

**Masses For The Week**

**Monday - January 18 - Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**NO 6:30**

9:00 Girolamo & Angela Giannuzzi

**Tuesday - January 19**

6:30 Arthur Latona

9:00 Florence K. Campbell

**Wednesday - January 20**

6:30 Mary Clark

9:00 Anne Merin, (Living) Birthday

**Thursday - January 21**

6:30

9:00 Deacon Jim Biggin

**Friday - January 22 - Day of Prayer for the  
Legal Protection of Unborn Children**

6:30 Charles Cisco

9:00 Margaret Anne Duemmel

**Saturday - January 23**

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS

5:00 Thomas Hennessy, Sr.

7:00 Dec'd Members of Speelman & Pedro Families

**Sunday - January 24**

7:00 The People of the Parish

8:30 Carolyn E. Campbell

10:00 Vito, Giovanna & Giovanni Gambino

11:30 Rose J. Marrone

1:00 Mary & Patrick Foley

5:30 Connie, Michael A. Jr & Sr & Michael V. Maggio

**Readings For The Week**

Mon. 1 Samuel 15:16-23; Mark 2:18-22

Tues. 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Mark 2:23-28

Wed. 1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mark 3:1-6

Thurs. 1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mark 3:7-13

Fri. 1 Samuel 24:3-31; Mark 3:13-19

Sat. 2 Samuel 1:1-27; Mark 3:20-21

**Sun. *Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10* Ezra the priest stood before the people and proclaimed the book of the law. Then he "interpreted it so that all could understand." He declared the day holy and urged the people to rejoice.**

**1 Corinthians 12:12-30** *The body is one and has many members, but all members, though many, are one body. Further, each part is indispensable. So it is with Christ's body: we, though many, are one.*

**Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21** *Returning to Nazareth, Jesus entered the synagogue and read from the prophet Isaiah. After reading, Jesus proclaimed "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."*



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

**Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**

**Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00**

**Amount Received 1/10/16: \$17,212.17**

**Thank you for your great generosity!**

**Reflection & Living Stewardship**



In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Corinthians (and us) that all of our gifts are from

God, and they are given, not for us alone but for the common good. The generosity of God knows no limits - the miracle at Cana reminds us that whenever we faithfully do as God asks, He can change our gifts of water into wine.

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who are open to God's call and stand ready to make the best use of their gifts in service to their neighbor through practical works of mercy such as donating food to a food pantry or clothing to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

Did you have to put a bike or a toy together this Christmas? How about setting up a Fitbit? The instruction book is meant to make it easier. What makes it easier for me is having someone else do it! Life is different. Most of it is a do-it-yourself project. Read the instruction book - read the Bible!

**Our next meeting is Monday, January 25th (weather permitting) at 7:30 PM in the Church. Please call (516) 993-9672 for prayer requests or more information.**

**H.O.P. Club Winners**

1/11/16 #159	C. & R. Russo	\$25
1/12/16 #40	Adele T. Yack	\$25
1/13/16 #296	R. & L. Gaccione	\$25
1/14/16 #3	M/M Frank Canepa	\$25
1/15/16 #508	Eleanor Reynolds	\$250



*Wedding Banns*  
None at this time.



***“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: chili, beef stew, canned chicken, Rice-a-Roni, black beans, pasta sauce, lentils, tomato soup, tuna, juice boxes, Jell-O, pudding, icing, evaporated milk, dish soap, laundry soap, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, diapers (sizes 5 & 6) and baby wipes.

We are so grateful 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

*Altar Bread & Wine*

*Week of January 17 - 23, 2016*

*In Loving Memory of  
Michele DiStefano*



*Sanctuary Candle*

*Week of January 17 - 23, 2016*

*In Loving Memory of  
Lucienne & Michael Walsh*



***Rest in Peace***

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

**Deborah Ann Ganderson, Michael F. Ganderson  
Rose M. LaBarile, Michael C. Arenaro  
Elodia Rich**

**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  
Leigh Murphy, Richard Piernini, Joseph Simon  
Douglas Torres, James Robertson, Amy Hayes  
Mom & Dad, Bill Kelly, Matthew Messina, Pat Cannata  
Christopher Gratton, John Mitchell, Barbara Thompson  
Donald Castor, Dorothy Quinn, Zachery Duff, Sam Zubov  
Patricia Marrone, Mary Henson, Mary Lynn Brassil  
Catherine & Victor Battiata, Brendan Rodriguez  
Rebecca Passaro, Dot Widyn, Annette Giuliano  
Madeline Ciaravino, Nicole Cagna, Gary Vlahov  
Tom Schuerlein, Katie Walsh, Chris & Raymond Mirendia  
Louise Sandberg, Florencio Carmenate, Anthony Luisi  
Mary McCarthy, Christina Macchio, Karen Kilgard  
Angela Calendrille, Ann Marie Frayler, Nicholas Balducci  
Robert Kennan, Corey Voboril, Charles Walsh  
Baby Scarlett, May Duffey, Tommy Johnson, Louise Smith  
Joseph Vareed, Anna M. Bosco, Baby Daniel, Janet Medina  
Kevin Henson, Marie Newman, The Mascia Family  
Edward Brown, Ceil Hollander, Ann Mirto, Vicki Perri  
Daniel Costa, Nikki Eleanor Behrik, Hector Valentine  
Theresa DuRoss, Bob Baciaska, Carol Ann Scudder  
John Scudder, Thomas Napoli, Justine & Nicole Scudder  
Joan Spira, Gerald Campbell, Vincent Esposito, Terry Hall  
Joe Bauer, Catherine A. McCarthy, Paul Granberg  
Charles Boyce, Antoinette Diana, Elsa Ryan, Sarah Messin  
William Boyce, Little Sonny D’Ambrosio, Joann Sescila  
Albert La Rocca, Michael Arato, Elizabeth Ryan  
Ken Mannion, Tom Doty, Linda Malone, Laura Cronin  
Lynn Calo, Christine Chiarappa, Michael Kott, Jr.  
Connie Burgess, Dolores Miller, Susan Carroll-Goyan  
Carol Episcopio, Donna Rusch, Samantha McNeil  
Patty & Tom Turano, Antonia Binetti, Layla Barr  
Fran Brideau, Kevin Connors, Sal Mascolo  
Jerome Antonucci, Nicholas Amato, Poppy Singh  
Jesusa Aquino, Joseph McCroary, Guido Penafiel  
Barry Monteleone, Dolores Lordahl, Charlie Hoffmann  
Nadine Lewin Wall, Richard Graziano Jean Mulligan  
Carol Posnjak, Geraldine Zeterberg, Susan Peters  
Stephen Hogan, Edward Boyce, Fran & Al Gandolfo  
Fr. Edmund Faliskie, CSSR, Elinor Gabbola  
Sheila Neumann, John (Jack) Phelps, Terrence Lynam  
Joseph Abruzzo, Taylor, Michael Kott, Jr.  
Angelo Pennestri, Ann Lazzara, Lee Berkowitz  
Danielle McCarthy, Charles Drew, Kevin Connors  
Fran Connors, Joseph Kostyak, Lorie Penafiel  
Margie Castles, Johnny D., Anthony Morello

## *The Pastor's Letter*

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins:*

*To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.*

I remember receiving these word many years ago in a Christmas card. The sender had the wisdom to send the card several days after New Year's so it would not be lost among the many warm and beautiful Christmas cards that I received. I find the words "*the work of Christmas begins*" to be both thought provoking and challenging. Now that we have celebrated well the birth of Jesus, we are now called to follow him. The day-to-day work of accepting and loving others is no easy task. There are so many poor and suffering people in the world that it is overwhelming for us to think about what we can do to assist them. We see pictures of refugees fleeing the horrors of war, Christians in the mid-East being slaughtered for their religious beliefs, and brutal acts of terrorism occurring all over the world. *The work of Christmas begins.*



We know the homeless are sleeping on the streets and many people are suffering from untreated mental illness. Gangs have great power in many of our big cities, and educational systems in some areas are failing the children. Food pantries cannot keep up with the demand of the hungry. Knowing that none of these major issues are easily resolved, and that political figures from all the major parties talk and talk, and seem to make promises that are rarely kept, we can easily move from hopelessness to anger, to simply giving up. *The work of Christmas begins.*

No doubt, even in our own families we face struggles and disappointments. Some of us may be in deep mourning and sorrow over the loss of a recently deceased loved one. There are those of us who wonder if we have celebrated our last Christmas on earth. We are suffering an illness that leaves us exhausted and we fear being a burden to those we love. We may be in a marriage that has serious problems that are only growing worse. Many are disappointed that their adult children have ceased to practice their Catholic faith. Most of us have a person or two (or maybe more) in our lives with whom we are alienated. We know we should work to forgive the person, but we find it all but impossible to let the hurt and resentment go. *The work of Christmas begins.*

*What is the work of Christmas?* One of the core messages that Our Lord Jesus Christ revealed to us is that we are to love one another. "*Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters you do to me.*" This is the basis on which Jesus tells us we will be judged (Matthew 25). I think of the words of St. John of the Cross - "*In the evening of life, we will be judged by love alone.*" *The work of Christmas begins.*

In the midst of all the challenges I have mentioned, the word *love* may sound like a simply pious thought. Some of us may feel life has left us a bit battered and worn out and the flames of love in our heart are closer to embers and ashes. We may feel love is a nice word but how do you live it in a world of flesh and blood. Still, the Christmas reality is that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, chose to become flesh and blood and live in this very real world.

Love in the sense of the Gospel is far less about the hearts and flowers we see in our stores as the commercial world seeks to quickly move us from Christmas to Valentine's Day, offering us the necessary cards, flowers and gifts to keep the cash registers opening. Love to me is a matter of the will. We can choose to love or we can choose not to love. It is said that the opposite of love is not hate but apathy. Apathy is to give up and not care - "I have nothing left to give."

Through the years, I have been given coffee cups and plaques with the coat of arms for the name *Woods*. Fittingly enough, it is a tree with fruit on it. It often has the motto - *A tree is known by its fruit*. (Since my ancestors were rural farmers, I am not sure if my family ever had a coat of arms!) I love the coat of arms of the Redemptorist which has a cross and the words *With Him Is Plentiful Redemption*. I suppose if I had a personal coat of arms (other than the orange of blue of the Mets), I would chose these words: *and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward*. A cup of cold water given in his name will be rewarded. I am not able to solve the great problems of the world, but I can do simple, kind deeds for another person.

Again, the Christmas message is so simple: "what you do to one another you do to me." The work of Christmas, the call of a Christian, the heart of a follower of Jesus, is to be a person who gives cups of cold water to those who are in need, be it your spouse or the homeless man on the street. *The work of Christmas begins*.

Father Patrick Woods, CSSR  
woodscsr@aol.com Website: smtbethpage.org

### Some Maintenance Updates

**Heat in Church:** As you know, we recently had problems with the heating system in our church. We made a commitment over the summer to have all our heat systems reviewed but unfortunately, there was some issues in the church that surfaced and left us without heat. I appreciate how the vast majority of you have dealt with the problem in good humor. We worked as quickly as we could to address this issue, and I am happy that the problem is resolved. Thanks to you for your patience.

**Lighting in the Church:** This problem is a major concern that has gone on for a long time. As you can see, our lights are not always easily accessible. The challenge is that we want to do this work correctly so that it will last for a long time. Again, I thank you for your patience.

**Concerning the future projects of the capital campaign:** The renovation of the school auditorium for some sporting activities is currently being studied as we gather information about what is possible and the cost of such a project. Thanks to all for your great continual support of the campaign. We have a wonderful parish community but our buildings are moving into their seniors years (as is your pastor), and at times they need special care and attention. *Unlike* me, they are not able to take a bit of a nap in the afternoon!



# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 FROM 10:30-1 PM



## DISCOVER WHAT A CATHOLIC EDUCATION CAN DO FOR YOUR CHILD.

- Academic Excellence in a Faith-Filled, Nurturing Environment
- State-of-the-Art Technology Center
- Before and After Care
- Competitive Tuition
- State-of-the-Art Security & Communication System
- Middle States Accredited
- A Variety of Extracurricular Activities for All Grade Levels
- Extended & Half-Day Nursery & Pre-K Classes
- Promotion of Self-Discipline and Responsibility
- Preparation for the Sacraments
- Small Class Size
- STEM Program
- Mentoring and Tutoring Programs

WELCOME HOME  
WEDNESDAYS  
OPEN HOUSE  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
10 A.M. - 12 P.M.

ST. EDWARD  
THE CONFESSOR  
SCHOOL



2 TEIBROOK AVENUE, SYOSSET, NY 11791  
516.921.7767 • STEDWARDCONFESSOR.ORG

**PLEASE PRAY CONSTANTLY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY**



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.



CPT Gregory Holownia, US Army  
 MAJ Erika Holownia, US Army  
 PO3 Matthew Sadecki, USCG  
 SGT Zachary John Sheehy, USMC  
 PVT Travis Ruggiero, US Army  
 CPL Dennis Diesel, USMC  
 L CPL James Kruper, USMC  
 SPC Matthew P. Sirianni, US Army  
 CPT Conor B. Murphy, USMC  
 1LT Victoria Meyer, US Army Nurse Corp  
 PO1 John Paul Pedalino II, US Navy  
 CPT Thomas P. Shea, USAF  
 SGT Michael John Kelly, USMC  
 1LT Brian McGrath, US Army  
 SPC Matthew Castellano, US Army  
 PFC Michael Patrick Murphy, US Army  
 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, US Navy  
 PO3 Joshua Zimmerman, US Navy  
 MAJ Brendan McEvoy, US Army  
 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, US Navy  
 SSG George Howard, US Army  
 LT Mario Lopes, USMC  
 PVT Brian Barcavage, US Army  
 CS1 Andrew L. DeMarsico, USN  
 MAJ Thomas E. Mangiamele, US Army





# Happy New Year!

2016 is going to be a fabulous year for SMT Youth Ministry!  
We are looking forward to serving you and hope to see you at some  
of our upcoming events!

~ Erin and the Core Teams

## STEUBENVILLE NYC+

June 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

St. John's University

Open to all 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Teens

Dynamic Speakers, Engaging Liturgies,  
Energetic Praise & Worship Music, &  
Much, much more!



\$50 deposit DUE January 10<sup>th</sup>

Total cost: \$300 per teen

(less if you volunteer for our fundraisers)

For More info: [www.lifeteen.com/events/steubenville-NYC](http://www.lifeteen.com/events/steubenville-NYC)



### Soup Kitchen Volunteers Needed!

Open to HS students ONLY!

January 30<sup>th</sup> – Harlem, NY

Contact the Office of Youth Ministry for more information!

### CAMP VERITAS



Join **St. Martin of Tours Youth Ministry** for a week long Catholic Summer Camp for 6<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

#### August 14-20<sup>th</sup> at Camp Lakota

Located in the foothills of the Catskills

**Cost: \$370** includes housing & all meals

**Registration Opens January 1<sup>st</sup>**

(\$400 is registration is after March 31<sup>st</sup>)

**Activities include:** daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, praise and worship, go-karting, swimming, lake activities, bonfires, pool parties, talent show, and much, much more!

Spiritual staff includes Catholic Priests, CFR friars, and Religious Sisters of the Archdiocese of New York.

**Camp Veritas is SELLING OUT!  
Don't wait to register!**

Please contact The Office of Youth Ministry **before** enrolling your child!  
[SMT\\_LifeTeen@Yahoo.com](mailto:SMT_LifeTeen@Yahoo.com)

### Edge

Edge Nights take place from 7-8:30pm in the OLPH Youth Room

- 1/14: Edge Night
- 1/28: Edge Night
- 2/11: Edge Night
- 2/25: Edge Night
- 2/27: Edge's Day of Retreat- More info coming soon!!!

### Life Teen

Life Nights take place from 6:45-8:30pm in the OLPH Youth Room – Dinner is served.

- 1/10: Life Night
- 1/12: Adoration 7-8pm
- 1/15: Holy Hour for Vocations
- 1/17: NO Life Night
- 1/24: Life Night
- 1/30: Soup Kitchen
- 1/31: Life Night
- 2/7: Life Night
- 2/9: Adoration 7-8pm



SMT Youth Ministry Office  
[SMT\\_LifeTeen@Yahoo.com](mailto:SMT_LifeTeen@Yahoo.com)  
(516) 870-5669  
[www.SMTBethpage.org](http://www.SMTBethpage.org)





**RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**

Father John McKenna sent me this article that he had written, and I would like to share it with you.

– Diana Hart Mirando

12/14/15 Today is the anniversary of the massacre of the innocent school children, and their brave teachers and principal. The hurt, the loss, the emptiness, the sadness never goes away for the families. One man who preferred to remain nameless in Newtown answered a question that a reporter asked by saying that if San Bernardino was terrorism, so was Newtown. Terror that they justify to themselves and plan methodically, is TERROR.

I have been praying the prayer after the Our Father at Mass a little more mindfully lately. "Deliver us Lord, we pray from every evil, and grant us peace in our days...."

My connection to Newtown was through Bob and Louise Gay. They are parishioners in Our Lady of Lourdes in Seaford. When everything was happening, Bob called me and told me simply, JOEY WAS IN THAT SCHOOL! She hasn't come to the firehouse. Pray that somehow she is hiding somewhere within the school." Joey was their sweet youngest grandchild. Josephine "JOEY" Gay. SHE HAD JUST TURNED SEVEN 7 YEARS OLD. She was baptized by Fr. Joe Hurley in Seaford. She had autism. She communicated through looks and smiles, and hugs and moods, and filled a world, her world, the world with goodness. Sadly she was one of the innocents that day.

I went to the funeral Mass, the last of the victims of St. Rose of Lima Parish. I don't think I had ever felt more proud of a brother priest, than I had for those men there, Fr. Bob Weiss and the young assistants. They walked with their people, they cushioned their pain, their anger, their hurt, with love and did not try to spiritualize something so awful. All priests have had a few experiences ministering in tragic circumstances. But never so many all at once. These men were a credit to us all. They were pastors, they were fathers. I can only imagine how much it took out of them, how much they went through. I saw the people who had all been through the worst week of their lives coming together, to stand together with each other. I saw when Church and parish are at its best - a people who support each other.

I saw Joey's parents Bob and Michelle, and her two sisters. I heard the parent speak about the privilege of having been her parents, and blessed to share their life with her, and how much Joey taught them. One sister drew how she was processing all of this that was much too much for any of us, let alone someone so young.

My prayer for all victims of violence, crime, war, accidents, is a gentle song, the third verse from *AWAY IN A MANGER*.

BE NEAR ME, LORD JESUS, I ASK YOU TO STAY CLOSE BY ME FOREVER AND LOVE ME I PRAY.  
BLESS ALL THE DEAR CHILDREN IN THY TENDER CARE AND TAKE THEM TO HEAVEN  
TO LIVE WITH THEE THERE.

John McKenna, C.S.S.R.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Bishop Murphy is happy to announce that there will be a  
**Diocesan Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to the  
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception**  
Washington, D.C.

**Saturday, September 24, 2016**

More information will be coming soon. Please watch your bulletin and diocesan website.

**FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY**

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

**ROSELINE, LIFE CENTER 24 HOURS**

**PROJECT RACHEL**

**WWW.HOPEAFTERABORTION.COM**

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

**The Rectory will be  
closed on  
Monday, January 18th in  
observance of  
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s  
birthday.**

**Prayer to End Abortion**

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life,  
And for the lives of all my brothers and sisters.  
I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion,  
Yet I rejoice that you have conquered death  
by the Resurrection of Your Son.  
I am ready to do my part in ending abortion.  
Today I commit myself - Never to be silent, Never to be passive,  
Never to be forgetful of the unborn.  
I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement,  
And never to stop defending life  
Until all my brothers and sisters are protected,  
And our nation once again becomes A nation with liberty and justice  
Not just for some, but for all.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen!

Priestsforlife.org



# YOU ARE INVITED

Come visit

## Our Lady of Mercy School

520 South Oyster Bay Road  
Hicksville, NY 11801

### OPEN HOUSE DATES

Sunday, January 31: 11:45 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Monday, February 1: 1:00–2:00 P.M.

Wednesday & Thursday, February 3 & 4: 9:30–11:15 A.M.

To arrange an alternate tour time – Call (516) 433-7040 or email [jharrigan@olmshicks.org](mailto:jharrigan@olmshicks.org)

### PROGRAMS

- Half Day Nursery \*
- Full Day & Half Day Pre-K \*
- Full Day Kindergarten
- Grades 1 – 8
- Spanish (Grades 6-8)
- Before School Care
- After School Care
- Library
- Music/Art Programs
- Technology

\* Additional programs may be offered.

### STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- Altar Servers
- Choir & Band
- Glee Club
- Seasonal Academic Clubs
- Lectors (grade 7 & 8)
- Student Government
- Service Club
- CYO Sports Program

### RELATED SERVICES

- Full Time Nurse
- Special Education Services for qualified students

We welcome children of every race, religion, ethnic, and cultural background to our school.





### **Harvest House**

*Harvest House, directed by the Sisters of St. Dominic, is a positive option for independent Seniors 65 and over who want the fullness of living in a family atmosphere, in a secure environment minus the burden of managing a home or apartment.*

*Harvest House offers companionship, nutritious meals, private bedrooms, common living space to be with friends, share ideas, stories and good times. It is affordable, conveniently located to shopping, places of worship, library, restaurants, public transportation and more. Locations: Syosset and Floral Park. For more info, please call Sr. Jeanne A. Brendel, O.P., CSW at 516-496-9796.*

*Website: [www.harvesthouses.org](http://www.harvesthouses.org)*

**St. Martin of Tours will be having a Eucharistic Prayer Hour for Life on Friday, January 22, 2016 at 3PM in the Church for those who cannot make the trip to Washington.**

### **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 the diocese website at [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org). **Virtus registration can be found at the lower right of the home page.** If you have any problems with the process, please call the rectory at 931-0818 and someone will get back to you with assistance.

#### **Next Virtus at St. Martin of Tours**

**Wednesday, January 20, 2016**

**7:00PM - 10PM**

**St. Alphonsus Parish Hall**

### **DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE**

A Defensive Driving Course is being offered at St. Martin of Tours on **Saturday, January 30, 2016 from 8:30AM to 3PM in St. Alphonsus Hall** - \$45 per person.

**Registration is required.** Please contact is Martin Z. Hirschfield at 631-360-9720 Monday - Friday from 9:00 -4:00. 15 people minimum enrollment/40 people max.

### Separation & Divorce Support Group

A ten week program for those separated or going through the process of separation or divorce. The program is designed to help men and women find encouragement as they explore and experience the emotions and issues associated with separation and divorce.

**Date/Time:** Friday, January 22, 2016 at 7:30PM

**Place:** St. William of the Abbot Church  
2000 Jackson Ave, Seaford NY 11783

**Cost:** \$20 for 10 week session

**For information:** Rosemarie Cavallaro (516) 528-0665  
Carol Milito (516) 432-2241  
Email: [beginningtoday2014@gmail.com](mailto:beginningtoday2014@gmail.com)

### **Widows and Widowers, Divorced & Single Catholics of Long Island**

40th Year - Nassau County Chapter Number 1, P.O. Box 2031

#### **New Member Orientation/Non-Denominational**

**Tuesday, January 26, 2016 @ 8PM**

Meeting is every fourth Tuesday at

St. Frances de Chantal School

1309 Wantagh Avenue, Wantagh

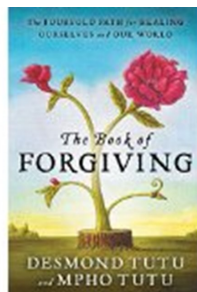
Please bring proof of single status to join - refreshments after meeting

Call Carol at (516) 794-4933 or Barbara at (516) 798-2858 for more information.

### **Our Next Book for the Spiritual Book Club**

#### **The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World by Desmond Tutu**

Forgiveness is an issue that challenges all of us in our daily lives. In this Year of Mercy, I thought this would be a good book for our spiritual book club. The discussion will take place on **Saturday, March 12th at 10:00 a.m. in St. Alphonsus Hall**. All are welcome



Each of us has a deep need to forgive and to be forgiven. After much reflection on the process of forgiveness, Tutu has seen that there are four important steps to healing: admitting the wrong and acknowledging the harm; telling one's story and witnessing the anguish; asking for forgiveness and granting forgiveness; and renewing or releasing the relationship. Forgiveness is hard work. Sometimes it even feels like an impossible task. But it is only through walking this fourfold path that Tutu says we can free ourselves of the endless and unyielding cycle of pain and retribution. *The Book of Forgiving* is both a touchstone and a tool, offering Tutu's wise advice and showing the way to experience forgiveness. Ultimately, forgiving is the only means we have to heal ourselves and our aching world.



# Worldwide Marriage Encounter



**Married Couples!**

*Are you looking for the perfect Valentine's Gift?*

*A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend*

*Just might be what you are looking for.*

*The original and still the best communication weekend  
for married couples.*

*The next weekend on Long Island is scheduled for*

**February 12-14, 2016**

**at the Montfort Spiritual Center in Bay Shore, NY.**

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



## Men's Prayer Group

**Wednesday, January 20th at 7:30PM  
Eucharistic Chapel**

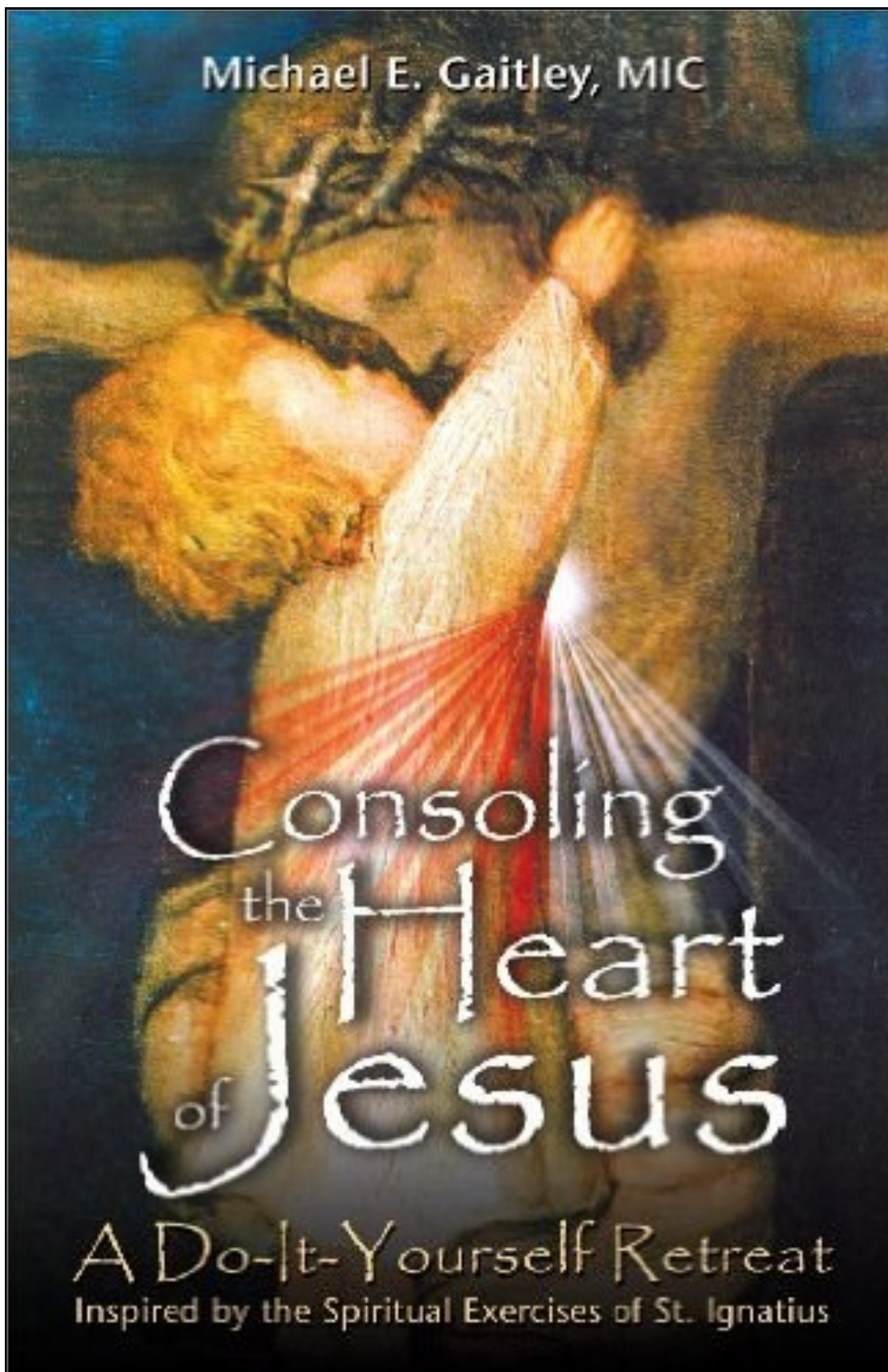
## **St. Martin of Tours Hosting LIFE LINE SCREENING**

Protect your health by finding out your risk of having a stroke by participating in the **Life Line Screening that will be on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at St. Alphonsus Hall, first appointment begins at 9AM.** Through ultrasound we evaluate the carotid arteries for the buildup of fatty plaque, which is the leading cause of stroke.

Register today for the Stroke, Vascular & Heart Rhythm package, which includes four screenings: carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease and atrial fibrillation.

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





## Consoling the Heart of Jesus Retreat 2016

SMT parishioner, Rita Verow, lead a retreat last year called “33 Days of Morning Glory” that was very much enjoyed by those who attended. Prompted by Pope Francis’ Year of Mercy, Rita has the blessing of Father Pat to offer this second retreat. The details are:

Where: St. Alphonsus Hall  
(with the exception of February 5th. Location in the school Faculty lounge)

When: Every Friday beginning January 29th to April 8th  
(with the exception of Good Friday, March 25th)

Time: 7:30PM

Cost: \$25.00 to cover retreat materials

**Sign up sheets for your name, phone number and/or email address located in the church the weekend of January 16th and 17th.**

For those who participated in “33 Days of Morning Glory” the format will be the same only it will be 10 weeks instead of 6 weeks. A DVD by Father Michael Gaitley, MIC, will be shown each week as well as reading the book, “Consoling the Heart of Jesus.” It will be followed by sharing and fellowship on the past week’s readings.

This retreat promises to be spiritually inspiring as we delve into the Sacred Heart of Jesus and His Merciful Love, especially during this special Jubilee Year of Mercy.

If you have any questions, please call the rectory office at 931-0818. Please think and pray about joining this retreat.

**St. Vincent de Paul Store Locations:**

**2160 Jericho Turnpike, Garden City Park NY  
(516) 746-8250**

**(enter New Hyde Park if you use GPS)  
OPEN MON-SAT 10-6**

**1705 Jericho Turnpike, Huntington NY  
(631) 858-0380 OPEN MON-SAT 10-6**

**1425A New York Avenue, Huntington Station  
(631) 385-1226 OPEN MON-SAT 9-5**

**To arrange furniture, clothing, cars and other  
donated materials for pick-up, please call (516)  
746-8250 (Nassau) or 1 800 884-7837 (Suffolk).**

**You can also visit on line at <http://www.svdprvc.org/thrift-stores.html>. Follow the links. St. Vincent de Paul will review your donation request.**

**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>

**Young Families Ministry - Leading Families Closer to Christ**

Parents meet once a month to chat while the kids play. A meal is provided; it's that simple. We'd love to have you and your family join us. You do not have to be a parishioner of SMT to attend. To RSVP or for more info, contact Erin at: [SMT\\_LifeTeen@Yahoo.com](mailto:SMT_LifeTeen@Yahoo.com)

**The schedule is as follows:**

**Notice: January 21st meeting cancelled**

Thursdays 6:30 - 8PM in the OLPH Youth Center (School Building)  
February 4, March 17, April 21, May 19 and June 16

Dear SMT Book Club Friends,

We wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with the joy of the Infant Birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**Our next book is *Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter* by Kate Clifford Larsen. Our meeting is on Friday, February 5, 2016 at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall.**

All are welcome. New faces are always a pleasure to meet and seasoned members are an added joy. Please remember that the book does not need to be completed to attend the meeting. All sharing is appreciated and enjoyed.

Till then, happy reading!  
Father Patrick Woods





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through 8***

**St. Martin de Porres  
Marianist School**

*"Growing in Wisdom, Faith, and Knowledge"*  
Elementary Education in the Marianist Tradition

***OPEN HOUSE***

***Saturday, January 23, 2016***

***1:00pm to 3:00pm***

*530 Hempstead Boulevard*

*Uniondale, New York*

*516 481-3303*

I love the Christmas season here at St. Martin's, beginning with the very beautiful Thanksgiving Day Liturgy that we celebrate, through the Sundays of Advent with their message of anticipation of the birth of Jesus, to the six Christmas vigil Masses with overflowing, joyful crowds, to the always delightful children's Christmas pageant, to seeing the great generosity of the donations to the Giving Tree for those in need, and finally to the singing of *We Three Kings* for the Feast of the Epiphany. I am always moved when I see families and individuals gather around the parish Christmas crèche. Our music under the wonderful direction of Elena Scollo, and our church decorating team led by Ann Hughes and T.J. Hance, make the Christmas season so very sacred and special here at St. Martin's.

Tomorrow the Christmas decorations in Church will begin to come down since today, the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, marks the end of the Church's Christmas Season. The world around us started to advertising for Valentine's Day on December 26<sup>th</sup>, but we Catholics give the birth of Jesus a full season for several weeks. I have always found January and February to be months of cold and darkness, and I have often suffered from a bout of the Christmas blues, especially since the Jets season is over and Mets are months away.

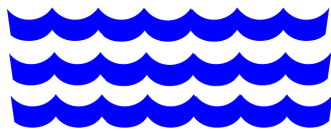
Today is a kind of transition day in our Gospel readings. We are no longer hearing about Bethlehem, shepherds, magi and the newborn King of the Jews. We are almost startled as we move to see Jesus, now a man, beginning his public ministry by being baptized by another figure of the Nativity Gospels, John the Baptist. Like a parent taking a son to college, we find ourselves amazed at the quick passage of time.

Unless we entered the Catholic faith as an adult, most of us have no memory of our baptisms. Unlike our birthdays, most of us do not know the date of our baptisms. Still, we do know that it was at our baptisms that we became Catholic and that our souls were marked, as the Baltimore Catechism taught, with an indelible mark on the soul. A priest or deacon poured water over our heads and said, "*I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*"

I like celebrating baptisms here at St. Martin's. The babies are so beautiful, the parents are glowing, and the family and friends are so very happy. I feel like a movie star since almost every action I take during the ceremony is photographed, but my role is like that of John the Baptist, since it the newborn baby and the Holy Spirit who are at the center of this sacrament.

I was taught as a young person that baptism makes us children of God. When I celebrate baptisms, I prefer to say to the parents that your child was a child of God from the moment he or she was conceived. Baptism celebrates that the child is entering into the Catholic faith, a community of believers, and now belongs to the family of the Church. The parents and godparents, speaking for the infant, say we want to know and love Jesus Christ and make him the center of our lives.

I do not talk too much about Original Sin because it is a rather difficult concept to present as we are surrounded by all the innocence and wonder of a baby. Although I have no doubt about the reality of Original Sin, it is very hard to ponder that these children have been touched by it. I often say that Original Sin is one of the easiest documents of the Church to prove because all one has to do is read the newspaper or watch the news on television. There is a constant and endless litany of human cruelty and sin toward one another. Starvation, war, intolerance and hate reign in the world. If I look into my own heart and soul, I can feel the power of selfishness. I want to put my needs ahead of anyone else in the world. The seven capital sins - Pride, Lust, Gluttony, Greed, Sloth, Anger and Envy - are very familiar to me and I battle each of them every day. Only the grace of God allows me to overcome any of their overwhelming power. You and I are born with a human nature that daily struggles with such forces. Only the Blessed Mother is free from the power of Original Sin.



Yet we are baptized in the name of the Trinity. We have been saved by the Blood of Jesus Christ. The power of the Holy Spirit is with us. Today John the Baptist plunges Jesus into the waters of the Jordan River. The Son of God had no need of baptism, in particular this baptism of John which was a form of repentance. Jesus is showing us that just as he entered into humanity as a baby in Bethlehem, he is now entering into the fullness of human nature with all its joys and struggles.

Some Churches have baptismal fonts that look like small pools or Jacuzzi's. I recall seeing a video of a wedding photographer walking down the aisle of the Church as she faced the newly married couple walking down the aisle. Since she so attentive to filming the couple, she did not realize that she was about to plunge head over heels into the parish baptismal font. Fortunately she was not hurt, other than that of her pride.

Here at St. Martin's we have a beautiful baptismal font. On Holy Saturday night, if an adult is coming into the church, he or she stands in the small pool and water is abundantly poured over the newly baptized. Fundamentalist Christians like to baptize people in rivers or oceans. I can recall my visit to the River Jordan and watching people joyfully play and dance in the river as they sang and were baptized.

The symbol of being plunged under water and rising out of it is very powerful. It is teaching us that we are dying to sin and rising to new life in Christ. When we celebrate a funeral, we sprinkle water on the casket and place a white pall on it. These are signs that we have entered fully into union with God.

So as this New Year begins, you and I would do well to ask ourselves the question: Have I been putting on the Lord Jesus Christ? By the grace of the Holy Spirit, am I seeking to overcome a particular fault or sin in my life? Am I a stronger Christian today than I was at this time last year? We will soon be coming forward to receive the Body of Christ. As we open our hearts to this great Gift, we pray to let the life of Jesus Christ grow in our lives.

*Father Pat's Homily of January 10, 2016*



## **Maria Regina School**

*A Middle States Accredited School*

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[www.mariareginaschool.org](http://www.mariareginaschool.org)

Come See All We Have To Offer...

### **OPEN HOUSE**

FOR NURSERY, PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN

Thursday, January 28, 2016 ~ 6:00 PM ~ 8:00 PM

### **OPEN HOUSE**

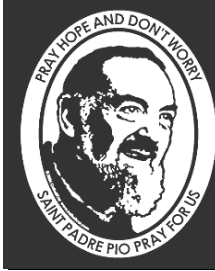
FOR NURSERY ~ GRADE 8

SUNDAY, January 31, 2016 ~ 12 NOON ~ 2:00 PM

***REGISTRATION AT THE OPEN HOUSE  
GUARANTEES ENROLLMENT FOR FALL 2016***

The decisions we make today for our children's education will affect what all of our tomorrows will look like. When you look at all the influences that your child is around in their school, do you wonder if they're in the right place? Maria Regina can be that "right place." Surrounded by like-minded parents, who sacrifice for their children, you will feel at home at our school; where morality, discipline, character, and faith still matter. We educate the Whole Child.





### Padre Pio Holy Hour

Please join us on **Tuesday, January 19th at 7PM in the Eucharistic Chapel** for the Padre Pio Holy Hour. His first and second class relics will be venerated.

### ***Maria Regina Residence 1725 Brentwood Road Brentwood, NY 11717***

Maria Regina offers a medical model adult day health program providing specialized care to individuals living at home. This day care program is staffed by medical, nursing, nutritional, recreational and rehabilitative professionals. Services are provided in a supervised and secure environment. Breakfast and a hot lunch are included, as well as ambulance transportation. Monday to Friday 9AM to 3PM. Contact Lucy Johnson for more information. 631-299-3045

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 18: Rectory office is closed in observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.
- Jan 19: Padre Pio Holy Hour 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Jan 20: VIRTUS training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Jan 20: Men's Prayer Group 7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Jan 22: Respect Life Eucharistic Holy Hour 3PM Church
- Beginning January 29th: *Consoling the Heart of Jesus* 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Jan 30: Defensive Driving Course 8:30AM - 3PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Feb 1: Holy Face of Jesus Devotions 1PM Church
- Feb 5: First Friday Devotions 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Feb 5: SMT Book Club 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Feb 6: First Saturday Devotions 8:30AM Church
- Feb 10: Ash Wednesday
- Mar 10: Life Line Screening
- Mar 12: Spiritual Book Club 10AM St. Alphonsus Hall

