

Masses For The Week

Monday - April 20

6:30 Nettie & Artie Chiampou
9:00 Bill Long

Tuesday - April 21

6:30 Herman Lordahl
9:00 Deceased Mbers of the Saloy & McKenna Families

Wednesday - April 22

6:30 Marge Zuk
9:00 Mary Connelly

Thursday - April 23

6:30 Josephine Sciuto
9:00 Herman Lordahl

Friday - April 24

6:30 Clara Zadra
9:00 Matthew Bosco

Saturday - April 25

9:00 INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
5:00 Rose DeCeglia
7:00 Erma Eichenlaub

Sunday - April 26

7:00 The People of the Parish
8:30 Helen & Henry Ruff
10:00 Salvatore Valenti, Anniversary
11:30 Paula & Frank Pfeffer
1:00 Grace Smith
5:30 Rosemary Ogno

Readings For The Week

Mon. Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29
Tues. Acts 7:51-8:1a; John 6:30-35
Wed. Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40
Thurs. Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51
Fri. Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59
Sat. 1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20
Sun. Acts 4:8-12 *Peter explained to the people that every good deed and all restoration to health are accomplished in the name of Christ Jesus the Nazorean, through whom all are saved.*

1 John 3:1-2 *Believers are the dearly beloved children of God who do not yet know what shall come to light. When it does come to light, believers will be like God.*

John 10:11-18 *Jesus is the good shepherd who knows the sheep. The Good Shepherd not only loves and protects the sheep but is willing to lay down his life for the sheep.*

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Amount Budgeted: \$17,500.00
Amount Received: April 11/12, 2015
Regular Collection: \$17,118.97

Thank you for your great generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship



The disciples in today's Gospel came to know Jesus in the breaking of the bread. When we share what we have with those who are in need, we, too, will discover Jesus in our midst.

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who, imitating the example of Jesus, reach out to others by bringing the Eucharist to the sick, hospitalized, homebound and elderly.

**Charismatic Prayer Group
Hunger**

We all know what hunger feels like and we know we just have to eat something to satisfy it. It's the same with your spiritual life. If you aren't getting a regular dose of God, you will be spiritually hungry!

Our next meeting is Monday, April 20th at 7:30 PM in the Church. Please call (516) 993-9672 for prayer requests or more information.



Saint Maria Faustina

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

HOP Club

4/13/15	#309 Paul Ciaramello	\$25
4/14/15	#429 Brian & Maryann McGrath	\$25
4/15/15	#221 Ledwin Mason	\$25
4/16/15	#597 Herbert Smith	\$25
4/17/15	#271 Leonarda M. Dear	\$250



Third Banns
Zach Davino & Keri Dodge
Daniel C. Baner &
Danica J. DiNoia



*“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, white rice, peas, carrots, tomato paste, pasta sauce, black beans, apple sauce, chicken soup, oil, mayonnaise, boxed milk, evaporated milk, brownies, pancake mix, jelly, sugar, juice boxes, tissues, dish soap and bar soap.

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

**Faith in Christ’s Resurrection
 can sustain us!**

Week of April 19 - April 25, 2015



Altar Bread & Wine
In Loving Memory of
Helen & Henry Ruff

Week of April 19 - April 25, 2015

Sanctuary Candle

In Loving Memory of
Ann Csajko



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, 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 Battiata, 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 Vared
 Grace Pastorello, Anna M. Bosco, Baby Daniel
 Janet Medina, Kevin Henson, Marie Newman
 Lee Berkowitz, The Mascia Family
 Edward Brown, Ceil Hollander, Ann Mirto, Vicki Perri
 Daniel Costa, Nikki, Eleanor Behrik Hector Valentine
 Theresa DuRoss, Bob Baciuska, Lorraine Dennan
 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, 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.
 Connie Burges, Dolores Miller

Rest in Peace

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

Rita S. Schmidt
Linda J. Rolston

The Pastor's Letter

First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

When my niece Claire was in high school, I occasionally helped her with her homework, especially with her religion and English assignments. She liked me to proof read her papers which is kind of ironic since I now have a parishioner, Kate Mayerhofer, who often proofreads what I write for the bulletin. Claire eventually went to college to study to be a registered nurse. At that point, I found helping her in her writing far more challenging since she was using scientific terms. I am a liberal arts man who got by in my math and science courses by my good looks and charm (please no remarks!) She did well in college and nursing school and was soon a full-time RN at a city hospital. Her first assignment was to the obstetrics and maternity unit and she really liked that kind of nursing. She so enjoyed it that she decided to get a Master degree in nursing with a specialty in obstetrics. When she asked me to read over one of her papers, I told her that I could barely understand what she was writing about since it was such scientific and technical material. I, the teacher, was humbled. Claire got her advanced degree and looked forward to a long career in the maternity ward.

However, it was not too long after she had finished her studies that the hospital where she worked began to do more genetic testing and counseling. If a couple was going to have a baby with serious genetic concerns, abortion was promoted as a strong option. I was so proud when Claire made it clear that she wanted absolutely nothing to do with being involved in any aspect of abortion, such as preparing the patients for the procedure. This caused her supervisors to give her a rather hard time and they began to hint that her job could be in jeopardy. Claire stood firm and sought the protection of her union to back her in the conscience decision she had made. Eventually, the hospital chose to reassign her to another unit. She was very disappointed to leave what she had trained for and enjoyed. Now many years later, she is very happy in her present assignment.

I tell this story in light of the ongoing debate that has been taking place as to whether a business must assist in a same sex wedding in some form. We know this became an explosive issue in Indiana with the passage of a Religious Freedom Act that gave some limited support to people who might make religious decisions based on their consciences and religious principles. Actually similar laws were passed in eighteen different states and President Bill Clinton had signed a similar law while he was president. The media exploded and saw some type of homophobia and bigotry in the law. The State of Connecticut banned all business with the State of Indiana and all sorts of companies threatened to boycott the state. The governor backed down and changed the law. I believe our nation is torn between protecting people against discrimination and allowing people to follow their religious beliefs. I would say that in general the media is very strong in protecting gay marriage and overly critical of people with strong religious beliefs. People who do not wish to provide services at a gay wedding for reasons of conscience are often portrayed by news accounts as bigots and intolerant people.

I believe a person, whatever his or her orientation, creed, color or religion should not suffer discrimination. This is against our laws and more importantly, against Christian beliefs. We know well there have been many times when gay people were attacked and even killed for being who they were. That was evil. Still, as a Catholic, I believe marriage is between a man and a woman. However, I do know many states approve same sex marriages. Although I do not agree with this change in law, I am not trying to overturn such laws. Yet, I am concerned how fast our society is changing. After thousands of years of recognizing marriage as between a man and a woman, I am stunned and concerned at how rapidly societal norms are changing. I have promised prayers for a couple who was entering into a same sex marriage. Although I do not agree with their choice, I still love them and know that God loves them. I did not attend their wedding. I welcome gay people to our parish, but I would not celebrate a marriage for them. Although the teaching of the Church is quite clear on that of marriage being between a man and a woman, it is not absolutely clear, at least in my understanding our moral principles, as to whether a person could attend a same sex marriage, or provide services for the event such as baking a cake, photography, or decorating. Certainly, one could not officiate at such a wedding. If I can offer love and emotional support to a friend in his or her second marriage without agreeing with their decision to remarry outside the Church, I think a similar approach is valid in terms of same sex marriages.

Still, I worry that Christians can be painted as intolerant for their beliefs. Christians should not be intolerant of others, nor should we suffer intolerance for our own beliefs. I have read that a few gay leaders are concerned that some of their members may be intolerant of the beliefs of others, in particular Christians. I am concerned about the slippery slope of demanding others to go against their strongly held religious convictions. Will doctors and nurses be ultimately forced to perform abortions or euthanasia? Will churches be forced to perform same sex weddings by the demands of the law? This may sound like the ravings of an alarmist, but once the principle of religious freedom is weakened (which is the first amendment of the United States Bill of Rights), liberties of all Americans are in danger.

For me, the issue of avoiding all forms of decimation against gays, while still respecting the beliefs of some Christians, is a great challenge to our nation and to each one of us. How to be faithful to Jesus in such a complicated matter is no easy task! Jesus loved **all** people and revealed God to be a God of mercy and compassion. At the same time, Jesus did not hesitate to proclaim his moral convictions. I pray that we will be blessed with the graces of being both principled and charitable in all our dealings with all our brothers and sisters.

Father Pat, CSSR woodscsr@aol.com
www.smtbethpage.org



I am looking for someone who works well with photo shopping and might be willing to donate a little bit of time to a specific project that would not be too time consuming.

Please contact me at woodscsr@aol.com

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 celebrated 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



OPENING OF THE 2016 MASS BOOK

Saturday, April 25th

Begins at 9:00 a.m. & ends at 11:30 a.m.

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

ST. ALPHONSUS HALL (large room)

Tuesday, April 28th

Begins at 9:00 a.m. & ends at 11:30 a.m.

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

ST. ALPHONSUS HALL (small room)

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

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

Christian Mothers Rosary Confraternity



On Tuesday, May 5, 2015 beginning at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall, we will be crowning our Blessed Mother followed by the recitation of the rosary. Our pastor, Fr. Pat Woods will give a talk on Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Election of officers will also take place. Refreshments will be served. All women are most welcome.

Please note: If you haven't paid your annual dues of \$10, contact Mary Colavolpe at 495-4408 to arrange payment.

Winners of the 2015 L.I. Coalition for Life Pro-Life Oratory Contest

for high school age students will be first on the agenda to present their 5-7 minute speeches on Mon., April 27, at 7:45 PM at the L.I. Coalition for Life meeting to be held at Joseph Barry K of C Council Hall, 45 Heitz Place, Hicksville. All are welcome. For information call 631-243-1435.

May 16th: Parish Assembly: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Mass followed by conference, discussion and lunch. **Theme: Meeting Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread.**

June 7th: Corpus Christi Procession after the 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass

June 14th: Father Pat's 40th anniversary celebration of his ordination. 1:00 p.m. Mass with luncheon to follow. All are welcome. More details to follow.

September 4-6th: Summer Retreat at San Alfonso Retreat House Long Branch, New Jersey. 6:00 p.m. on Friday to Sunday at 1:00p.m.



St. Martin of Tours celebrates
Autism Awareness & Acceptance Month!!

Please join us for a mass dedicated to the individuals,
families and friends of people with Autism/Special Needs.

Sunday, April 26th at 3pm

**St. Martin of Tours Church
Celebrant, Pastor Patrick Woods**

The mass has been planned by a sibling of a child with Autism to celebrate Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month. It has been adapted to make it a more sensory friendly experience for children and adults.

The following hints may help to make this a good experience for you and your loved ones:

- Duration will be approximately 30 minutes.
- Soft music will be played throughout the mass to minimize transitions and reduce stress.
- Altar Servers, Lectors and Eucharist Ministers will be familiar with Autism.
- Chairs will be set up in the gathering area for families who are more comfortable and/or unable to move into the main area of the church.
- St. Martin's will provide a small token for anxious children to fidget with.
- Please feel free to bring items that will help your loved one have a positive experience.
- Social Story will be available to assist in preparing your loved one for the mass. You can find the social story on the St. Martin's Facebook Page, Piece By Piece Bethpage Facebook Page or you can email Kathryn Clyne at piecebypiecebethpage@gmail.com for more information.



Update on Our Capital Campaign Paving The Way For Christ

I want to give you an update on our Capital Campaign - *Paving the Way for Christ*. Pledged to our campaign is **\$1,758,295.60**. The amount we have received is **\$1,139,643.68**. That is wonderful. The parishioners have been very faithful to their pledges. As you know, the pledges were for three years, and we are only in the fourth month of our second year. God bless all of you for your generosity.

I am also happy to report that the brick work on the school is completed. Alleluia! It certainly took longer than we expected, but the diocesan engineer has been checking the work quite regularly and he has reported that the work has been done very well. As you might recall, an issue that surfaced while the brickwork was being done was the leaning of the bricks had caused damage to the window frames. These bent windows have been replaced.

The roof of the school has also been replaced. This week I will be receiving the warranty on the roof. Again, the diocesan engineer has been quite pleased with the work and some of our own building committee members have also evaluated the work and they are pleased. **So, the brickwork and roof of the school, one major phase of the campaign, is completed.** We are planning to see if we might benefit on the school roof by placing solar paneling on it. This question is to be studied in the coming months.

To date, we have spent **\$416,933.00** of our money. About **\$100,000.00** of this money was paid to Lynch Development for their work on the campaign. We will have about **\$100,000.00** in some outstanding bills for the roof and brick work. So, we will spend about **\$400,000.00** on the school brickwork, the roof, and the window repairs. Quite honestly, that is a better (lower) figure than I expected since we really did not know what we were going to be dealing with in the brickwork.

As was promised in the Capital Campaign, we have had work done on the Food Pantry building (often called 208). I hope to eventually name this building the Mother Teresa Center. I am delighted that our capital campaign sought to address the needs of those who are in need of food and assistance, as well as those who minister there. The work is being done on the first floor since that is where the pantry functions. Much of the work has been to allow the pantry to function more effectively, and some safety concerns are being addressed. The cost of this work has **\$9,140.00**. Additionally, one family of the parish has provided a great deal of pro bono work on this project. I hope to have a blessing and welcome of the Pantry in the future.

What is next? Our next major project is paving the parking lot which I am sure you are delighted to read. As was mentioned several times in the past, it was recommended by the parish building committee to do the work on the parking lot *after* the brick and roof work so that no damage would be done to the new paving. We are very committed to doing this work well and not cutting any corners. Presently, we are gathering bids from four engineering firms that will tell us what exactly needs to be done to provide for an effective and well-planned paving work.

Once we have the approved bid for the engineering firm, they will do their work and then we will seek bids from a paving company that can meet the requirements of the engineering plan. I know we all want this done as soon as possible but I also know we want this done correctly. I hope this work will be finished before the end of this year, and I would be delighted if it was done much sooner. I am not sure what the cost of the paving will be.

We also have the following goals for our *Paving the Way For Christ Campaign*:

- Repairing the church doors so they cease slamming
- Putting lights in the church that will last for a lengthy period of time
- Evaluating and making some long-range plans for the heating systems of the parish. We had many problems this past winter with the heat going off in the church, school, and the food pantry. We also have problems with the church at times being too hot.
- Updating the auditorium so it can be place where some level of sports and activities can be done.
- A memorial to mark the donors of the campaign.

I am cautiously optimistic that your very generous response to the campaign will enable us to meet these goals. I also remind you, that if you have not committed to the campaign, you are still welcome to do so. All campaign money is reserved only for the parish and is not taxed by the diocese. I would also invite parishioners to consider making a donation to the campaign or to the parish in your will.

I want to always remind everyone, including myself, that this campaign is about helping us to draw closer to Jesus and one another. Most of the things we mention are practical, but necessary so that we have the space to gather and open our hearts to Jesus.

Father Patrick Woods CSSR



Quote by Pope Francis, January 18, 2015

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

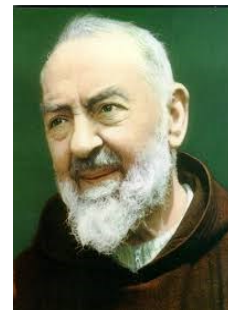
Tuesday, April 28, 2015 @ 8PM

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.

SAINT PADRE PIO HOLY HOUR

The Saint Padre Pio Holy Hour is Tuesday, April 21st at 7PM in the Eucharistic Chapel in the Church. His first and second relics will be venerated. All are most welcome!



FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

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

**ROSELINE, LIFE CENTER 24 HOURS, RACHEL'S VINE-
YARD 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

**NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE
1-800-4-Child or 1-800-422-4453**

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!



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

4/26: Life Night 7-8:30PM in the OLPH Youth Room

5/3: Life Night 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, May 12th 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 Michael J. Hartigan Council of the Knights of Columbus, Bethpage will have a **Membership Drive on Sunday, April 26th** at the following masses:

7AM, 8:30, 10, 11:30 and 1:00PM

A member of the K of C will be in the gathering area for more information and to answer any questions you may have.

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

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

RESPECTING THE LIFE OF FATHER FRANCIS BERNARD NUSS



When my husband and I became volunteers for the Life Center of Long Island, there was just one center located in Deer Park. Since that time, it has expanded to locations in Massapequa, Hempstead and Riverhead. So many of the original volunteers have since passed on or are unable to continue due to health issues. But as God sees to it, they are replaced by new volunteers, seeking to aid in the defense of life for young mothers and their babies. One of those dedicated people was the Life Center's chaplain, Father Francis Bernard Nuss - or as he was called -

Father Frank. Father Frank left us for the arms of our Lord on April 8th at the age of 80.

He was a parish priest assigned to Our Lady of the Snow, Blue Point, Our Lady of Grace, W. Babylon, St. Hugh of Lincoln, Huntington Station, Christ the King, Commack, Chaplain of the Suffolk County Fire Chiefs' Council, St. Matthew, Dix Hills and Chaplain, Good Samaritan Nursing Home, Sayville. He was a Knight of Columbus and attended meetings at *Knights for Life* in Farmingdale right to the end of his life.

Father Frank stood 6 feet 6 inches tall, and wore a size 15 shoe. His physical body seemed a symbol of his incredible spirit, a true warrior in this battle for the sanctity of life. He had an incredible patience and insight into people. Once he knew your story, your need to talk, or find peace with yourself or another, he never forgot. He would find your face in a crowd, sit down next to you, hold your hand and listen.

Sixteen years ago, my daughter was diagnosed with breast cancer. She was only 32 years old with three small children. The shock and uncertainty of the moment was overwhelming. During one meeting at the Life Center, Father looked over at me and immediately knew I was upset. He sat down and took the time to help me get through that time. A year and a half later I was diagnosed with throat cancer.

To say the least, my children stood strong as their sister and mother fought the battle. Without them and my husband at my side, I would have never been able to face the days ahead. Father Frank never passed me without a hug and a prayer for me and my family. He always found me in that crowd, no matter where we were. That "gentle giant," as we called him went the "extra mile" to help anyone and knew with compassion just to give them that "little bit more!" He helped you lean on our Lord, when we are tired and afraid. He was beautiful!

He was truly a dear friend to all, and the Life and Heart of the Life Center. He never missed a meeting, even when his health took a turn and he was in distress. He was a kind person that questioned, but gave the benefit of the doubt. He never forgot a name, a face, or a heart that needed healing. He was truly a warrior for the sanctity of life, and making his way to meetings as he grew older at the *Knights for Life*.

As he was waked at St. Matthews, Bishop William Murphy spoke of him along with all the other bishops. Hundreds and hundreds came to pay their respects for this incredible priest. As we stood in line, the people repeated the same words - *kind, gentle, a friend*. His passing reminded me how important our priests and clergy are. How, when we are born, they bless us and are there for us as teachers, advisors and friends. When we are celebrating the happy moments of birth, communion, confirmation and marriage, they are there to bless and celebrate with us. When we are lost, afraid and unable to go on, they will be there to listen and help us along our way. And when we come to the end of our lives, they are one of the last faces that we might see. God bless them all! It is sad – Father Frank’s dying...but ever so joyous that he lived! - Diana Hart Mirando

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr 20: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM Church
- Apr 21: Saint Padre Pio Holy Hour 7PM Church
- Apr 26: K of C Membership Drive 7AM, 8:30, 10, 11:30 & 1PM Gathering Area
- Apr 26: Mass for Autism Awareness 3:00PM Church
- Apr 28: VIRTUS training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- May 4: Holy Face of Jesus Holy Hour 1PM Church
- May 16: Parish Assembly 9AM-1PM School Auditorium
- May 24: ADULT CONFIRMATION (Mass time to be determined)
- June 6: Respect Life Ministry’s End of Life Seminar 10AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- June 7: Corpus Christi Procession after 5:30PM Mass
- June 14: Father Pat’s 40th Jubilee Mass 1PM Reception to follow
- Sept 4-6: Summer Retreat at San Alfonso Retreat House, Long Branch NJ

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**

SACRED HEART ACADEMY
47 Cathedral Avenue, Hempstead NY 11550

Catholic High School Entrance Exam Prep Course

August 24-28, 2015

September 12, and October 17, 2015

Cost: \$200 which includes all materials

Two sessions are available.

For information and applications, please call

(516) 483-7383 ext. 249

**In addition, Sacred Heart Academy is offering a PSAT review course
for any student entering his or her Junior year in September 2015.**

Sacred Heart Academy

PSAT Review Course

August 17-21, 2015

September 12 and September 26, 2015

Cost: \$200 which includes all materials

Students must bring their own calculators.

Two sessions are available.

For information and applications, please call

(516) 483-7383 ext. 249

St. Dominic High School Honors List for end of Second Trimester
Congratulations to the following students from SMT Parish:

Thomas Foley, Christopher Shea, Nicole Shea - Grade 9

Kaitlyn Kennedy, Jillian Mayr, Talia Maccarino - Grade 10

Kristin Veltry, Kayla Donohue, Gianna Maccarino
Gabriella Saldana, Taylor Schultz, Sophia Venezia - Grade 11

Erich LaFalce, Chelsea Donohue, Grade 12

Holy Trinity Diocesan High School Honor Roll for end of Second Trimester
Congratulations to Alyssa Seminario from SMT Parish

Diocese of Rockville Centre Office of Faith Formation

CATHOLIC GRAND PARENTING - AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE

- *What do grandparents do to pass on faith in the family?*
- *What are some of the new challenges that families face that affect grandparents?*
- *How has being a grandparent today changed from the way you remember your grandparents?*

PRESENTERS: JOHN & ARLENE VOSILLA

John and Arlene are grandparents of four children. They are active parishioners of St. Raphael’s Parish in East Meadow. Arlene, now retired, served as Director of Religious Education and is currently a Trustee of the Parish. John retired after 31 years with Grumman and Northrop Grumman working in public affairs. John is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at St. Raphael’s. Together they coordinate the RCIA program in their parish.

Date: Thursday, May 21, 2015
Time: 7:00 - 8:30PM
Cost: \$10 per person
Location: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
 455 Hunter Avenue, West Islip
 Parish Center

For further information please contact Kathy Logan at the Diocese at (516) 678-5800 ext. 236 Register online at www.drvc-faith.org

Register online at www.drvc-faith.org or forward the completed registration form below along with a check payable to “Office of Faith Formation.” Mail to Debbie Coyne, Office of Faith Formation, Diocese of Rockville Centre, P.O. Box 9023, Rockville Centre NY 11571

Name _____ Parish _____

Address _____ Town _____

Phone _____ email _____

Fee Amount at \$10 per person _____

The Institute for Study of Religion at Saint Joseph's College is sponsoring the following event which might be of interest to you.

- **Presentation entitled "Dorothy Day: Peacemaker for Our Times"**
- **Thursday, April 30th at 7:30PM**
- The Institute for the Study of Religion at St. Joseph's College
- Speaker: Martha Hennessy, granddaughter of Ms. Day, famous social justice advocate and founder of the Catholic Worker movement.
- Location: The McGann Conference Center in the O'Connor Building of the College, Exit 52 of Sunrise Highway.

The event is free and open to the public. No RSVP is required but questions can be addressed to Professor Paul Ginnetty at (631) 687-2681.

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH - 11:30AM TO 2:00PM

Call (516) 433-7040 or email the principal at jharrigan@olmshicks.org

To arrange a tour of

Our Lady of Mercy School

520 South Oyster Bay Road

Hicksville NY 11801

Many programs are offered including half day nursery; full day & half day pre-K; Full day Kindergarten; grades 1 - 8; before and after school care

OLM also offers many Enrichment Programs some of which are Altar Servers; Lectors (grades 7 & 8); Glee Club, Spanish (grades 6 - 8) CYO Sports Programs and much more.

OLM is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges & Schools and they offer family tuition rates and welcome children of every race, religion, ethnic and cultural background.

**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.

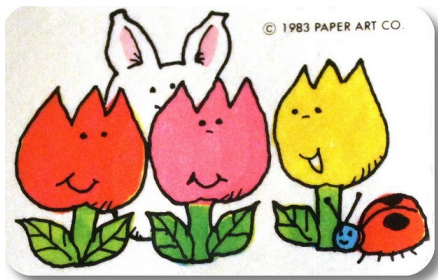
Most insurance policies, including Medicare, are honored. Confidential information and appointments are available by calling **Dr. Giuliani at 631-243-2503.**

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

**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>.



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.