

Masses For The Week

Monday - April 10

6:30 Sirianni Family Living & Deceased
 9:00 Otto Gutbrod

Tuesday - April 11

6:30 Robert & Dorothy Bassemir
 9:00 Michele Rita Barone

Wednesday - April 12

6:30 Rose Sacco
 9:00 John Patrick Foley

Holy Thursday - April 13

9:00 Morning Prayer
 7:30PM Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
 9:00PM Adoration until 11:00PM

Good Friday - April 14

9:00 Morning Prayer
 10:00AM Stations of the Cross Bethpage Park
 10:00AM Stations of the Cross SMT Church
 3:00PM Liturgy of the Passion
 7:30PM Liturgy of the Passion

Holy Saturday - April 15

9:00 Morning Prayer
 1:00PM Blessing of Food and Bread
 8:00PM The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Easter Sunday - April 16

7:00 The People of the Parish
 8:30 Helen & Henry Ruff
 10:00 Patrick Hopkins
 11:30 Rae Buto
 1:00 James & Lillian Manzolillo

NO 5:30PM Mass

Readings For The Week

Mon. Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11
 Tues. Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38
 Wed. Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25
 Thurs. Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14;
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15
 Fri. Isaiah 52:13-53:12
 Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42
 Sat. Vigil Readings

Sun. Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Peter preached about Jesus' baptism, the anointing with the Holy Spirit, works of kindness and healing, and his crucifixion and resurrection from the dead. All who believe in him are forgiven.

Colossians 3:1-4 Think about what is above. When Christ appears, then you shall appear with him in glory.

John 20:1-9 Mary Magdalene and the disciples went to the tomb and found it empty. They did not yet understand that Jesus would rise from the dead.

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00
Regular 4/2/2017: \$16,377.00

Thank you for your great generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship

"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" shout the crowds in today's Gospel. May we always be ready to share our blessings when we are sent in His name!



We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who aspire to greatness by humbly serving the needs of all, especially through our various parish ministries.

Charismatic Prayer Group

As we look toward Holy Week, let us lift up each other in prayer and give thanks to the Father for sending His only Son to redeem the world. We petition God to increase the faith of those who place their hope in Him.



Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 10th 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

4/3/17	#562	Frances Sutton	\$25
4/4/17	#189	Tom Heltz	\$25
4/5/17	#356	M/M Steven Blumberg	\$25
4/6/17	#635	Mary Lundy	\$25
4/7/17	#530	Mary Henson	\$50

Wedding Banns

2nd Salvatore Cincinnata & Emily Donahue

1st Kevin Cooper & Sarah Guadalupe



"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, cups of noodles, ramen noodles, chili, beef stew, tomato sauce, icing, canned fruit, juice boxes, juice, crackers, diapers size 5. No string beans or pasta until further notice.

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 9-15, 2017

*In Loving Memory of
 Bernie Lavin*



*Sanctuary Candle
 Week of April 9-15, 2017*

*In Loving Memory of
 Richard McKenna*

Rest in Peace

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

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 Baciуска 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, Taylor Fr. Edmund Faliskie CSSR, Chris Mitchell, Terrence Lynam Joseph Kostyak, Johnny D., William Castle, Anthony Morello Anthony Krich, Aida Gilday, 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, Michael Leva

Pastor's Letter



"He cried out in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, 'Untie him and let him go.'"

Most of us are familiar with some famous church bulletin bloopers and announcements. None of these were ever made at St. Martin's, I assure you, since we have a great parish secretary, Genny Mitchell, who corrects the pastor's frequent written mistakes. Here are a few I found online:

The evangelization committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 to 8:30p.m. Please use the back door.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Potluck supper: prayer and medication to follow.

Although I rarely tend to name my sermons, I did get a kick of some titles I recently viewed: *You're So Vain, You Probably Think This Psalm is About You; Get Off Your...Donkey: The Story of the Good Samaritan.* My all-time favorite, supposedly a true one, was a church sign that read: Morning Sermon: *Jesus Walks on Water*; Evening Sermon: *Searching for Jesus.*

I wonder what would be a catch sermon title for today's Gospel about Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. How about: *Back Again!* or *Jesus beats Death in Overtime.* I might suggest: *Lazarus sues Jesus.* I'll explain that in a bit.

This Gospel speaks of one of the most amazing moments in history. I have heard my friend Father John McGowan, who was with us for our parish assembly, say in a sermon: *Jesus loved to go to the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus after a long day for a rest. Our Lord liked to sit in a recliner, have a nice chilled manhattan and watch the Jet game, since they were the most abandoned people in need of God.* I like this image. Although Jesus loved everyone, he, like all of us, had friends. The home of Lazarus and his sisters was outside of Jerusalem and it is clear that Jesus often went there to rest and relax. Jesus was fully human and needed friends.

I remember as a young priest becoming good friends with a married couple in Erie, and I felt very much at home in their house. Whenever I would visit, the husband Tom would get me a nice cold bottle of beer. I would then sit with him and his wife Diane and talk and watch television. One time I showed up and one of their sons, Matthew, who was two at the time, ran away when I said *Hello*. Diane told me not to feel bad - Matthew was just being shy. A minute later (true story!) he came out of the kitchen with a beer and handed it to me. Now *that* was being at home! Jesus was very much at home with this family as we read in the Gospels.

Our Lord loved Martha, Mary and Lazarus in a very special way. We recall from another Gospel, Martha complaining to Jesus about Mary just sitting and listening to Jesus when Martha wanted her to help with the cooking. Jesus is away when he hears Lazarus is sick. By the time Jesus gets to the home, Lazarus is dead and buried for four days. Listen to Martha's words when Jesus shows up: *Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you.*

Martha is a woman who speaks her mind. She is upset that Jesus did not come sooner. *If you had been here...Still*, she is respectful and believes in Jesus: *I know whatever you ask of God, He will give you.* I think that such a response as hers is often our reaction to the loss of a loved one. We are upset and even question God. Yet, in spite of our terrible pain, we struggle to trust and believe in the promise of eternal life. There is a bit of Martha in all of us. Death, even though we believe in the Resurrection and Heaven, is so very hard to accept. It can be so shattering and produce a myriad of feelings.

Martha questions Jesus even when our Lord tells us that Lazarus will rise from the dead. Even though she speaks of the resurrection and eternal life, she thinks it is impossible for Jesus to raise a man who has been dead for four days. But he does to the great shock of everyone. We hear the words that our Lord says at the tomb: *Lazarus, come out!*" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So, Jesus said to them, *untie him and let him go.* We are living, but are we in need of being called out of any tombs, to be unbound and set free from those areas of our spirit that may be dying or dead? Perhaps, we carry a bitterness or deep anger toward someone, a family member, a former friend, a co-worker. This resentment is killing our spirit. Perhaps, our marriage has grown cold and distant, or it may be dying or even dead. Maybe I am going through the motions in my faith. I come to Church, but do I really believe and seek to make Jesus Lord of my life, or is my soul struggling for life? We can get so captured by greed, envy, lust, jealousy that these sins bind us, control us, and rob us of our freedom. While we are not buried in a tomb, but we all need to hear the words addressed to Lazarus in our own lives: *Come forward! Untie him/her!*

I mentioned at the beginning of the Gospel that I thought a possible title might be *Lazarus sues Jesus*. I was trying to get your attention, but there was a purpose to the thought. Every Wednesday evening before supper, the three priests here at St. Martin's read the Sunday readings together and discuss them from our own views, not so much on how to preach them but rather what they mean to each of us. Perhaps, it was the Holy Spirit, but we get talking about perhaps Lazarus was already in heaven, seeing God face to face. If he was, he was having a joy and happiness beyond description and then was pulled back to life by the power of Christ to bring comfort to his sisters.

I have read, as I am sure many of you have, about near death experiences where a person is clinically dead. Some report actually seeing their families crying and the doctors working on their bodies. Some talk about moving toward a glorious light and deep sense of peace. Many say they did not want to come back because they had such serenity. A few years ago, there was a best-selling book entitled *Proof of Heaven* by Doctor Eben Alexander, a brain surgeon, who was in such a deep coma for several weeks that doctors said he was all but brain dead. The X rays showed part of his brain to be dead. Alexander writes about this period as a time when he journeys in the afterlife and experiences the wonders of God. Dr. Alexander who was not an overly religious person before this experience, reported that he had a profound experience of the afterlife and God. A friend of mine told me a story about her friend who had a such a near death experience while serving in the Army in Vietnam. He told her that because of what he experienced, he would never be afraid to die.

Did Lazarus want to come back from the grave? I am kidding when I wonder about his hiring a lawyer to sue Jesus. I have been with dying people who wanted to go home to God, but also felt so torn seeing the pain in their families that made them want to stay alive. I do not know the answer as to what Lazarus felt during the time his body was in the tomb. Where was his spirit? What I **am** sure of is that he never again had the faintest fear of dying. Jesus is the Lord of Life!

Father Pat Woods, CSSR
woodscsr@aol.com website: smtbethpage.org

In the back of our church, on the wall near the Sunday sacristy is a wooden plaque with the words as noted below. I wish I had made the words darker when I had it made since it is not so easy to read. Next to it is a picture of Jesus mounting a donkey at a little village outside of Jerusalem. It was from this little town, Jesus began his Palm Sunday journey into Jerusalem. We always read this Gospel on Palm Sunday and our town of our parish (although spelled with an added *h*) is mentioned. I am touched by this scriptural mention of our town.



In 1695, Thomas Powell bought about 10,000 acres (40 km²) from local Indian tribes. Powell called his land Bethphage, because it was situated between two other places on Long Island, Jericho and Jerusalem, just as the biblical town of Bethphage (meaning "house of figs") was situated between Jericho and Jerusalem. Today, the Long Island town formerly called Jerusalem is known as Wantagh and Island Trees, while the town of Jericho is unaltered.

*Jesus proceeded on his journey up to Jerusalem. As he drew near to **Bethphage** and Bethany at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples. He said, "Go into the village opposite you, and as you enter it you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. So they brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks over the colt, and helped Jesus to mount.*

As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road; and now as he was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen. They proclaimed: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest." Luke 19: 28-40

May the parishioners of St. Martin of Tours in Bethpage by their words and actions, boldly proclaim:
"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest."

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).

P

alm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified.

Palm Sunday is known as such because the faithful will often receive palm fronds which they use to participate in the reenactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect.

Palm branches are widely recognized symbol of peace and victory, hence their preferred use on Palm Sunday. The use of a donkey instead of a horse is highly symbolic, as it represents the humble arrival of someone in peace, as opposed to arriving on a steed in war. A week later, Christ would rise from the dead on the first Easter.



 **Something is
B R E W I N G...
so save the dates!!**

**SMT COFFEE HOUSE
NIGHTS**

SAINT ALPHONSUS HALL

**FRIDAY, JUNE 9th &
SATURDAY, JUNE 10th
8:00PM BOTH NIGHTS**

**Mellow music from the 60s to the
present in a relaxed coffee house
setting featuring select vocalists
and instrumentalists!**

**50/50 RAFFLE
FREE WILL DONATION**

**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.

**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. **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**



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



Upcoming Edge Events: 7:00 - 8:30PM in the OLPH Youth Center
3/30 is 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.

FOR HELP IN A CRISIS PREGNANCY

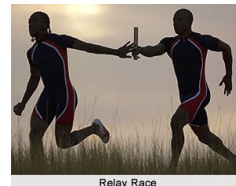
Call Diana Hart Mirando (C) 830-5077 (H) 605-1979

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 9th



Relay Race

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.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

SENATE ADVANCES PRO-LIFE MEASURE

Washington D.C., Mar. 30, 2017, (CNA/EWTN NEWS): Vice President Mike Pence cast the deciding vote in the Senate to advance a measure allowing states to once more have the freedom to avoid funding PLANNED PARENTHOOD clinics with federal FAMILY PLANNING grants. The vote was "a victory for all Americans who don't want to see their TAX DOLLARS SUBSIDIZING THE ABORTION INDUSTRY and it's ghoulish trafficking in aborted baby's organs," Maureen Ferguson, senior policy advisor with the CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION, stated.

At issue is a rule created by the Obama administration last December which forbade states to withhold TITLE X FAMILY PLANNING grants to PLANNED PARENTHOOD clinics on account of the fact that they perform abortions. States had been instead looking to fund other health clinics. Last week, the Senate was voting to advance a joint resolution of disapproval that already passed the House. It would cancel the HHS rule. With Republican Sens. Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) and Susan Collins (Maine) joining Democrats in opposing the repeal, the vote was evenly divided 50 - 50 before Pence broke the tie and voted for its advancement. It was the FIRST ABORTION-RELATED VOTE in the 'Senate since 2015, according the pro-life group Susan B Anthony List.

According to PLANNED PARENTHOOD'S most recent fiscal year report from 2014 - 15, the organization performed over 323,999 annual abortions. It received over \$550 million in federal, state, and local funds in that year, or "government health services grants & reimbursements. The organization has drawn controversy for its role in the trade of fetal body parts from aborted babies, obtained by tissue harvesters and ultimately used for purposes like medical research. In some cases in Nebraska and New York, public funds including Medicaid reimbursements had paid for abortion-related claims and services at Planned Parenthood clinics, according to audits.

States should be free to disperse Title X Funds to clinics they believe provide true health care, especially in light of Planned Parenthood's recent controversies, insisted Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of the pro-life Susan B Anthony List. If the resolution is passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump, it would "UNDO former President Obama's parting gift to the abortion industry," she stated. (excerpts from www.catholicnewsagency.com. EWTN NEWS:) for more information on this subject.

A PRAYER FOR PALM SUNDAY



Almighty God, on this day your Son Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed King by those who spread garments and palm branches along his way. Let those branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our Lord, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life. In his name we pray. Amen.

The Respect Life Committee of St. Martin's would like to wish you all the most blessed Palm Sunday. Peace, Love, Prayer.

HOLY PICTURES OF THE SAINTS CANDLE REMEMBRANCES



Requests are being taken 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 next 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 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!

SMT REGULAR BOOK CLUB

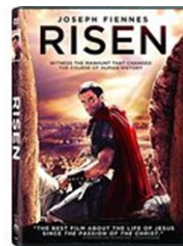
"A Man Called Ove: A Novel May 5, 2015" by Fredrik Backman. Discussion will be on **Friday, April 21st at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall.** (Resources: Amazon: paperback \$9.97 - \$16.00. More buying choices: \$5.60 - 103 used & new offers. Kindle \$11.99)



"Risen" - A movie to be shown on April 9th

Since there will be no performance of the Living Stations on Palm Sunday evening this year, we will show ***Risen at 7:00PM in St. Alphonsus Hall on Palm Sunday.*** Snacks and drinks are welcome (sugar free ones!)

The first forty days after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is told through the eyes of an agnostic Roman Centurion. Pontius Pilate has commissioned him to investigate rumors of a risen Jewish Messiah. He must find the missing deceased body of Jesus of Nazareth in order to subdue an imminent uprising in Jerusalem. During the Centurion's mission, his doubts of such a supernatural occurrence peel away as he encounters the Apostles and other historic biblical characters and bears witness to the legendary storied events that followed the Resurrection. A great mystery unfolds during the Centurion's quest to find the body and he is deeply affected by his first-person investigation, as his previous beliefs on the matter are forever altered based on what he's now witnessed.



PG-13 (for Biblical violence including some disturbing images) 107 minutes



**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!



I want to express special thanks to Joanne Veltri and her team of St. Clement Bakers who provided wonderful breakfast cakes for our parish assembly last Saturday. They also baked for the recent parish pancake breakfast.

This ministry bakes cakes for every family who goes through St. Martin's for the funeral mass of a loved one. These bakers are so very generous with their time, talent, and treasure.

I also give a special thanks to Ed and Sarah Indelicato who prepared and served coffee at these two events as well as at the ALPHA meeting.

They too are so very generous in sharing themselves to assist the parish in its mission of building community to make Christ present.

- Father Pat

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.

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

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

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.wwme.org>**



**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.**

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)



UPCOMING EVENTS



- Apr 9: The movie "Risen" will be shown at 7PM in St. Alphonsus Hall
- Apr 10: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- 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 (details page 9)