

**Masses For The Week**

**Monday - March 20 - St. Joseph, Spouse of the BVM**

6:30 Marco D'Aiuto  
9:00 Frank & Dorothy Corbet

**Tuesday - March 21**

6:30 John P. Rafferty  
9:00 Collen Wolferd

**Wednesday - March 22**

6:30 John & Julia Cronin  
9:00 Mary Corrigan

**Thursday - March 23**

6:30 Joseph Castora  
9:00 Angela Ragogna

**Friday - March 24**

6:30 John Miele  
9:00 Michael Zura

**Saturday - March 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord**

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS  
5:00 Louis & Anna Chiarelli  
7:00 Rose Nazzaro

**Sunday - March 26**

7:00 The People of the Parish  
8:30 Vincent Mescia  
10:00 John & Carrie Lynam & Marie & Salvatore Accardi  
11:30 Lazzati & Tesoriero Families  
1:00 Leahy & Cahillane Families  
5:30 Bernie Helldorfer

**Readings For The Week**

Mon. 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16  
Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18-21  
Tues. Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35  
Wed. Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19  
Thurs. Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23  
Fri. Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34  
Sat. Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38  
Sun. **1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a** *The Lord sent Samuel to Bethlehem to the house of Jesse, where Samuel was to anoint the new king of Israel. After Jesse presented each of his sons, the Lord instructed Samuel to anoint the youngest, David.*

**Ephesians 5:8-14** *Live as children of light in goodness, justice, and truth. "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."*

**John 9:1-41** *Jesus cured a man born blind. The Pharisees became upset because he did this on the Sabbath. After the Pharisees rejected the man's story, he met Jesus again. Jesus, "Son of Man," explained how the blind will see, but those who hold on to sin will remain in darkness.*

**Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**

**Weekly Budget:** \$17,500.00  
**Regular 3/12/2017:** \$17,105.17

*Thank you for your great generosity!*

**Reflection & Living Stewardship**

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives.

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who lead others to the Living Christ by proclaiming the Word of God as lectors & scripture study leaders.



Charismatic Prayer Group

The feast day of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary is March 19th, but since it falls on a Sunday, we honor Joseph on Monday, March 20th. Mary looked to him as her devoted husband and loving stepfather of Jesus. Let us also turn to him in prayer for his guidance and protection for us and our families.



**Our next meeting is Monday, March 20th at 7:30PM in the Church. Be a friend -- bring a friend. 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!**

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

3/13/17	#393	Joseph & Patricia Clark	\$25
3/14/17	#30	M/M Ludwig Gehm	\$25
3/15/17	#428	Vincent J. Mangiamele	\$25
3/16/17	#312	Pat & Bill Rochford	\$25
3/17/17	#347	Kevin Keuling	\$250

*Wedding Banns*  
2nd Eric Wider & Megan Asher



*"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 egg noodles, canned chicken, tomato paste, tomato sauce, canned fruit, juice boxes, evaporated milk, brownie mix, sugar, ketchup, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, diapers 5 & 6.

PLEASE, NO STRING BEANS OR PASTA UNTIL JUNE.

Thank you for your generosity to those less fortunate. God bless you!

**Parish Outreach Food Pantry:**

208 Broadway, Bethpage  
Phone: 516-931-7332  
Monday: 9:30AM - 2:30PM  
Thursday: 2:00PM - 7:00PM

*Altar Bread & Wine*  
*Week of March 19 - 25, 2017*

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Mary A. Knowles*



*Sanctuary Candle*  
*Week of March 19 - 25, 2017*

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Michael Alloggio*

**Rest in Peace**

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

**Anthony Bentivegna, Farrell Cassidy**  
**Michael J. Hance**

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

**Please pray for the sick of our parish:**



Leevalli Annearosa, Leigh Murphy, Richard Piernini, Joseph Simon Douglas Torres, James Robertson, Amy Hayes, Mom & Dad Bill Kelly, Matthew Messina, Pat Cannata, Christopher Gratton 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, Tom Schuerlein, Katie Walsh, Louise Sandberg Anthony Luisi, Chris & Raymond Mirendia, Florencio Carmenate Mary McCarthy, Karen Kilgard, Angela Calendrille Ann Marie Frayler, Nicholas Balducci, Robert Kennan Corey Voboril, Baby Scarlett, May Duffey, Tommy Johnson Anna M. Bosco, Janet Medina, Kevin Henson, Marie Newman The Mascia Family, Edward Brown, Ceil Hollander, Ann Mirto Daniel Costa, Hector Valentine, Theresa DuRoss, Bob Baciuska Carol Ann Scudder, John Scudder, Justine & Nicole Scudder Vincent Esposito, Terry Hall, Catherine A. McCarthy, Paul Granberg Charles Boyce, Elsa Ryan, Sarah Messina, William Boyce Joann Sescila, Albert La Rocca, Michael Arato, Elizabeth Ryan Tom Doty, Lynn Calo, Christine Chiarappa, Connie Burgess Dolores Miller, Susan Carroll-Goyan, Carol Episcopio Samantha McNeil, Patty & Tom Turano, Layla Barr, Nicholas Amato Jesusa Aquino, Joseph McCroary, Nadine Lewin Wall Richard Graziano, Jean Mulligan, Geraldine Zeterberg Edward Boyce, Ann Adams, Fran Gandolfo, Sheila Newmann Fr. Edmund Faliskie CSSR, Chris Mitchell, Terrence Lynam, Taylor Joseph Kostyak, Johnny D., William Castle, Anthony Morello Anthony Krich, Aida Gilday, Jackie & Pat Simoniello, Candy DeVita Frank Ballatore, Jr., Anthony Della Croce, Christine Orlando Little Sonny D'Ambrosio, Barbara Rusch, Justin Dittmar Beverly Viselli, Casey, Betty Maggi, Olivia LoRusso, Betty Mara Teri Pigott, Connie Kane, George Reif, Ed Ingels, Liam Escaniel Gus Kunze, Eddie Morales, Tom Miles, Debra Dowdell, Elizabeth Hill Louie Gandolfo, John Anderson, Daniel McCullough, Mary Lafauci Gerry Russo, Allegra LaFalce, Jessica Czarnecki, Bill Monahan Maureen Roberts, Francis Meehan, Trish Berge, Kathleen Palumbo Brendan Donahoe, Janet Scarpelli, Helen Uhl, Baby Omage-Bianchi Andrew McCarthy, Alicia Manetta, Frank LoPinto Declan McCollough, Pat James Joseph, David Iovieno Pasqua Giannuzzi, Robert Daniel, Caroline McNeill, Michael McNeill Kurt Hamilton, Dorothy Eisenstadt, David Drohan, Martin Lee Ralph Caputo, Kristen Smith, Michael Vigotty, Vinny Vanturini Pat Murphy, Tarabokija Family, Philip Marino, Henry Hamilton Libia & Maria Teresa Valdez, Nancy Gerace, Robert Harris Glenn Clentes

## Pastor's Letter

### Confirmation Day, March 2017

As a parish priest, I am blessed to participate in many significant moments of the lives of our parishioners. Celebrating and preaching at daily and Sunday Mass to a faith-filled community is a joy, as in proclaiming the victory of Jesus Christ at a funeral or the presence of our Lord with the sick and dying through the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is to stand on sacred ground. The very evident festive spirit at a wedding or a baptism lifts my heart. To forgive sins in the name of Jesus is a powerful but humbling experience.



I love walking into our Church on Christmas Eve and seeing a full church with so many people eager to hear the wondrous story of the birth of Jesus. When we baptize and welcome new members into our faith community at the Easter Vigil, there is delight on both the part of those entering the church, those who have helped prepared them for that moment, and throughout the entire congregation. Although it is a very hectic day, witnessing the desire of so many people to receive ashes as Lent begins makes me seek to deepen my need for conversion. I remember John Denver sang a song called *Some Days are Diamonds, and Some Days are Stones*. Most of my days here at St. Martin are gems (Harry Smith often said to me, *Father Pat, you are gem*). But there are some days that are truly diamonds.

Confirmation Day here at St. Martin's is a diamond day for me. Perhaps, part of my love of this day is that I do not have to do too much. The assigned bishop does the preaching and confirming. Bishop Andrzej Jerzy Zglejszewski was the confirming bishop at our two Confirmation Masses on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Needless to say, I never try to pronounce his last name - I have trouble enough with his first name. He is truly a delightful man who has a great sense of humor, loves his ministry and so enjoys celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with the children. Occasionally, he refers to himself as Arnold Schwarzenegger, with the words, *I'll be back*. I think those confirmed and their families were very grateful for his presence among us.

After the two ceremonies, we have a dinner in St. Alphonsus Hall for the Bishop. Invited are the Confirmation teachers, our parish staff, and those who played a special role in organizing the day. I am sure that all bishops praise the hosting parish at such dinners, but I do think that Bishop Andrzej went out of his way to praise our parish and its staff. Perhaps, I am like a proud parent taking pride in his family, but I do think he went the extra mile in saying how impressed he was with our parish celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. I know I am always amazed that we can educate, organize, and celebrate two ceremonies yearly for over 180 teens and their families in such an uplifting, spiritual liturgy.

I am now in my sixth year as pastor. The young people who were confirmed were making their first holy communion my first year here. I can understand a little bit how parents say how fast the time goes and how fast the kids grow up. I could recall little girls who now were seeking to adjust to their high heels, and boys who were growing taller. Where will this sacrament bring these children in their lives is an unknown. Some may be devout practicing Catholics all their lives. Others may drift from the faith and then return when they have their own families. Perhaps, some may even give up their Catholic faith in the years to come. Only God knows. But as they came forward to be confirmed, I could see in their eyes that this moment was a holy one for them, an encounter with the Living God. I trust God will be with them all the days of their lives.

It is always dangerous to thank people by name so I will try to resist lest I leave anybody inadvertently out. I think of all the parishioners who helped create this Confirmation Day:

- The parishioners who have conducted our marriage preparation program that prepared the parents of these young people for Confirmation.
- The parishioners who lead our baptismal program.
- The directors of the religious education program.
- All the teachers in our religious education program.
- Our musicians and choir who play such a key role in the liturgy.
- The servers, both young and old, who assist at the ceremonies.
- Our maintenance team who set up chairs and banners for the Church
- Our office staff who prepare programs and host the dinner
- Our clergy, both priests and deacons, living and deceased, who were part of the formation of these young people.
- Our sacristans and those who care for the sacred linens
- Those who decorate the church in such a beautiful way
- Those various members of our councils and committees who offer wise guidance to the pastor

You the parishioners made this day possible by your financial support of the parish. We could not have 185 young people confirmed without the necessary funds to run the parish. I want you to realize you are active participants in the mission of this parish by your financial support. I thank everyone who made Confirmation Day so beautiful!

I was recently watching a rerun of *Everyone Loves Raymond*. It was a two-part show about the wedding of Robert to Amy. Naturally, everything goes wrong with both the ceremony and reception with Marie interrupting the wedding ceremony to give Robert last minute advice, and Frank complaining that there is crummy food and a cash bar at the reception. The entire day is moving toward being a fiasco when Raymond saves it all with his wedding toast as best man. He speaks about editing out the bad memories and holding on to the good ones. Here is part of what he says:

*"...and you know one more thing about the editing. I, uh think you're gonna remember about today what you wanna remember. You know, I guess our brains are like that. Like I remember my wedding day as the day I got to kiss the most beautiful girl in the world. Yeah. I think she remembers it. At least I hope she does. It was a good day. The start of a lot of good memories. We completely blotted out the part where Mom was hanging onto my pants yelling, "Don't go! Don't go!" Yeah. We didn't save **those** pictures. Just the good ones. Hold onto the good ones. Those are the keepers."*

Confirmation Day at St. Martin's is one of the good ones. A keeper!

**Father Pat Woods, CSSR**

**woodscsr@aol.com**

**website: smtbethpage.org**



There will be a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament on **Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.** You are invited to come and be with Jesus in a very special way before the Blessed Sacrament.

**The Martin's Men**, formerly the Men's Club, will be meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in St. Alphonsus Hall.

It was requested we have an **additional Stations of the Cross** during Lent for those who do not like to come out at night. **Therefore, an extra Stations of the Cross will be at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> to gauge the interest in having this devotion during the day as well as on Friday nights.**

**The Movie Of Gods and Men** will be shown on **Friday March 31 at 7PM in St. Alphonsus Hall.** Rated PG 13 (2 hours and 3 minutes)

**A Review of the Movie:** What is refreshing about the popular and critical success of *Of Gods and Men* (winner the Grand Prix at Cannes 2010) is not that it is particularly experimental or challenging, but rather that it avoids going either for the populist crowd-pleasing angle or the tear-jerker that its real-life inspiration seems to demand. The film is based on a true story of a small community of Cistercian monks in Tibhirine in Algeria caught up in the country's political troubles during the 1990s. The monks regard it as their duty to bring aid and provide medicine for the local villagers who are suffering because of the local unrest and the battles between the national army and Islamic fundamentalists, but they risk incurring the wrath not only of the fundamentalists through their spreading of Christian beliefs, but also the Algerian army who believe that they may be giving aid and medicine to wounded militants. It would be all too easy to let the divide that exists in this situation and the choice that is faced by the monks to remain simplistic - should they stay or should they go? Even though there are some reservations expressed, there is never any doubt that the monks will come to the logical Christian conclusion and stay. What is rather more impressive however is how the director refuses to allow this decision to be seen, as it would in a more conventional film, as simply an act of heroism or bravery. The situation is not exploited shamelessly for heavy-handed sentimentality as it would be in a Hollywood production, but rather it goes deeper into the qualities that lie behind courage and potential martyrdom. What the monks have to grapple with are their own doubts, their own flaws, their own fears - their very humanity. It is not weak to confront these fears, but the true measure of the men is in how they come to terms with their human weaknesses without denying them.

Beauvois manages to draw the essential truth and beauty out of the film, and at the same time protect it from the intrusive elements that could indeed diminish its force, simply showing the closeness of their brotherhood, their willingness to understand and forgive, and their ability to reflect deeply not so much on the decision that must be taken whether to stay or to leave, but on a deep search into themselves for the heartfelt truth. These kind of reflections and questions are not so easy to put up on the screen without troublesome exposition, but Beauvois manages to show simply and effectively how the monks find this truth in their daily routines and in the simplicity of their lifestyle. It all comes down to life and the love of life itself, and the simple pleasures that can be gained from it.

**So that they may see both spiritually and physically!**



In next week's Gospel, the man born blind sees for the first time. Jesus cures him, a lowly beggar, with mud. Those around doubt the man's explanation and doubt the power and compassion of Jesus Christ. They are blind to the Lord even though they see. They are blind spiritually. In this world, there are many who, while not blind, are unable to fully see. Many of these are not spiritually blind but physically, their sight prevents them from reading or seeing distance or light causes them poor vision. Our prayers for them help them spiritually but we can use that Spirit driving us to pray by actually doing something about it.

Many of us have old prescriptive glasses for reading or distance or reading glasses bought from drug stores. Many of us have old prescriptive sunglasses that we no longer use. Perhaps you know of others in your families or among your friends who have old glasses. The RCIA ministry is conducting a collection of gently used eyeglasses which will be shipped to *Eye Make A Difference*, a VSP global organization helping people to have a better outlook on their lives. There will be boxes set up in Church for you to place any gently used glasses that you might have (with or without cases). Think about it! We are such a gifted and generous parish and you can help even further by helping someone, somewhere to see.

**These boxes will remain from Saturday, March 25, through Thursday, March 30, 2017.**



**PRE CANA NEWS**

Congratulations to our engaged couples who have completed the Winter Pre Cana Session:

Melissa McQuade and John Sigona  
Lindsay Harvey and Eric Doxsey

**Annual Soup Supper**  
**This Wednesday, March 22, 2017**  
**from 6PM - 8PM**  
**Emmaus Hall located in the school**



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

Any leftover soup will be brought to the homebound and the sick. This is the gift of our faith reaching out to others during this sacrificial season!



*"Lent is a favorable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ. Each of us meets people like this every day"*

Pope Francis

Dear Friends:

During the special Lenten season, please allow me to share a special request with you. If you have never contributed to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, or if you haven't contributed in a number of years, please consider making this the year that you join with me and other members of this Parish family and make a donation to the 2017 Appeal. As you may already be aware, 100% of all the money raised by this fund helps support more than 60 programs and services that the people of our church as well as all of the people on Long Island have come to rely on.

These programs include services to people in need; affordable housing for senior citizens; people with disabilities and our veterans, as well as formation of our priests, deacons, lay leaders, and young people. These are just a few of the programs that help make our church and this Island a vibrant and wonderful place to live.

But to help ensure that we can always serve those who come to us for aid, support and spiritual guidance, we need help from you! If 100 of our parishioners, who have not supported us in the recent past, made a \$25 contribution this year – think about how many more people we could help. If that amount is more than you can manage, consider \$5 or \$10. **Every gift counts and makes a difference in the lives of others!**

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Down payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EAGLE SCOUT FUNDRAISER**

Eagle Scout James Mossman will be hosting an Italian night dinner to raise funds for religious education and give them a new conference room as well as a new parish resource center. The dinner will be on **Sunday, March 26th from 4:00 - 8:00PM in St. Alphonsus Hall.**



**Want to learn more about what's going on at St. Martin's during Lent? Stay up-to-date with Lenten Devotions, Alpha, etc. Download our new free Parish App: Instructions in this link:**

**<http://mobile.koc5033.com/st.-martin-s-parish-app.shtml>**



**Life Night: Sunday, March 19 from 6:45-8:30PM** in the OLPH Youth Room in the school after the 5:30PM Mass. **All high school teens welcome!**

**Upcoming Events: The Life Teen Retreat is from Friday, March 24 to Sunday, March 26. Please contact Patricia Draghi at 870-5669 for more info.**

**Now is a great time to consider joining our volunteer team!** If you want to know more about getting involved in SMT's dynamic and lively Youth Ministry Programs, please contact us at SMT\_Lifeteen@yahoo.com. If you are over the age of 18, there are many different ways to volunteer including joining one of our Core Teams, providing meals or snacks for our Life Teen and Edge program, or even just remembering to keep us in your prayers. Youth Ministry is an incredibly rewarding way to get involved with your community and help lead the youth of our parish closer to Christ. Remember, all are welcome to celebrate with us at the 5:30 PM Life Teen Sunday Mass.

To see our full schedule, please visit SMTBethpage.org! For questions about Youth Ministry at SMT or to inquire about joining the team, please contact Patricia Draghi at SMT\_Lifeteen@yahoo.com.



**Holy Thursday, April 13th 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 as soon as possible.*

**Christian Mothers Rosary Confraternity**

**SNOW! SNOW! SNOW!** We hope to reschedule our HEART HEALTH PROGRAM at a later time. Since our March meeting was cancelled, tickets for the SPRING FLING on April 18th at 7:30PM may be purchased by calling one of the following:

- Mary Colavolpe 495-4408
- Janet Dion 433-9340
- Margo Pigott 796-5053

Many great raffle prizes have been received from our generous benefactors and Betty Croan will be calling BINGO. Please call and your tickets will be delivered to you. \$3.00 for admission and one set of games. Refreshments will be served.

CMRC MEMBERS WILL CONGREGATE FOR THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION AT 9AM MASS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 25th.



**RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY****DIVORCE NUMBERS RISE AMONG OLDER AMERICANS, FALL AMONG YOUNGER COUPLES: Washington D.C. March 2017 CNA/EWTN NEWS:**

The divorce rate has doubled for Americans over age 50, and tripled among Americans over 65, a new survey shows. "At a time when divorce is becoming less common for younger adults, so-called GRAY DIVORCE is on the rise, the PEW RESEARCH CENTER said." In 2015, the divorce rate among married persons over 50 was 10 in 1,000, an increase from 5 in 1,000 in 1990. Among those 65 and older, the divorce rate has tripled to 6 per 1,000. Pew said the divorced rate among those 50 and older is partly linked to the aging of the Baby Boomer generation, the age cohort 51 - 69 in 2015. As young adults, this generation had unprecedented levels of divorce. Remarriages tend to be less stable than first marriages, with the divorced-and-remarried having twice the divorce rate as those married once. Among the divorces of adults age 50 and older, 48% were in a second or later marriage.

The risk of divorce is also higher among those who have been married for a shorter time. At the same time, Pew said a SIGNIFICANT SHARE of divorces are among those 50 and older. About 34% of those divorcing after 50 years old had been married for at least 30 years, and 12% were married for over 40 years. Many of these divorcees cited dissatisfaction in their marriages and a desire to seek opportunities to pursue their own interest and independence late in life. These older divorcees, especially women, face more financial insecurity than married and widowed adults. As for younger age cohorts, the divorce rate slightly increased among married adults age 40 - 49. Divorce rates have dropped 21% among those aged 25 - 39 from 30 in 1,000 to 24 in 1,000 from 1990 to 2015. According to Pew, this decline is in part attributed to younger generations' delay in marrying. It is also attributed to the phenomenon of the college-educated being more likely to marry and also being less likely to divorce. Tags: Marriage, Catholic News, Divorce.

**LIFE CENTER SPECIAL PRESENTATION: REBECCA KIESSLING**

Conceived in Rape, Adoptee, Mother of Five, Pro-Life Attorney

THURSDAY, MARCH, 23, 2017 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL, 855 CARMEN'S RD. , MASSAPEQUA PARK

On THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD, the LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND will host a presentation by REBECCA KIESSLING, PRO-LIFE and ADOPTION SPEAKER since 1995. Rebecca is the author of CONCEIVED IN RAPE; A STORY OF HOPE, her personal story of having been conceived in rape and nearly aborted. Rebecca has appeared on CNN, CBS, News, EWTN and the syndicated program EXTRA, championing the RIGHT TO LIFE OF ALL CHILDREN, regardless of the circumstances of their conception. Her story has been featured in GLAMOUR and MARIE CLAIRE magazines. She is presently a practicing FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY and the mother of five home-schooled children. PLEASE RSVP to CINDY at 516 798 8746 by Monday, March 20, 2017. THE LIFE-CENTER OF LONG ISLAND IS PLEASED TO OFFER THIS FREE SPECIAL PRESENTATION. ALL ARE WELCOME!

**Lenten Pancake Breakfast**

*Sunday, March 26, 2017*

**9:30 - 11:30AM in St. Alphonsus Hall**



The Hartigan Council of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast which will also include eggs, sausage and baked goods! All Parishioners are invited. Free will offering.

**BEREAVEMENT COUNSELING AND SUPPORT SERVICE  
ST. BERNARD, LEVITTOWN AND ST. BRIGID, WESTBURY**

There is a one time registration fee of \$20 for all groups. Registration required; forms will be mailed home. Contact Sr. Christine Sammons at St. Bernard's at (516) 731-6074 or Maria Piniero at St. Brigid at (516) 334-0021.

**General Groups (meets weekly)**

St. Bernard's Parish	Thursdays	March 30 - June 1	6:30-7:45PM
St. Brigid's Parish	Wednesdays	March 29 - May 31	7:30-8:45PM

**Group for Bereaved Parents (meets every other week)**

St. Bernard's Parish	Mondays	March 13 - ongoing	7-8:15PM
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**Group for Survivors of Suicide (meets every other week)**

St. Bernard's Parish	Mondays	March 6 - ongoing	7-8:15PM
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**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  
 SGT 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  
 SPC Matthew F. Mayerhofer, US Army  
 BUCN Sean Bourke, US Navy  
 PO3 James Fischer, US Navy  
 LTC John Evans, US Army  
 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  
 PVT Edward Morales, US Army  
 MAJ Michael F. Wendelken, USAF  
 PVT John Marcel, Jr USMC

**St. Martin of Tours celebrates  
Autism Awareness  
and Acceptance Month!!!**

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

**Sunday, April 2nd at 3pm  
St. Martin of Tours Church**



**LIVING WATERS CATHOLIC COUNSELING**

[www.livingwaterscounseling.biz](http://www.livingwaterscounseling.biz)

**Melville location:**

**Campus of St. Elizabeth's Church  
175 Wolf Hill Road, Melville NY 11747  
Tel: 631-754-3990/Fax: 631-271-0914**

**FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY**

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

**ROSELINE LIFE CENTER 24 HOURS 631-243-2373**

**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**

**NOTICE FROM THE  
YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS GROUP**



**Join us for a memorable trip to the Villa Roma  
Resort in the beautiful Catskill Mountains of Cal-  
licoon, NY from Wednesday, May 31st to Friday,  
June 2, 2017.**

The cost is \$287 per person, double occupancy.  
The trip will include all meals, nightly entertain-  
ment, a full schedule of daily activities and much  
more.

For complete details, please contact Martha Mar-  
tini at 822-2213. Don't miss out on such a great  
experience!

**SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB**

We will be discussing ***“Around the Table: Retell-  
ing the Story of the Eucharist through the Eyes  
of Jesus’ First Followers”*** by R. Scott Hurd on Fri-  
day, April 7th at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall.  
**(Resources:** Amazon: Kindle \$11.99; paperback  
\$14.02 16 used from \$7.50; 31 new from \$7.43.)



**SMT REGULAR BOOK CLUB**

***“A Man Call Ove: A Novel May 5, 2015”*** by Fred-  
rik Backman. Discussion will be on Friday, April  
21st at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall. **(Resources:**  
Amazon: paperback \$9.97 - \$16.00. More buying  
choices: \$5.60 - 103 used & new offers. Kindle  
\$11.99)

### Happy Feast of St. Joseph, March 20<sup>th</sup>

Everything we know about the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus comes from Scripture and that has seemed too little for those who made up legends about him. We know he was a carpenter, a working man, for the skeptical Nazarenes ask about Jesus, "Is this not the carpenter's Son?" (Matthew 13:55). He wasn't rich for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb (Luke 2:24). Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage. Luke and Matthew disagree some about the details of Joseph's genealogy but they both mark his descent from David, the greatest king of Israel (Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 3:23-38). Indeed the angel who first tells Joseph about Jesus greets him as "son of David," a royal title used also for Jesus.



We know Joseph was a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carrying the Son of God. He knew women accused of adultery could be stoned to death, so he resolved to send her away quietly to not expose her to shame or cruelty. However, when an angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins," he did as the angel told him and took Mary as his wife. (Matthew 1:19-25).

When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby. He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back (Matthew 2:13-23). We know Joseph loved Jesus. His one concern was for the safety of this child entrusted to him. Not only did he leave his home to protect Jesus, but upon his return settled in the obscure town of Nazareth out of fear for his life. When Jesus stayed in the Temple we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for him (Luke 2:48). We also know that Joseph treated Jesus as his own son for over and over the people of Nazareth say of Jesus, "Is this not the son of Joseph?" (Luke 4:22) We know Joseph respected God. He followed God's commands in handling the situation with Mary and going to Jerusalem to have Jesus circumcised and Mary purified after Jesus' birth. We are told that he took his family to Jerusalem every year for Passover, something that could not have been easy for a working man.

Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry. Joseph is the patron saint of the dying because, assuming he died before Jesus' public life, he died with Jesus and Mary close to him, the way we all would like to leave this earth. Joseph is also patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers, and working people in general. We celebrate two feast days for Joseph: March 19 for Joseph the Husband of Mary and May 1 for Joseph the Worker. March 19 has been the most commonly celebrated feast day for Joseph, and it wasn't until 1955 that Pope Pius XII established the Feast of "St. Joseph the Worker" to be celebrated on May 1.

#### Prayer to St. Joseph

*Oh St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, our Lord; so that having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers. Oh St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss his fine head for me, and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen*

**St. Martin of Tours  
April 20 – June 29  
7:00 pm  
St. Alphonsus Hall**

**ALPHA REGISTRATION FORM**

**Registration deadline  
April 6, 2017**

*To participate in the upcoming ALPHA program, please complete this form and return it by email, regular mail or drop off at St. Martin of Tours Rectory, 40 Seaman Ave., Bethpage NY 11714. You will receive notification confirming you as a participant.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**To return the registration form or for more information  
alphasmot@gmail.com  
Or call 516 931-0818**

**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.**

**VIRTUS TRAINING**

St. Martin of Tours will host Virtus Training on **Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 7PM in St. Alphonsus Hall**. Training is mandatory for anyone who volunteers or works for a parish in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. **To register**, please go on line to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) or through the Diocese website at [drcv.org](http://drcv.org) and click Virtus on their home page.

If you are not able to register, please call the rectory office at 931-0818 for assistance.

**LENT 2017 - STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
EVERY FRIDAY AT 7:30PM IN CHURCH**

March 24 - Deacon Tom Hennessy  
March 31 - Fr. Pat Woods  
April 7 - Fr. Ciya Thomas

**PLEASE NOTE: On Good Friday, April 14th we are offering Stations of the Cross at Bethpage State Park at 10AM and also in the Church at 10AM. You are free to come to either service.**

**WELCOME TO MORNING PRAYER  
THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS**



During the weekdays of Lent, Monday through Friday, we will be saying the Morning Prayer of the Church at 8:30 a.m. (before the 9:00 a.m. Mass). All are welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 19: Pre-Cana Closing at 11:30AM Mass Church
- Mar 20: Feast of St. Joseph 9AM Mass Church
- Mar 21: VIRTUS 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 21: Padre Pio Holy Hour 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- **Mar 22: SOUP SUPPER 6PM-8PM Emmaus Hall (Cafeteria)**
- Mar 23: Additional Stations of the Cross 1PM Church
- Mar 25: Christian Mothers attending 9AM Mass Feast of the Annunciation Church
- Mar 26: Hartigan Council Lenten Pancake Breakfast 9:30-11:30AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 26: Eagle Scouts Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser 4-8PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 28: Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament 3PM Church
- Mar 28: The Martin's Men 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Mar 31: Movie Night: Of Gods and Men 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Apr 1: First Saturday Devotions 8:30AM Church
- Apr 2: Mass for Special Needs Children, their friends and families 3PM Church
- Apr 7: First Friday Devotions 7PM Eucharistic Chapel