and followed by a closing prayer.



1. Make the Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. Optional Opening Prayers

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat three times)

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

3. Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

4. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

5. The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

6. The Eternal Father

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

7. On the Ten Small Beads of Each Decade

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

8. Repeat for the Remaining Decades

Saying the "Eternal Father" (6) on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

9. Conclude with Holy God (Repeat three times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

10. Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

**Long Island State Veterans Home
At Stony Brook University**

**Benefits & Resources Event for Veterans and Their Families
Saturday, April 18, 2015 from 9AM to 1PM**

Long Island State Veterans Home
100 Patriots Road
Stony Brook NY 11790
Multi-Purpose Room

Reps from a variety of federal, state and local agencies will be present to distribute info and answer questions. Experts in the field of VA benefits, managed care, Medicaid, housing, home care, assisted living, legal counseling, mental health, long-term care, burial arrangements and more will be on hand.

In addition, representatives from VA Eligibility and enrollment will be on site as well as free oral cancer screenings and general health screening will be performed by Stony Brook Medicine School of Dental Medicine and School of Nursing. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call (631) 444-8606 or visit www.listateveteranshome.org

Widows and Widowers, Divorced & Single Catholics of Long Island
39th Year - Nassau County Chapter Number 1, P.O. Box 2131

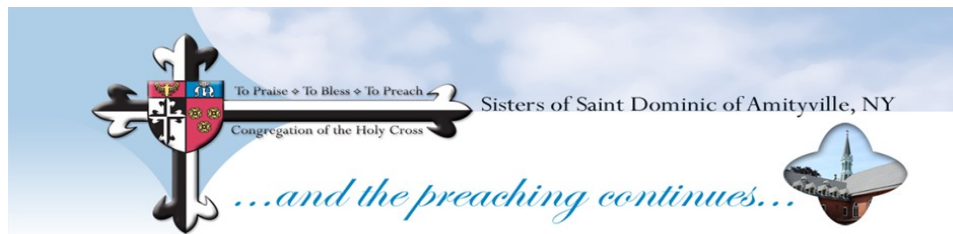
New Member Orientation/Non-Denominational
Tuesday, April 28, 2015 @ 8PM

Meeting is every fourth Tuesday at
St. Frances de Chantal School
1309 Wantagh Avenue, Wantagh

Please bring proof of single status to join - refreshments after meeting
Call Barbara McCaffrey at (516) 798-2858 for more information.

Holy Face of Jesus Holy Hour

The next Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus will
be Monday, May 4th at 1PM. All are welcome!



“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”
-St. Catherine of Siena, Dominican Saint

Come join us April 17 to April 19, 2015
(beginning Friday at 7PM & ending with Sunday Vespers at 4PM)
To explore what it means to be part of the Dominican Family
Sisters of St. Dominic, Amityville
And find how you will set the world on fire!

*for women who are 17 years old and older
*a \$20 donation for the weekend is suggested

Please contact Sr. Marenid Fabre, OP, Director of Vocations
(631) 842-6000 ext. 352, 555 Albany Avenue, Amityville NY 11701



There is a Life Night this Sunday following the 5:30PM Mass in the OLPH Youth Room from 7-8:30PM. All High School teens are welcome. Dinner will be served!

Upcoming Events

- 4/14: Youth Ministry Adoration Service in the Church at 7 - 8PM
- 4/19: 7-8:30PM in the OLPH Youth Room
- 4/26: 7-8:30PM in the OLPH Youth Room



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

Upcoming Events

- 4/23: There is NO Edge Night.
- 5/14: Edge Night 7-8:30PM in the OLPH Youth Room

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

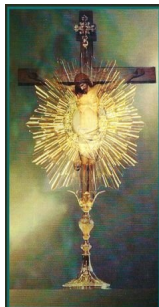
For questions about Youth Ministry at SMT or to inquire about joining our team, please contact Erin Horan-Baudille at SMT_Lifeteen@Yahoo.com.

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

POPE FRANCIS' APPEAL

Vatican City: Pope Francis on Monday, April 6th again pressed the International Community to do something about the killing of Christians in several parts of the world, and **"NOT LOOK THE OTHER WAY."** Addressing Pilgrims and tourists in St. Peter's Square, the Pope praised those "who were sensitizing public opinion about the persecution of Christians in the world."



While not suggesting any particular course of action, he urged "concrete participation and tangible help in defense and protection of our brothers and sisters, who are persecuted, exiled, slain, beheaded, solely for being Christian." Pope Francis was building on his Good Friday denunciation of which he then called "COMPLICIT SILENCE" about the targeting of Christians. "They are our martyrs of today, and they are many! We say that they are **more numerous** than in the first century!"

"I hope that the International Community doesn't stand MUTE and INERT before such unacceptable crimes, which constitute a worrisome erosion of the most elementary human rights. I truly hope that the International Community doesn't LOOK THE OTHER WAY," the Pontiff said speaking from a window of the Apostolic Palace. The advance of Islamic State group fighters have forced members of ancient Christian communities to flee their homes in Iraq. Pope Francis has been ensuing these Christians who feel the Vatican's concern. *Source: Associated Press, Fox News*

APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH 2015:

National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families. During the month of April and throughout the year, communities are encouraged to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness strategies and activities and promote prevention across the country.

In recognition of the 40th anniversary of the CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT, a historical timeline of significant moments in child abuse in the U.S. is being designed.

EVERY YEAR MORE THAN 3 MILLION REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE ARE MADE IN THE U.S. INVOLVING MORE THAN 6 MILLION CHILDREN (A REPORT CAN INCLUDE MULTIPLE CHILDREN).

A REPORT OF A CHILD ABUSE IS MADE EVERY 10 SECONDS!

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-800-4-A-Child (1-800-422-4453)

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
 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 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
 2LT Samantha Lopez, U.S. Navy

**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**

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

**Sunday, April 26
Maria Regina Seaford**

Both liturgies will begin at 2:30 PM. Please register by stopping by the Rectory office or calling 931-0818. 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr 14: Youth Ministry Adoration 7PM Church
- Apr 21: Saint Padre Pio Holy Hour 7PM Church
- Apr 28: VIRTUS training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- May 4: Holy Face of Jesus Holy Hour 1PM Church
- May 24: ADULT CONFIRMATION (Mass time to be determined)
- June 6: Respect Life Ministry's End of Life Seminar 10AM St. Alphonsus Hall

As you might recall, our Lent began with an Ash Wednesday where there was no heat in the Church.



On the Saturday of the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, the brick company without any notice put some kind of cherry picker that is blocking one the entrances into the Church and school. God has a great sense of humor!

I apologize for those who were disappointed that we did not have Stations of the Cross in the Park. I love this ritual and was disappointed that we canceled but I felt it was the best decision at the time. Before Good Friday of next year, I will consult with people if they wish to have the Stations rain or shine. If they do and there is rain, then we might offer the Stations in the Park for those who wish, while offering alternate Stations in the church for those who would rather not be in the rain.

Actually, I think our parish had a very good Lent, and I want to thank you for all the many ways you participated in the Lenten events in preparation for the Easter Feast. It is difficult to thank the many people who come forward to help make our parish a place where we meet Jesus and grow in our faith.

We had a mission, Wednesday evening prayer services, Stations of the Cross, a course on Jesus, morning prayer, books clubs, extra confessions, wonderful liturgies with well-prepared music, movies, The Living Stations of the Cross, very moving Holy Week services, a well-decorated church and worship space, a soup supper, prayer groups, and periods of Eucharistic adoration. So many parishioners were involved in a variety of ministries that I could probably name a hundred people to especially mention and still be far short of thanking all who made Lent so spiritual here at St. Martin's. On our bracelets we had the words of the Psalm: *Be still and know that I am God*. Thank you for your powerful, faithful witness in being so still in the presence of God.

Thank you! 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**.

You can also go to the Diocese home page at drvc.org, look for "Virtus" 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 Training Session at St. Martin of Tours
Tuesday, April 28th @ 7:00PM
in St. Alphonsus Parish Hall

A few weeks ago, I went to the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Brentwood for the funeral of an elderly nun named Sister Bernard. I knew Sister from her days in Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Brooklyn. She was a generous and loving person who was very good to so many, my family included. The Sisters have a beautiful style of liturgy and the homily given by my friend Father John McGowan was deeply moving. The Sisters' cemetery at Brentwood reminded me of visiting Arlington National Cemetery. There are row upon row of small stone markers, each with a life that was now home with the God who had breathed life into them. I may exaggerate, but it seemed as though there were more than 500 Sisters buried on that sacred ground.

It was a windy, raw March day. It brought me back to the day in February 1983 when we laid my sister Gerry to rest. After the final rites for Sister Bernie, a few other friends and I went over to the grave where we said some prayers. Gerry died at the age of 45. I remember the early morning call from the hospital to let me know that my sister had died unexpectedly. I walked upstairs to tell my sister Marianne, and then the two of us went to tell Mom. My poor Dad, perhaps it was a blessing, was already in moderate stages of Alzheimer's disease and I do not think he ever fully grasped what had happened. We were all devastated. I remember the hurt I bore was actually physical. My body ached as did my heart and soul. In many ways, my mother was never the same again. No parent should ever bury a child. It is against the laws of nature, and I know some of you still carry that pain in your hearts. May God continue to help you carry that deep sorrow in faith.

No parent should bury a child. Yet, on this night, after an amazing witness of what it means to be a follower of Jesus, to bend down, pick up a bowl and towel and wash the feet of one another; after experiencing the moment when our Lord Jesus Christ gave to us the greatest gift we have on earth, the Eucharist, with the words, *This is my Body, This is My Blood, Do this in memory of me*; we see Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray a prayer we have all said many times in our lives: *Father, if it is your will, let this cup pass from me*. Jesus, fully human and fully divine, at the age of 33 does not want to die. He does not want to be spit upon, scourged, whipped, and crucified. He does not want to know that he will soon be betrayed with a kiss by one the twelve, and it pains him to know his *Rock* Peter will soon be shouting his denial of Jesus. He kneels, lonely and afraid, with a prayer and anxiety so intense that St. Luke tells us he sweats blood. *Father, if it is your will, let this cup pass from me*.

For many years, I have struggled with the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Did the Father demand the blood of the Son to atone for the ancient sin of Adam and Eve and all the sins ever since? Why was not Jesus spared as was Isaac when the angel stopped Abraham from sacrificing his son? The angel of Passover left alone all the Jewish homes that had the blood of the Passover lamb sprinkled on them. Did the Father demand the blood of the Son?

Although I would never say that I begin to understand the Trinity, the Three Persons of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in one God. Three and one - each a unique person, but each in complete union with the other. One God. So, whatever Jesus suffered, as I understand the Blessed Trinity so did the Father and the Holy Spirit. Theologically, we say God cannot suffer pain. But Jesus is both human and divine. He is one with the Father and the Spirit. In the limitation of my language, I believe God, Father, Son and Spirit, suffered on this night and the Friday to come.

The Father and Spirit were not crowned with thorns or scourged, but their pain was beyond profound seeing Jesus suffer and die. Jesus told us, *The Father and I are one*. As the Father through the power of the Spirit responds to Jesus prayer, he is drinking of the same cup. No Father should see their son die.

I thought about the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and I thought about drinking the cup, and the passion of Christ when I read this excerpt from eulogy of Gabriel Sasson, the Hasidic Father who lost seven children in a fire in Brooklyn. Orthodox Jews do not say the name God directly. Hashem, the word used in this prayer, means The One. I found these words almost Biblical as they revealed the agony and pain of a father who lost his children.

Excerpts of the Eulogy of Gabriel Sassoon

Two oxen, that's me and my wife. My wife was a burnt offering, and I lost everything in the fire. Seven pure sheep. Those are my seven children: Elaine, Rivkah, David, Yeshua, Moshe, Sara, and Yaakob. The seven complete pure sheep. There's nothing to say. There's nothing to say. There's only one way to survive this. It is complete and total utter surrender...

I don't know how I could have everything, but I have nothing. I know Hashem is all good. My children, they were so pure. My wife was able to raise them so they kept their purity, each one of them.

Elaine, she came out fighting, a spirited child. Always going to the maximum. They were so much fun and spirited. Rivkah had so much joy. She gave joy to everybody.

David, he was so fun. It was truly a gift from Hashem. Always secretly giving up for the other. Yeshua, oh so joyful and creative. Always tried to make others happy.

Moshe was always beaming. He tried so hard. It was hard for him. He had learning problems. And he tried so hard.

Sara was like Elaine. She was the cutest. And Yaakob. He just wanted everybody to be happy. He was the youngest...he was my clown...They have the faces of angels. They have the faces of children.

When you love your child, you are loving Hashem. The child's smile, his giggle, his laughter, his successes, his dreams - that's a reflection of Hashem. I want to ask my children for forgiveness. I did my best, and my wife did her best. Please everybody, love your child, love your student; love the other children.

That's all that counts. Understand them. Don't negate them. If you feel like getting angry, you have to surrender. Surrender. You have to do what's best for the child. That's what Hashem wants.

March 22, 2015 New York Post

The Blessed Trinity surrenders in love to humanity to restore us to our original dignity as the fullness of God's love is revealed to us.

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You may visit his website at
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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>.



SAINT PADRE PIO

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



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.