

Masses For The Week

- Monday - February 15 - Presidents Day**
NO 6:30 Mass
 9:00 Michael Damato
- Tuesday - February 16**
 6:30 Janice Denave, LIVING
 9:00 Vivian McCabe
- Wednesday - February 17**
 6:30 Joan Mueller
 9:00 The Souls in Purgatory
- Thursday - February 18**
 6:30 Thomas F. Mitchell
 9:00 Rita Westhoff
- Friday - February 19**
 6:30
 9:00 John J. Jauregui, 7th Anniversary
- Saturday - February 20**
 9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
 5:00 Louis Ruggiero, John & Gertrude O'Rourke
 7:00 Robert Hill
- Sunday - February 21**
 7:00 The People of the Parish
 8:30 J. P. Hederman
 10:00 Loretta Kennedy, Anniversary
 11:30 Vito J. Amarosa
 1:00 David Biggin
 5:30 John & Louise Pellicano

Readings For The Week

- Mon. Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46
 Tues. Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15
 Wed. Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32
 Thurs. Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12
 Fri. Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26
 Sat. Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48
Sun. *Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18* God appeared to Abram and made a covenant to his faithful servant, promising many descendants and much land. Abram put faith in the Lord, who credited it to him as righteousness.

Philippians 3:17-4:1 Paul urged the Philippians to follow his example: "Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord."

Luke 9:28b-36 Jesus took Peter, James and John up a mountain to pray. There he was transfigured before their eyes. A cloud overshadowed them, and a voice said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."



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 2/7/16: \$16,446.76

Thank you for your great generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship

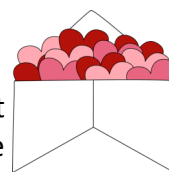


Today's first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today's Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who share their first fruits by practicing a corporal work of mercy - welcoming a stranger - by extending invitation, hospitality and inclusion to the newest members of our parish community.

Charismatic Prayer Group

Happy Saint Valentine's Day



The day we dedicate to LOVE! It doesn't always happen, but I like that this year Ash Wednesday came **before** Valentine's Day. We got to send a message of love to God by receiving and wearing ashes. I'm glad God doesn't have one day to profess His love for us! He surrounds us all day, every day, with His love!

Our next meeting is Monday, February 22nd (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

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|------|
| 2/8/16 #581 | Carole Boyce | \$25 |
| 2/9/16 #163 | M/M Richard Baker | \$25 |
| 2/10/16 #600 | Marion Pensabene | \$25 |
| 2/11/16 #11 | Marty Stack | \$25 |
| 2/12/16 #173 | Connie Volpe | \$50 |



Wedding Banns

1st: *Dan Markus & Kristi Shaffer*



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

This week, the Pantry could use rice (brown & white), egg noodles, canned chicken, macaroni & cheese, black beans, sugar, mayonnaise, Jell-O, pudding, hot chocolate, juice boxes, brownie mix, icing, evaporated milk, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, diapers (sizes 5 & 6) and baby wipes.

Thank you for your tremendous generosity.

Parish Outreach Food Pantry:

208 Broadway, Bethpage

Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Thursday: 2:00PM – 7:00PM

Phone: (516) 931-7332

Altar Bread & Wine

Week of Feb. 14 - 20, 2016

*In Loving Memory of
Jovita Militano*



Sanctuary Candle

Week of Feb. 14 - 20, 2016

*In Loving Memory of
John J. Jauregui*



Rest in Peace

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

Julia Weglarz, Joseph S. Sabella

Mary Moran, Trudy DiPasquale

John Nappi

REMINDER: Please call the rectory at 931-0818 to remove a name from the list.

Thank you.

Please pray for the sick of our parish:

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 Battiatia, 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 Baciуска, 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, Elsa Ryan, Sarah Messin, William Boyce
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, Antonia Binetti
Samantha McNeil, Patty & Tom Turano, 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, 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, Johnny D., Anthony Morello
Anthony Krich, Cynthia & Don Mirabel, Addie Romano
Michael Seigler, Jackie & Pat Simoniello

The Pastor's Letter

I have one Lenten joke. I probably have told it to you before, but I can't remember whether or not I did, so I am counting on your not remembering that you already heard it! So a woman goes to church on Ash Wednesday and comes home with ashes on her forehead. Her husband, not a religious man, asked her why she has ashes on her head. She explains that Lent is a time of penance and fasting in preparation for the great feast of Easter. She tells him that people often give up something they like for Lent as a way of honoring God. The husband is so impressed with her explanation that he says, *I will give up all chocolate for Lent!* The next morning the wife comes down the stairs to breakfast and she sees him eating a large chocolate donut. She says to him, *I thought you were giving up chocolate for Lent?* He responds, *Is it still Lent?*

FOR I DESIRE
MERCY, NOT
SACRIFICE, AND
ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF GOD RATHER
THAN BURNT
OFFERINGS.

HOSEA 6:6

iBelieve.com

Many Catholics focus very much on the question of what they should give up. Some try all sweets, others just chocolate, or soda, or alcohol and some others give up all desserts. I usually try to give up chocolate in Lent but I find it very hard to do. For me, the value in giving up chocolate is that whenever I crave a bit of chocolate, I am reminded that it is the penitential season of Lent and for I think of Jesus' suffering for me. Giving something up for Lent is a good thing to do and to be encouraged. Fasting (giving something up), prayer, and good works are the three cornerstones of Lenten spirituality. I would make a few points about the sacrifices we choose to make.

- There is other kinds of fasting that is even more significant than giving up some food or drink we like. During Lent, by the grace of God, we can make a strong effort to give up sins such as gossiping about others, petty resentments and anger, negative words about others, and taking the name of the Lord in vain. Obviously, we should try to do this all year long, but the season of Lent is a great time to focus on such changes in our lives.
- If we choose to give something up, such as your daily stop at Starbucks for a coffee latte or for a jelly donut at Dunkin Donuts, consider adding up how much money you have saved by making this act of sacrifice. Keep the money somewhere special and then at the end of Lent, donate what you saved to the food pantry or some other cause that helps people in need. Then your sacrifice becomes associated with helping others which is a form of good works. Perhaps, you could do something like this as a family project.
- Perhaps, you could fast from some television watching or internet activities. If you do this, the time saved might be used to say a rosary, read one of the Gospels of some other religious book. You might use the time to pray in whatever way you are comfortable. Again, your sacrifice becomes associated with prayer, which is another key aspect of Lent.

May this Lenten season fill our hearts with the love of Jesus and deepen our love for others.

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

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Roman Catholic Church, the norms on **fasting** are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning **abstinence** from meat are binding upon members of the Roman Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

There are exemptions other than for age from the requirement to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. ***In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.*** Source: USCCB.org

St. Martin of Tours Parish Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored by the Hartigan Council
of the Knights of Columbus

Sunday, February 28, 2016

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Emmaus Hall (School Cafeteria)

FREE WILL OFFERING

Won't you Join Us?



Pancake Breakfast

A hen and a pig were sauntering down the main street of a small town when they passed a restaurant that advertised, "Delicious ham and eggs - 75 cents!" "Sounds like a bargain," approved the hen. "That owner obviously knows how to run his business!" "It's all very well for you to be so pleased about the dish in question," observed the pig with some resentment. "For you, it is all in the day's work. Let me point out, however, that on my part, it represents a genuine sacrifice!"

RSVP cards will be in the pews for the 8:30AM and 10:00AM Masses this Sunday, February 14th and next Sunday, February 21st. If you attend another Mass, you can stop by the Rectory Office to fill out a response card. The Knights need to have a good head count so as not to waste food. Thank you!

ANNUAL LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2016
SCHOOL CAFETERIA (EMMAUS HALL)
6PM - 8PM**

All Parishioners and their families and friends are invited to share, not only the warmth and goodness of homemade soup, but also in the warmth and goodness of our parish family!



This simple Lenten meal of soup and rolls is offered to all who come. Any leftover soup will be brought to the home-bound and the sick. This means that those in need can feel the warmth of soup, sharing with their fellow men and women and, above all, the love of Jesus Christ. This is the gift of our faith reaching out to others during this sacrificial season.

**It's time to think about making soup
for this annual Lenten event!**

**To make soup or to volunteer,
please call Pat Ricci at (516) 796-1320.**

**Soup warms our bodies.
Sharing warms our hearts.
The Season stirs our souls.**

Be part of St. Martin of Tours reaching out!

**St. Martin of Tours Lenten Evenings of Mercy
Celebrating Pope Francis' Invitation
A Jubilee Year of Mercy**

All Services are at 7:30PM in the Church

Thursday, February 18th - The Church as a Field Hospital

Evening Prayer and Adoration with Chris Catalano and "Voices of Faith"

We welcome back this most talented songwriter of Sacred Music along with extraordinary voices and musicians to lead us to pray in song.

Thursday, March 3rd - Peace Be With You. Come and know His Endless Mercy

A Penance Service by Ann Hughes, our parish's most gifted writer

It is encouraged that you invite someone to join you to experience God's Love and Forgiveness.

Monday, March 14th - The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Whether broken physically, emotionally or spiritually, come and be healed by this outward sign of God's Grace. All are welcome!



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

Schedule at Jubilee Churches for the Year of Mercy

Tuesdays

Cathedral of St. Agnes – 1 Quealy Place, Rockville Centre, NY 11570

- Mass (12:10 p.m.)
- Exposition and Adoration
- Confessions
- Chaplet of Mercy
- Benediction (4:00 p.m.)

Wednesdays

Seminary of the Immaculate Conception – 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743

- Optional lunch (12 Noon)
- Tours of the Seminary (1:00 p.m.)
- Rosary (1:45 p.m.)
- Exposition and Adoration (2:00 p.m.)
- Confessions (2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
- Vespers and Benediction (4:00 p.m.)

Thursdays

Basilica of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary – 168 Hill Street, Southampton, NY 11968

- Beginning with Mass at Noon
- Confessions
- Exposition and Adoration
- Tours of the Basilica (as arranged)
- Devotions to Divine Mercy in Spanish (3:00 p.m.)
- Benediction (4:00 p.m.)

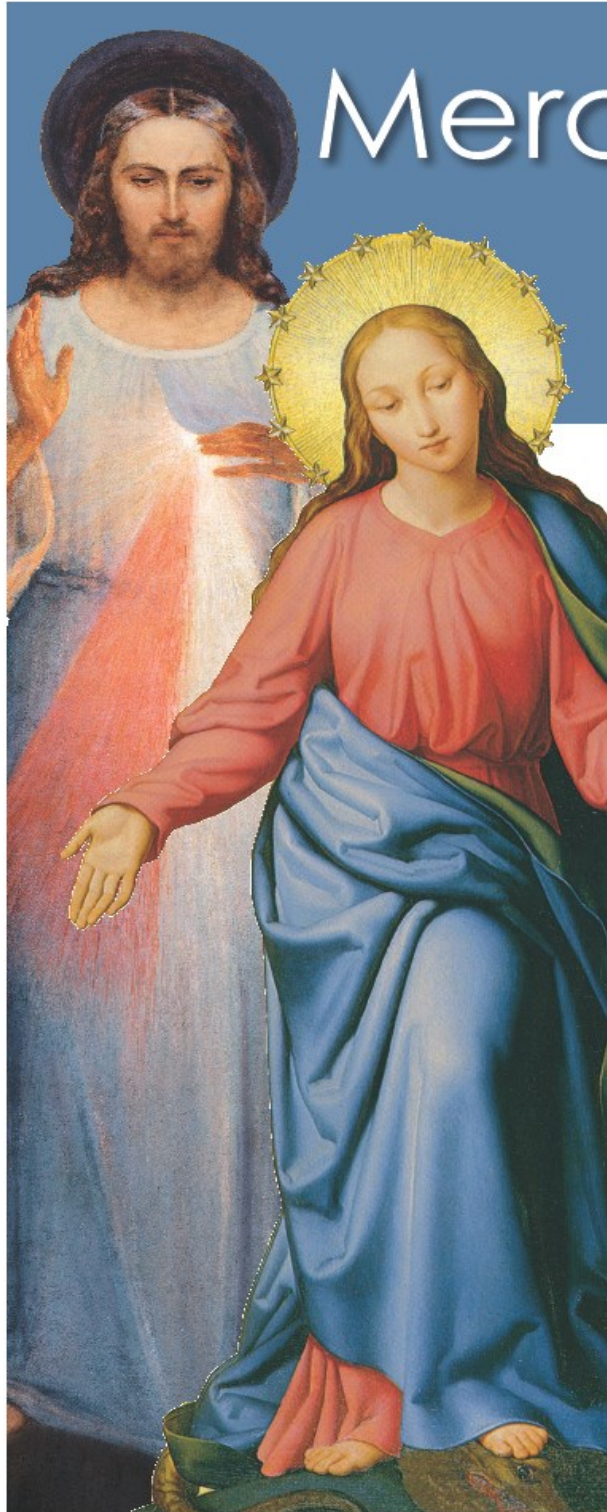
Saturdays

Shrine of Our Lady of the Island, 258 Eastport Manner Road, Manorville, NY 11949

- Beginning with Mass at 11:30 a.m.
- Exposition and Adoration
- Confessions
- Chaplet of Mercy
- Benediction (4:00 p.m.)



JUBILEE
OF MERCY



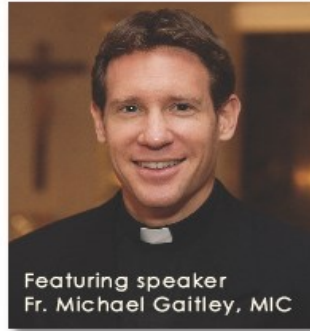
Mercy & Mary

Weekend Retreat

July 15-17, 2016

Hofstra University
1000 Fulton Ave., Hempstead, NY 11549

Experience the Year of Mercy!



Featuring speaker
Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC

This Weekend Retreat Includes:

- 5 Conferences with Fr. Gaitley:
 - Personal Testimony: Now is the Time of Mercy
 - St. John Paul II: Fatima and the Great Mercy Pope
 - St Maximilian Kolbe: Mary's instrument of Mercy
 - St. Therese: The Way of Merciful Love
 - Your Role in This Year of Mercy
- Lodging & All Meals Included
- Daily Mass, Rosary & Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Adoration & Benediction
- Opportunities for Confession
- Book Signing with Fr. Gaitley and more!

Register Now

Events.MarianMissionaries.org
Inquiries only: 413-944-8500



Hosted by the Marian Missionaries of Divine Mercy



Jesus washing the feet of His apostles

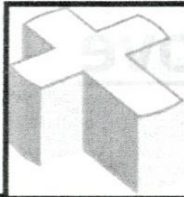
Holy Thursday, March 24th at 7:30PM, St. Martin of Tours celebrates the Mass of the Lord's Supper. At some point after the Gospel is read, the priest or deacon will call forth those who have volunteered to have their feet washed.

If you are interested in having your feet washed, please notify Pat Ricci at 516-796-1320 no later than Thursday, February 25th.

John 13:14-17

¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.



EDGE[®]
Catholic Middle School Ministry

LIFE



TEEN[®]

February 2016

February is one of those months that often gets overlooked. It's cold, gray, and nothing exciting is happening... Luckily SMT Youth Ministry has plenty of things going on to keep you busy!

We look forward to serving you!

~ Erin and the Core Teams

STEUBENVILLE NYC

We're Registered!!!

June 24th – 26th

St. John's University

Limited spots still available!

Contact the Office of Youth Ministry to find Out how you can sign up TODAY!



BethanyHouse

changing children's lives

Bethany House is a composite of residential options for women and children who are caught in the crisis of homelessness. Bethany defines its mission as a response to its belief that each person deserves and needs adequate food, clothing, and shelter, provided in a nurturing and sustaining environment.

More Info about Bethany House can be found here: www.bhny.org

SMT Life Teen Welcomes

Bethany House!!!

At our Life Night on **February 28th** we will be joined by representatives from Bethany House.

We are looking forward to learning about the mission work of Bethany House and finding out how we can partner with them to serve the residents of Bethany House in the future!

RETREATS



Faith * Hope * Love

February 27th

10am – 8pm

SMT

Open to all 6-8th Graders

\$5



Long Island Life Teen Winter

Retreat

Glory Revealed

March 11-13th

7pm

Kellenberg MHS

\$125

Contact the Office
of Youth Ministry
for more info!!!

Life Teen

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

2/7: NO Life Night – Super Bowl Sunday

2/9: Adoration 7-8pm

2/14: NO Life Night – President’s Day Weekend

2/21: Life Night

2/28: Life Night – Bethany House!!!

3/6: NO Life Night – SMT St. Patrick’s Day Party

3/11-3/13: LTLI Retreat Weekend!!!

Edge

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

2/11: Edge Night

2/25: Edge Night

2/27: Edge’s Day of Retreat

3/10: Edge Night

3/24: NO Edge Night – Holy Thursday

3/27: Happy Easter!

Youth Ministry Mass 1pm



SMT Youth Ministry Office

SMT_LifeTeen@Yahoo.com

(516) 870-5669

www.SMTBethpage.org



RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

RESPECT LIFE OFFICE: DRVC

LIFE ISSUES FORUM: AFTER MARCHING, ACTING AS ISLANDS OF MERCY, By Caitlin Thomas

The annual MARCH FOR LIFE in January in Washington D.C. and other events like it across the country, raise awareness and bring PRO-LIFE SUPPORTERS together in solidarity. We join in prayer and penance in reparation for the injustices committed against the lives of our brothers and sisters and to replace what Pope St. John Paul II called a CULTURE OF DEATH, what Pope Francis terms the THROWAWAY CULTURE with a culture of life.

During the other 364 days of the year we continue to march in spirit, celebrating the goodness of human life and sharing the mercy that our Holy Father has brought into special focus in this Jubilee Year of Mercy that must be shown by and shown to everyone. *Respect Life Newsletter DRVC*. So as the days of 2016 pass quickly by, let us be aware of the work we can do, places we can seek for more information on the sanctity of life and act to make a difference.

ENTERING CANAAN, DAYS OF PRAYER & HEALING FOR WOMEN

Saturday, February 13, 2016: SISTERS OF LIFE 866-575-0075 hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org

Saturday, March 19, 2016; Saturday, April 30, 2016; Saturday, May 29, 2016; Saturday, June 25, 2016

Theresa Bonopartis 877-586-4621 Lumina@postabortionhelp.org

For more information on **ENTERING CANAAN DAY OF PRAYER & HEALING for MEN:**

877-586-4621 Lumina@postabortion.org

Book Resources:

GENERATION ROE: INSIDE THE FUTURE OF THE PRO-CHOICE MOVEMENT by Sarah Erdreich

PRO: RECLAIMING ABORTION RIGHTS by Katha Pollitt

EVERY THIRD WOMAN IN AMERICA: HOW LEGAL ABORTION TRANSFORMED OUR NATION
by David A. Grimes, M.D. with Linda G. Brandon

VOLUNTEERING FOR THE LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND: Our Mission: To promote, encourage and foster public sentiment and respect for the dignity of human life...from conception to natural death! If you have a few hours each week, to give of your time to COUNSEL - ANSWER PHONES - JOIN A COMMITTEE - BECOME A SPEAKER FOR THE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN - HELP WITH ORGANIZING BABY CLOTHES, ITEMS FOR A NEWBORN. Any time you could spare would be of great help to the Life Center and its volunteers. 516-798-9100

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: 1-800-422-4453

**JOIN THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE HERE IN ST. MARTIN OF TOURS
OR FOR INFORMATION, please call Diana Hart Mirando, 516-830-5077**

QUOTE FROM MOTHER TERESA: *"What is taking place in America is a war against the child. And if we accept that the mother can kill her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?"*

FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

Call Diana Hart Miranda
(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



St. Martin of Tours has a website at www.smtbethpage.org where you can sign up on the home page to receive our Newsletter.

All that's required is to provide your email address to be part of an E-blast for news and information in the parish.

The Men's Group will be meeting on **Tuesday, February 23rd at 7:30PM in the Eucharistic Chapel.**

Open invitation to all men to come and see what we're about.

No obligation or commitment required.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

JESUS WAS LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT INTO THE DESERT FOR 40 DAYS. THERE HE ATE NOTHING AND WAS TEMPTED BY THE DEVIL. AFTERWARD, THE DEVIL LEFT HIM TO AWAIT ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY.

LUKE 4:1-3

The Rectory is **CLOSED** on **Monday, February 15th** in observance of Presidents Day.

No 6:30AM Mass - only the 9:00AM Mass will be celebrated.

Respect Life Committee is meeting on

Wednesday, February 24th at 11AM St. Alphonsus Hall.

All are welcome to come and join our meeting. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on right to life issues.



LIFE LINE SCREENING

St. Martin of Tours Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on **Thursday, March 10, 2016**.

Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.

You should be as excited about church as about the Super Bowl.

So when your pastor makes a point this Sunday, pour Gatorade® over his head.

You have my permission to do this when the **Jets** win the Super Bowl!

I feel safe that I will never need waterproof vestments!

Father Pat

**25th Annual Bethpage Saint Patrick's Parade
Honoring Kathy Brenton
2016 Grand Marshal**

Grand Marshal Kathy Brenton is a founder of the Bethpage St. Patrick's Parade. In addition, she has organized the reception following the parade - for the past 24 years!

**Sunday, March 6, 2016
1:00 PM Mass
2:00 PM Parade
Through downtown Bethpage**

**Reception immediately following the parade
St. Martin of Tours Emmaus Hall Auditorium
and Cafeteria**





I am happy to inform the parishioners that we have had an excellent response to the program we had around the time of Thanksgiving inviting parishioners to consider sharing their time and talent in one or more of the many ministries. I will soon be giving the parish an exact report with specific numbers of how many people decided to take on a ministry of the parish. Considering the fact that there was such a strong response to the invitations, the demands of the Christmas season, and the rather early Lent, I will use that as my excuse for not having all the information available to you.

One of the first steps I have asked the spirituality committee is to gather the number of people in our parish who are presently involved in ministry. This takes some effort since some of our ministries have names of parishioners who have stepped down from a ministry or may have moved away. I am very conscious that the number of people who are presently engaged in service to the parish is very significant, even before this ministry recruitment began in November. When the final tally is concluded, it will be a very impressive number. We asked people to consider learning more about a particular ministry or committing to a new ministry right now. On the form that you filled out, those seeking more information wrote the number 2, and those ready to commit wrote the number 3. I am delighted with the very large number of parishioners that we have in both categories. We have had some of our ministry coordinators reach out and call those who labeled themselves 2 and 3 for a particular ministry. It is my hope that you have heard from our ministry leaders.

We are still in the process of reflecting on how best to organize the many generous people who asked to serve in a prayer ministry for those who are sick. We hope to be in touch with you soon with how we might want to move forward with this prayer ministry. I also know that a good number of people have asked to meet with me individually to discern how your gifts might best be used in our parish. Over the next several weeks I do hope to begin to set a time to meet with you. If you wish to initiate this process, you are welcome to call or email to set a time. If I do not hear from you, I will be contacting you.

A great fear that I have in this large program is that no person who asked for more information about a ministry is not contacted. The same certainly is true for those who have so generously stepped forward to serve in a ministry. I am very conscious that it is very disappointing to ask to serve and then never to hear from anyone. We are doing our best to avoid this. Still, we may make mistakes so I do ask you not to be offended if you have not heard from anyone. Please let me know. I am most grateful for your love of the parish and your willingness to serve. If you missed this process or want to get on board, please let me know and you can fill out one of our ministry forms.

Our parish is truly blessed with so many who are presently serving God and one another in ministry, and with so many other people who wish to enter into such service. God is good.

Father Patrick Woods CSSR
 woodscsr@aol.com
 931-0818

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).

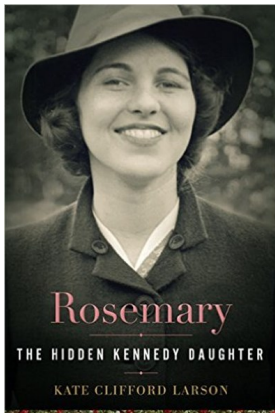
You can also visit on line at <http://www.svdprvc.org/thrift-stores.html>. Follow the links. St. Vincent de Paul will review your donation request.

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>



Spiritual Book Club Make Up Meeting

Due to inclement weather, our meeting to discuss **Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter** was cancelled on February 5th. We have rescheduled for **Sunday, February 21st at 3PM in St. Alphonsus Hall**. All are invited.

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

The schedule is as follows:

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



St. Martin of Tours CYO Program
Night at the Races
Saturday, March 12, 2016
Doors Open at 7:30PM
School Auditorium and Cafeteria (Emmaus Hall)



This event is sponsored by the St. Martin of Tours CYO Program. Tickets are \$20 per person in advance or \$25 per person at the door. Includes price of admission, a hero and non-alcoholic beverages. You are welcome to B.Y.O.B.

First race is at 8:00PM. You will be able to wager on the races as well as sponsor horses for each race.

All proceeds benefit St. Martin of Tours Church and the St. Martin of Tours CYO Program which serves over two hundred children from our church community.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Rectory at (516) 931-0818.

We look forward to a great evening of fun!

They came and filled both boats so that the boats were in danger of sinking.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man."

For astonishment at the catch of fish had seized him and all those with him.

"Depart from me for I am a sinful man." As I reflected on these readings I thought of one of my favorite cousins. I might say that she is the Mother Theresa of our family. She gave birth to nine children, all of whom were well educated and good and caring adults. She lost two of her children to death, and although forever brokenhearted, continues to live with great faith. She visits every friend and relative in the hospital, makes an effort to be at every wake for acquaintances and neighbors, and attends daily Mass. When my own family had losses and challenges, she was the first person to the house. For years various priests and pastors have asked her to be a Eucharistic minister, but she refused on the grounds that she was not worthy. This is no false humility; she really meant it!

Today's readings brought her to my mind. Three men are called by God to serve him. The prophet Isaiah is called to preach the word of God to the Jewish people. He responds: *Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!* There is an expression from the Bible that no one can see God and live. Yet, Isaiah sees God and immediately becomes aware of his sinfulness and is convinced he is not worthy of speaking with or about God.

St. Paul also is aware of his sins as he ponders the mystery that he is a chosen apostle of Jesus Christ. He says, *for I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective.* Still as humble as Paul is before God, he does a little boasting: *Indeed, I have*

toiled harder than all the apostles, however, but it was the grace of God that is with me. I love the humanity of Paul. Even when he is being humble, a bit of pride slips in.

Finally, we have the call of Peter by Jesus to be his disciple. After an entire night of failed fishing, Peter is told to try again by Jesus. I am sure Peter was very moved by the preaching of Jesus, but knowing his personality, I wonder if he thought to himself, *Huh, Jesus may be a great man of wisdom but what does he know about fishing? I have fished this lake all my life!* But perhaps to humor Jesus, he and his men go out and cast their nets. Peter has the greatest catch of his life; the boats are sinking since the catch is so great. Now, he no longer sees Jesus as a just and good preacher. There is something more to this man, and Peter falls to his knees and says, *Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man! For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him.* Jesus tells Peter not to be afraid. They are about to go on a great adventure to capture the hearts of people for God.

As I prayed on these readings, I thought to myself, have I ever been so humbled, so aware of my sinfulness, that I fell to my knees and asked God to leave me since I am not worthy of his love? I thought about being ordained to the priesthood many years ago. I was both thrilled and apprehensive about being ordained. I had been carefully evaluated by my religious superiors for many years and was told I was ready. It may sound almost arrogant but I do not remember feeling unworthy. This feeling was not so much about ignoring my sins and faults, but trusting in God and his call.

There are times though when I can very much identify with Peter. It comes when hearing confessions, offering spiritual counsel, or just listening to someone tell me about their life. I am so very often moved by the goodness of the person speaking to me. Even though the person may not think they are very holy, I find myself humbled as I see the burdens they carry with such faith or the deep and living relationship they have with God. Those moments are both humbling and awesome as I see the grace of God working in the lives of others.

A few weeks before Christmas, we had a guest speaker at all our Masses, Father Tom Donaldson from Kansas City. His words touched many hearts here at St Martin's. His message was that we do not even need to be thinking in terms of whether we are worthy of God's love and mercy. It is a free gift showered upon all of us. We do not earn his love by our deeds and actions; we already have it. It was beautiful to see how many people found his words so uplifting and comforting. As I think about who is worthy and who is not worthy, I know the issue is not with God. He died on the cross for all human beings. We are saved by the Blood of the Lamb. What, I think, makes it difficult to hear this message and have it penetrate our hearts and souls, is that many of us do feel badly about ourselves. We have poor self-images. If I do not believe I am good and worthwhile, it is hard to accept that God loves me.

All our lives we seem to be evaluated. We get grades in school. An *A* means we are smart an *F* means we have failed. If I fail biology or math, does that mean I am a failure? If we are not good at sports, dance, music or some other skill, we judge ourselves as not talented. Perhaps, my marriage fails and that becomes a kind of black mark on my soul. Maybe my children mess up and I take all the blame upon myself. I do not earn as much as others or I did not complete high school or college. It is easy to judge ourselves as failures. At the end of the Super Bowl, the second best football team in the world will be judged a failure. I remember once talking to a women who was raising four children and she was doing it quite well. She then took a part time job at a minimal wage. She told me it was the salary check that told her she was worth something. Raising four children, loving a husband, caring for a home did not bring her any sense of worth, a fact that I found stunning!

Our book club has been reading a book entitled *Rosemary, the Hidden Kennedy Daughter*. You may or may not be familiar with the story. President Kennedy was from a family of nine children. The family was very wealthy. They were high achievers in education, sports, the military, and politics. One of the daughters, Rosemary, the third oldest was quite limited, and today might be diagnosed as mentally challenged. For many years of her life, she lived with nuns in Wisconsin and was rarely visited by anyone in the family. Her father had her lobotomized since he did not know what to do with Rosemary since she was so unlike his other sons and daughters. Although she was loved by her family, these very successful people struggled with how best to relate to her. The author makes the point, and I would agree with her, that in many ways Rosemary was the most important person in the family. That was because eventually her family came to see what a gift she was and which led to enormous good for our society in terms of programs for those with developmental issues. Rosemary found people who cared for her and loved her deeply and she them.

What makes us worthwhile? We are God's **children**. We are made in **his image**. He **loves** each one of us and every hair of our head is counted. In a few minutes we will say the prayer, *Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed*. The Word of God makes us worthy. We are healed from all our sins and failures by the healing power of our loving God!

Father Pat's Homily of February 7, 2016

**The Church in Need Second Collection
This Weekend
February 13/14, 2016**

Please give as much as your means will allow. Thank you!

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.

Living Stations of the Cross

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

Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016

7:30 pm

St. Martin of Tours Church





Monday through Friday during Lent, come and pray the Morning Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours at 8:30 a.m. before the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Church. All are welcome.

**The Stations of the Cross
Fridays at 7:30PM During Lent**



**February 19, February 26
March 4, March 11, March 18**

**Saint Padre Pio Holy Hour
Wednesday, February 17th
7PM
in the Eucharistic Chapel**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 15: Presidents Day - Rectory Closed - No 6:30AM Mass
- Feb 17: St. Padre Pio Holy Hour 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Feb 18: Evening Prayer & Adoration with Chris Catalano 7:30PM Church
- Feb 19: Stations of the Cross 7:30PM Church (every Friday during Lent)
- Feb 21: Spiritual Book Club **make up meeting** 3PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Feb 22: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM Church
- Feb 23: Men's Group 7:30PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Feb 25: Deadline to volunteer for Holy Thursday washing of the feet
- Feb 24: Respect Life Committee 11AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 3: Penance Service: Come and Know His Endless Mercy 7:30PM Church
- Mar 6: Bethpage Saint Patrick's Parade Mass at 1PM Church
Parade at 2PM followed by reception in Emmaus Hall
- Mar 8: NO YOUTH MINISTRY ADORATION THIS MONTH
- Mar 10: Life Line Screening
- Mar 12: Spiritual Book Club 10AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 12: CYO Night at the Races 7:30PM Auditorium & Cafeteria (Emmaus Hall)
- Mar 14: Anointing of the Sick Prayer Service 7:30PM Church
- Mar 20: Living Stations of the Cross 7:30PM Church

