

**Masses For The Week**

**Monday - April 3**

6:30 Joseph & Catherine Courtney  
 9:00 Michael & Amelia DeCicco

**Tuesday - April 4**

6:30 Rose Cossentino  
 9:00 Joseph Spoto

**Wednesday - April 5**

6:30 Lena Ronde  
 9:00 Patrick Curtin

**Thursday - April 6**

6:30 Clara Hickson & Eugene Brezovsky  
 9:00 Thomas & Mary LaGanga

**Friday - April 7**

6:30  
 9:00 Mary Godek

**Saturday - April 8**

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS  
 5:00 Carmelo & Rose Morganti  
 7:00 Ann & Bill Csajko

**Sunday - April 9 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

7:00 The People of the Parish  
 8:30 Carmelita DeGuzman  
 10:00 Erma Eichenlaub  
 11:30 Joseph Nash  
 1:00 Nicholas Passaro  
 5:30 Lily & Guido Montana & Rose & Bake Belcastro

**Readings For The Week**

Mon. Daniel 13:41c-62; John 8:1-11  
 Tues. Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30  
 Wed. Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42  
 Thurs. Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59  
 Fri. Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42  
 Sat. Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

**Sun. Procession with Palms: Matthew 21:1-11**

**Mass Readings:**

**Isaiah 50:4-7** *The servant of the Lord God was rebuffed but did not turn back; he was beaten and spat upon. The suffering one knew the Lord God was with him.*

**Philippians 2:6-11** *Christ was in the form of God but did not consider equality with God a thing to be grasped at. He emptied himself, took the form of a slave, and was obedient unto death! Therefore, God exalted him, and all proclaim him Lord.*

**Matthew 26:14-27:66** *The Passion of the Lord*



**Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**

**Weekly Budget:** \$17,500.00  
**Regular 3/26/2017:** \$16,507.17  
**Catholic Relief Services** \$ 4,057.00

**Reflection & Living Stewardship**



When Jesus heard about the illness of His friend Lazarus, He responded. "This illness is not to end in death; rather it is for God's glory, that through it the Son of God may be glorified." Every aspect of our lives - gifts as well as sufferings - can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessings for ourselves and others.

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who labor not for their own benefit, but so that others may see their good works and give glory to our Father.

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

**Jesus Understands. Doesn't Get Even**

We all do it; we judge verbally or silently. It doesn't matter. If Jesus didn't judge the woman accused of adultery or the woman at the well, or even the two thieves who were next to Him on their crosses, then why do we think we have the right to judge? Very often, our judgements are made before we have all the facts. Jesus left the judging to God. Shouldn't we do the same?

**Our next meeting is Monday, April 3rd at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall. Be a friend -- bring a friend. Call 516-993-9672 for prayer requests or more information.**



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

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

3/27/17	#283	Anthony Zuaro	\$25
3/28/17	#285	Flora Houston	\$25
3/29/17	#407	Peter Titone	\$25
3/30/17	#11	Marty Stack	\$25
3/31/17	#583	Linda Segretto	\$50

Wedding Banns

3rd Vincenzo DiPrima & Jennifer Torchetti

1st Salvatore Cincinnata & Emily Donahue



*“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 pancake mix, canned chicken, chili, tomato paste, dry lentils, ketchup, juice, tomato soup, crackers, boxed milk, laundry soap, dish soap, diapers size 6, wipes. PLEASE, NO STRING BEANS OR PASTA UNTIL JUNE. Thank you for your generosity to those less fortunate. God bless you!

**Please Note:** a set of keys was found in a bag of food that was left on the week of March 19th. The keys are in the Pantry.

**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 April 2-8, 2017*

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Angela, Thomas Sr, Thomas Jr,*  
*Vincent & Patricia Critelli*



*Sanctuary Candle*  
*Week of April 2-8, 2017*

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Lucretia (Grace) Alloggio*

**Rest in Peace**

**Acts 7:49: “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”**  
**James Curley, Sheila Neumann**  
**Eugene De Marta**

**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 Battiatia, 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, Andrew McCarthy Alicia Manetta, Frank LoPinto, Baby Lucia Bianchi, Uncle Ed 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, Jim Moran, Robert Collelouri, Arthur Baudo Kathy Smith, Jenna Black, Baby Grayson

## *Pastor's Letter*



*As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth.*

*His disciples asked him,*

*"Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents,  
that he was born blind?"*

*Jesus answered,*

*"Neither he nor his parents sinned;  
it is so that the works of God might be made visible  
through him*

I have it heard it said that Irish men do not like to go to doctors. Quite honestly, I think that trait is rather common to many men, and it can be a dangerous one to have. In the Redemptorist rule, we are required to get a check-up once a year. I think many of us may be more faithful to our rules about taking a regular vacation than in doctoring. When I was younger, I tried my best to avoid doctors, especially ones that had scales in their offices. I recall a friend of mine who would only go to a doctor who smoked since he was a smoker. But as I have gotten older, I have several doctors that I see regularly and I consider that a blessing. I believe one of my doctors in Brooklyn saved my life by her fine care. The only doctors that really scare me are ophthalmologists. I went to see one the other day for a regular eye check-up after many years. Fortunately, there was no serious problems, but I get very nervous when the doctor starts looking into my eyes with a variety of gadgets. I think most of us fear all sorts of medical problems, but losing one's sight would be on the top of the list for many of us.

In our Gospel today, we hear a rather detailed account of Jesus healing a man born blind. It may surprise you that there are only seven miracles in the Gospel of John and each one of them carries a far deeper meaning than simply the physical cure. In many of the miracles of our Lord Jesus, he simply says you are healed or touches the person. There are even miracles where he tells a person to go home and you will find that your loved one is cured. However, in this Gospel, Jesus makes a kind of mud paste from his spittle and the clay on the ground. He rubs it into the eyes of the man and then tells him to go wash in the pool of Siloam, one of the sacred pools of the Jews. This action brings sight to the man who has been blind all of his life. The clay reminds us of the creation of Adam and Eve. But Jesus is not creating a new man as he did in the Old Testament. He is restoring him with new life.

Many of the people of that time, both Jews and Gentiles, saw any kind of infirmity as a punishment due to sin. The question asked by the apostles when they observed the man's blindness from birth is what sin caused his blindness. Since he was blind from birth, it must have been some sin of his parents or ancestors that caused this loss of sight. Such thinking may sound strange to us today, but there are some remnants of it around. As a priest many times I have had people tell me that they suffer from some serious physical or spiritual problem because God is punishing them for the sins of their youth. We can recall how some preachers of different faith traditions saw AIDS as a punishment due to homosexual sins. There is a very small group of fundamentalist Christians who have harassed family members at the funerals of their sons and daughters who have died in the wars in the Middle East. They try to upset the funeral by making a scene and protesting that God was punishing America for evil ways by the deaths of these American heroes.

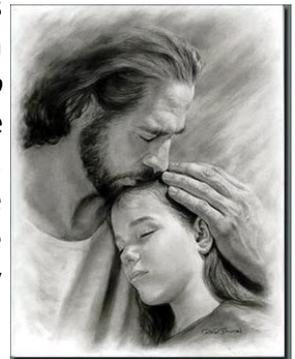
Some ministers blamed the night-life of New Orleans for the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Such thinking turns God into a monster and is absolutely wrong. Who could believe in such a God? No parent would wish such evil on their children. Why would anyone think *God* would do so? Jesus condemns such thinking and says it is the result of far deeper blindness than the physical loss of sight that afflicts this man in the Gospel. Jesus will not put an end to all physical blindness in the world, but his mission is to help all people understand God as a loving Father and not an avenging punisher. God is not a God of lightning bolts and thunder.

We know this intellectually, but it is all but impossible not to ask about the suffering in the world around us. We see terrible calamities in the world, such as a tsunami or earthquake that kills thousands, famines that lead to the starvation of the poor, the sudden death of a father of four young children, or breast cancer that takes a mother from her family. It is only natural to ask why is God allowing this to happen? When we see the evil of terrorism killing the innocents in front of the British Parliament, when we read of murders and random acts of violence in our cities and towns, and hear of attacks on people because of their religion or race, we, perhaps in the silence of our hearts, question God. It is very human to do so and I certainly fall into those questions from time to time.

But to see God as the author of pain or suffering is to have a very distorted vision of God. I recall a few weeks ago, when I had the 6:30 a.m. daily Mass. I did not realize I had it, so I was lying in my bed, when Sue our sacristan knocked on the door to tell me that the people were waiting for Mass. I dressed quickly, threw some water on my face, put my contact lenses on, and went to say Mass. It quickly became clear to me that I had put my contact lenses on backwards and I could barely read a word from the missal on the altar. I had a very distorted vision.

What is your image of God? The movie *The Shack* based on the best-selling book of the same name seeks to address the question of why is there suffering and pain in world if God truly loves us. This is the most difficult and challenging question for people of faith, and there is no simple answer. But what helps me is to seek to know and understand Jesus. He is the Son of God. He tells us that the one who sees him, sees the Father. Jesus is the Face of God. He tells us that he and the Father are one.

Jesus confronts and battles sickness and disease in his ministry. He describes his Father as a loving Father who runs to embrace his prodigal son and greets him with a great celebratory feast. He tells us those life affirming words of John 3:16: *God so loved the world that whoever believes in me will not die but have eternal life.* He calls us to love one another and to treat others as we would have them treat us. Jesus does not take away the suffering of the world, but truly enters into it. He takes a towel and washes feet. He weeps at the tomb of his friend Lazarus. He sweats blood on the night before he dies. Our God enters so fully into the mystery of life that he dies on a cross. He feeds us with his body and blood.



Jesus is the Face of God and I trust in him. God does not send us suffering. Rather, he enters the suffering of the world and embraces those in pain in his loving arms. (Father Pat's Homily of 3/26/17)

**Father Pat Woods, CSSR**

**woodscsr@aol.com**

**website: smtbethpage.org**

**Diocese of Rockville Centre Golden Wedding Liturgy**  
**Honoring Couples Married 50 Years or More**  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 30th - Church of St. James, Seaford**

Registration forms and instructions can be obtained at the rectory and must be received by the Office of Worship by April 21st. If you have any questions, you may call the Diocese at 516 678-5800 x 207.



Approximately one week before the liturgy, you will be mailed a letter confirming your registration and directions. There will be reserved seating for the registered couple only. Family and friends will be seated on a first come-first served basis.

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING**  
**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Session "A" is required of **all** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to homebound are also required to attend Session "B" **in addition** to Session "A". Please write a letter to the pastor, Father Patrick Woods, CSSR, expressing your desire to become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the Church and/or Hospital/Homebound/Nursing Home.

**TO REGISTER FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER TRAINING:** the pastor of the parish must send a letter to Bishop Barres **at least 10 days in advance** requesting the training for each person attending. **This letter must mention the date and location of the session the person will attend.**

**TIMES AND PLACES FOR MINISTRY TRAINING:**

**In Nassau:**

**"A" Session Training for Extraordinary Ministers**  
 April 22, 2017; 9 AM—1 PM  
 St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

**In Suffolk:**

**"A" Session Training for Extraordinary Ministers**  
 May 6, 2017; 9 AM—1 PM  
 St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays

**In Nassau:**

**"B" session for Extraordinary Ministers**  
 May 20, 2017; 9 AM—1 PM  
 St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

**In Suffolk:**

**"B" Session for Extraordinary Ministers**  
 May 13, 2017; 9 AM—1 PM  
 St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays

**EVENING SESSIONS for Extraordinary Ministers at St. Elizabeth, Melville.**

Session "A" - Wednesday, April 26, 2017; 7:00—10 PM  
 Session "B" - Wednesday, May 10, 2017; 7:00—10PM

**WORKSHOP FEES:** Extraordinary Ministers of Communion: \$30 per person (fee paid by St. Martin's).

### SO MANY TO THANK FOR THIS YEAR'S SOUP SUPPER

Right on the heels of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, we had the "March of the Crock Pots," better known as our Annual Lenten Soup Supper. It is amazing to witness how many warm-hearted parishioners participate, filling the tables of Emmaus Hall with a variety of their delicious soups. They truly know the meaning of caring and sharing. Their generous spirit enabled us to provide soup for the sick and homebound and we were fortunate enough to have an abundant number of containers that we could provide to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish in Wyandanch.



We are truly blessed to have so many wonderful parishioners who participate every year. Their warm hearts foster this Lenten Act of giving. Our volunteers are too numerous to name, but they are so dedicated and hardworking, that they make it all possible from start to finish, from set-up, to clean-up, and never send home a dirty pot.

As always, our special gratitude to the Knights of Columbus, who so generously support us by donating all the rolls, as they have in the past years. Also, our thanks to the Central Avenue Gourmet Deli, who donated bags of bagels when they learned of our supper.

Once again, thank all of you who came to work, made soup, and participated in this Lenten Project. May God Bless all of you. Love in Christ, Pat Ricci

### THANKS FROM FATHER PAT

A thank you for all who so generously made soups for the Soup Supper on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is always one of the *gastronomical* (I just was dying to use that word!) highlights of the year. Thanks to all who made soups under the brilliant direction of Pat Ricci. Also, thanks to all who came and shared in this annual Lenten gathering.

I thank the Knights of Columbus of the Hartigan Council for treating the parishioners to a lovely breakfast on Sunday, March 26th. Steve Descovich proved to be an outstanding baker, rivaling P.T. Barnum. I also thank the dedicated St. Clement Bakers who continue to give of their time, treasure, and talents. (Don't tell anyone but you are my favorite parish ministry!)

\$352.00 was donated at the Soup Supper and \$226.00 was given at the pancake breakfast. These generous donations will be equally divided and given to the Parish Outreach Center and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

### FOR THOSE SEEKING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



St. Martin of Tours offers a three week sacramental review on the following Wednesdays at 7:30PM in the Faculty Lounge of the school: May 17, 24, 31. Confirmation will be on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017.

For more information please call Ann Hughes at (516) 433-6972 or the Rectory at (516) 931-0818.



Life Night: 4/2/17 6:45-8:30PM in the OLPH Youth Center.  
 All high school teens welcome!  
 ® Upcoming Life Teen Events: 4/9 Life Night



Upcoming Edge Events: 7:00 - 8:30PM in the OLPH Youth Center  
 3/30: Game Night & 4/13 All Middle Schoolers welcome!

**SMT PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS - SAVE THE DATE:** This year our Youth Ministry is planning an **AUCTION AND TRIVIA NIGHT** on Friday, April 28th at 7PM in the school cafeteria. Trivia Games are open to **teams of 5 people** with an entry fee of \$20 per team. If you choose to be on a team, give your team a name (ex. "The Golden Girls" or "Men at Work"). Prior to the event, teams should pre pay by dropping off \$20 to the rectory. Please write what your team is called and list the 5 people who belong to it. The night of the event, give your name & team name to the person checking you in. Single players can pay \$5 at the door. No need to pre-pay.

**WE ARE ALSO ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE AUCTION SUCH AS NEW ITEMS, GIFT CARDS OR CERTIFICATES, LIQUOR OR BOTTLES OF WINE.**

**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.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS REV. MICHAEL J. HARTIGAN COUNCIL 5033**

**BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY**



When: Sunday, April 9, 2017 from 9:30AM to 12 Noon  
 Where: K of C Council, 517 Central Avenue, Bethpage  
 Cost: \$10 per person. Free for children under 3 years old.  
 Contact: Joe Interrante, DGK at 516 378-0733  
 Menu: pancakes, eggs, sausage, muffins, bagels, juices, coffee, tea



Following breakfast we will have fun activities for the children to enjoy - crafts, egg coloring, face painting and an egg hunt! Plus a visit with the Easter Bunny!! Don't miss this sell-out event.

## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

### HOPE, COURAGE AND DETERMINATION

It seems we cannot escape the constant negativity that we read about or watch in these days leading up to Easter Sunday. We have to search very deep for stories of inspiration, as they don't seem too often to make the front page. But they are out there, all too often not reported as breaking news of the day. I would like to share one that did make prime news coverage and another that was hardly noticed at all.

#### **Afghanistan Vet Becomes First Full-Time Double-Amputee Police Officer**

Matias Ferreira, 28 years old, was sworn in as an officer for the Suffolk County, N.Y. police department last week, here on Long Island. Matias is an Afghanistan war veteran and the first double-amputee to be a full-time police officer in the United States. He lost both of his legs below the knees during a nighttime operation in Helmand Province, Afghanistan in 2011. A machine gunner for a Marine division from Camp Lejeune, N.C., he was setting up on a rooftop of a building with several other Marines. He stepped away to retrieve more supplies and jumped from the roof to the ground, landing on a 30 pound bomb which had been detonated. After three months in the hospital, he was able to learn to walk again with titanium prosthetics.

Matias said that ever since he immigrated with his family from Uruguay to the United States at age 6, he admired people in uniform. "If one doesn't work out, the other one will," Matias said, recalling how he either wanted to be in the military or law enforcement. He said he keeps pushing himself toward his goals because it is hard to fail with his supportive peers. He graduated from the Suffolk County Police Academy in Brentwood, L.I. His first assignment as a precinct patrol officer begins this week. He reported to Fox 5 News that he isn't worried if he breaks a leg on the job. "If I break my leg I go to the trunk of my car and put on a new one and I'm back on duty!" He is now 28 years old and a married father. Police Commissioner Timothy Sini called Ferreira, "the quintessential example of what we're looking for" in a cop. "This is someone who served our nation, paid a significant sacrifice, and is now able to overcome adversity in a tremendous way. Ferreira completed 29 weeks of training. He'll drive a police car like any other officer and is scheduled to start patrolling the First Precinct in West Babylon. He passed all the physical demands of someone in his age category, running a mile and a half within the required 12 minutes, 29 seconds, and doing 38 sit-ups and 29 push-ups. "I was given a second chance." "Not many people survive an IED blast like I did. I don't want to be one of the guys who just kind of gives up on themselves."

**The second story is about an elderly person that lives nearby.** Many years ago this person suffered a disability and had very little use of an arm. Still, during the snow days of winter, could be seen shoveling the walk and driveway. Always refusing help, would simply say, "No, thank you, but I've got it." This last snowstorm, when the snow turned to sleet and hail and the wind blew at 30 mph, there was this person out there again. **But this time, pushing a snow blower. Covered with a scarf to protect eyes and face, cleared the driveway, then went up and down the street clearing every other sidewalk, and when that was completed, crossed the street and cleared the walkways there also. What an inspiration! I will never, ever complain about shoveling again!**

As we try to walk in the footsteps of Jesus each Friday at the Stations of the Cross, we offer up our sufferings as we think of His. We reach out for guidance in bearing each of our own crosses, and ask for strength and courage as we do so. Let us ask for the courage and determination to accept those sufferings, and gain strength and fortitude to go on in spite of them. Let us count our blessings, and when we are challenged, let us reach for His hand to give us the courage to go on. Diana Hart Miranda

### HOLY PICTURES OF THE SAINTS CANDLE REMEMBRANCES



So many people in our parish like to remember in special ways their prayer intentions, in particular for loved ones both living and deceased, as well as their own personal needs. Besides the mass intentions, bread & wine and sanctuary lamp remembrances, people have been asking for other options of praying and remembering.



Therefore, beginning Friday, April 7th, we will be taking requests to have a candle lit in front of one of the paintings of the five saints that you see in the back of the Church - St. Anne, St. Jude, St. Peregrine, St. Anthony of Padua and St. Therese of Lisieux. In order to defray the cost to replace the batteries and, should the need arise, the candles, we are suggesting a donation of \$20 per candle.



The names will be replaced every Friday. Father Pat asks that each person limit the number of bookings until we see how well this option is received.



**PLEASE NOTE: Beginning April 23rd (Divine Mercy Sunday)** the first set of names will be published in the bulletin but will not be read aloud in the Prayer of the Faithful at weekend masses. Please sign up at the parish office with your intention and which painting to place it under. Please limit to 25 letters including spaces.



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** As you may recall, the pictures were painted for our Church by Father Biju who was a visiting Redemptorist a few summers ago. Great thanks to George Hoban who heads the St. Joseph the Carpenter ministry. George made the candle holders for the battery powered candles.

### The Counters Want YOU

***The Counting Ministry can use more volunteers!*** We are responsible for counting all weekend and holy day collections. If you are interested, please contact John Joyce at [jmjoyce17@verizon.net](mailto:jmjoyce17@verizon.net) or (516) 822-3806 for more details. If you haven't done so already, the Diocese of Rockville Centre mandates that all volunteers take a Virtus training course beforehand. (see page 14).

On another note, refreshments are offered, so no hunger pangs are allowed to distract from the task at hand!

### SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB

We will be discussing ***“Around the Table: Retelling the Story of the Eucharist through the Eyes of Jesus’ First Followers”*** by R. Scott Hurd on Friday, 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 Called Ove: A Novel May 5, 2015”*** by Fredrik 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)

**Good Friday Stations of the Cross  
Bethpage State Park Picnic Grounds**

Please join us on **April 14, 2017 at 10AM** as we journey with Christ in His Passion and Death through the Stations of the Cross. All are welcome!



**Good Friday Stations of the Cross  
St. Martin of Tours Church**

For those who would rather come to the church, please join us on **April 14, 2017 at 10AM** as we journey with Christ in His Passion and Death. All are welcome!

This year there will be no Living Stations performance in the church on Palm Sunday evening.

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>

**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

**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.

**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  
 CPT 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  
 LCPL Brendan M. White, USMC

**CHRISTIAN MOTHERS ROSARY CONFRATERNITY  
 Spring Fling - Tuesday, April 18, 2017 @ 7:30PM**

Spring Fling tickets are now on sale. Invite a friend (or more) and enjoy an evening of Bingo and raffles. Admission (including one set of games) and refreshments is \$3.00.

Call Mary Colavolpe at 495-4408, Janet Dion at 433-9340 or Margo Pigott at 796-5053 and your tickets will be delivered to you.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**

**April 28 - 30, 2017**

**Seminary of the Immaculate Conception  
 440 W. Neck Road, Huntington NY 11743**

**Space is limited. For more info or to apply, call 1-877-697-9963 or visit the web site <http://www.wme.org>**

**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**



**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**

**Our Lady of Mercy CYO Track Program -  
Hicksville  
2017 Spring Registration**

- Boys & girls kindergarten through 8th grade
- Learn the basics of track and field
- Develop sportsmanship and teamwork skills
- Season runs from April-June
- Track meets are outdoors on weekends at fields throughout Nassau and Suffolk
- All athletes competing in meets will receive medals and/or ribbons.
- To register your child, contact Director Gynni Farrell at ourladyofmercytrack@gmail.com
- Deadline to register is April 20th



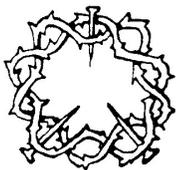
Relay Race



**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 8:30AM (before the 9:00AM Mass). All are welcome!**

**Prayer Before the Crucifix**



Behold, O kind and gentle Jesus, I kneel before you and pray that you would impress upon my heart the virtues of faith, hope and charity, with true repentance for my sins and a firm purpose of amendment. At the same time, with sorrow I meditate on your five precious wounds, having in mind the words which David spoke in prophecy: "They have pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all my bones." (Psalm 22)



**2017 HOLY WEEK AND EASTER  
SCHEDULE**

**April 10, Monday**

Mass: 6:30, 9:00 A.M.  
3:00 - 5:00 P.M. Confessions  
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Confessions

**April 11, Tuesday**

Mass: 6:30, 9:00 A.M.  
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Confessions

**April 12, Wednesday**

Mass: 6:30, 9:00 A.M.  
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Confessions

**April 13, Holy Thursday**

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer  
7:30 P.M. Liturgy of the Lord's Supper  
9:00 P.M. Adoration until 11:00 P.M.

**April 14, Good Friday**

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer  
10:00 A.M. Stations of the Cross  
in the Church  
10:00 A.M. Stations of the Cross  
Bethpage State Park  
3:00 P.M. Liturgy of the Passion  
7:30 P.M. Liturgy of the Passion

**April 15, Holy Saturday**

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer  
1:00 P.M. Blessing of Bread/Food  
8:00 P.M. Easter Vigil

**April 16, Easter Sunday**

Church: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 A.M.  
& 1:00PM (Life Teen)

**Additional Masses in the Auditorium:**

10:00 & 11:30 A.M.  
**NO EVENING MASS**

**Rectory Hours from Holy Week  
through Easter Monday**

**Monday - Wednesday, April 10 - 12**  
9AM to 8PM

**Holy Thursday, April 13**

9:00AM to 2:00PM  
Evening Staff: 2:00PM - 6:00PM

**Good Friday, April 14**

CLOSED - No evening hours

**Holy Saturday, April 15**

9:00AM - 5:00PM

**Easter Sunday & Easter Monday**

CLOSED - No evening hours

**The rectory opens at 9AM  
on Tuesday, April 18.**

**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**

**Monday, April 24, 2017 at 7:00PM**  
**St. Alphonsus Parish Hall**

**RESPECT LIFE MEETING**

The Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, April 26th at 11AM in St. Alphonsus Hall.

We welcome anyone who is searching for a good cause. Please come and find out what we are about and how we serve.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr 1: First Saturday Devotions 8:30AM Church
- Apr 1: Parish Assembly: 9AM Mass following by meeting from 10:00AM - Noon
- Apr 2: Mass for Special Needs Children, their friends and families 3PM Church
- Apr 7: First Friday Devotions 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Apr 7: Spiritual Book Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall (“Around the Table”)
- Apr 7: Stations of the Cross 7:30PM Church
- Apr 14: Stations of the Cross 10AM Bethpage State Park Picnic Area
- Apr 14: If you prefer, Stations of the Cross 10AM Church
- Apr 21: SMT Regular Book Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall (“A Man Called Ove”)
- Apr 24: VIRTUS training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Apr 26: Respect Life Committee Meeting 11AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Apr 28: Youth Ministry Trivia Game Night and Auction 7PM School Cafeteria

