

**Masses For The Week**

**Monday - June 26**

6:30 Alma Nitti  
9:00 Father's Day Novena

**Tuesday - June 27**

6:30 Louise Hussey  
9:00 Father's Day Novena

**Wednesday - June 28**

6:30 The Masino Family  
9:00 Father's Day Novena

**Thursday - June 29 - Saints Peter & Paul Apostles**

6:30 Pauline Maggi  
9:00 Francis Donohue

**Friday - June 30**

6:30 William Ballatore  
9:00 Marie Caufield

**Saturday - July 1**

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS  
5:00 Catherine & Vincent DeMieri & Family  
7:00 Lawrence & Rose Territo

**Sunday - July 2**

7:00 The People of the Parish  
8:30 Raymond Godek  
10:00 Norma Sunar  
11:30 Vincent Cesareo  
1:00 Anna Foligno  
5:30 Connie Brauer

**Readings For The Week**

Mon. Genesis 12:1-9; Matthew 7:1-5  
Tues. Genesis 13:2, 5-8; Matthew 7:6, 12-14  
Wed. Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Matthew 7:15-20  
Thurs. Acts 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19  
Fri. Genesis 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Matthew 8:1-4  
Sat. Genesis 18:1-15; Matthew 8:5-17  
**Sun. 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a** *A woman of influence provided a room for Elisha. In gratitude, he promised the woman, who had no child, that within a year she would bear a baby boy.*

**Romans 6:3-4, 8-11** *As Jesus conquered sin through death and resurrection, so his faithful have died to sin and come alive in God through baptism.*

**Matthew 10:37-42** *Jesus told his apostles that people who seek only themselves come to ruin. Those who deny themselves for his sake discover themselves. Those who welcome prophets receive great rewards; those who welcome holy persons welcome the Lord.*

**Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift**

**Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00**  
**Weekly for 6/18/17: \$16,205.17**

*Thank you for your generosity to SMT Parish!*

**Reflection & Living Stewardship**

The Psalmist assures us that "the Lord hears the poor." Often, however, He answers their needs through the generous gifts of good stewards.

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who embrace Jesus' teaching that caring for the needs of the poor is to serve Christ Himself.



**Divine Mercy Novena**

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

**Charismatic Prayer Group**

**What difference can I make?**

I'm just one person. I'm not rich or famous. How can I make a difference? God wills for each of us to accomplish great things according to His plan. Einstein was 1 person. Alexander Graham Bell was 1 person. Columbus was 1 person. The Blessed Virgin Mary was 1 person. They all had dreams, goals, visions. What will God use YOU for if you give Him the chance?

**Our next meeting is Monday, June 26th at 7:30PM in the Church. Be a friend - bring a friend. Call 516-993-9672 for more information and prayer requests.**

**Congratulations to our H.O.P. Club Winners**

6/19/17	#186	Henry J. Dolan	\$25
6/20/17	#525	Joan Ferraro	\$25
6/21/17	#547	The McKenna Family	\$25
6/22/17	#201	Dorothy DeStefano	\$25
6/23/17	#136	William & Marie Dorsch	\$50

### Wedding Banns

3rd Jonathan LaValle & Jeanne O'Brien

1st Scott Benjes & Lauren Andrews



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

This week the Pantry could use sweet cereal, pancake mix, eggs noodles, canned potatoes, chili, beef stew, pasta sauce, tomato soup, vegetable soup, mixed fruit, canned pears and peaches, coffee, Jell-O, pudding, boxed milk, icing and mayonnaise. **We are inundated with string beans and pasta so please do not bring those until further notice.** Also please do not drop off clothes at the Pantry as St. Vincent de Paul has a bin across the street. We are so grateful for all that you do to help those in need.

#### 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 June 25 - July 1, 2017*  
*In Loving Memory of*  
*Bernie Lavin*

### *Sanctuary Candle*

*Week of June 25 - July 1, 2017*

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Patsy Carni*



### *Rest in Peace*

**Acts 7:49:**

***"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."***

Marie Fonzoni, Marion F. Cairo

**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  
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, Michael Arato, Elizabeth Ryan, Tom Doty  
Connie Burgess, Dolores Miller, Susan Carroll-Goyan  
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  
Nicole Carbone, Little Sonny D'Ambrosio, Barbara Rusch  
Beverly Viselli, Casey, Betty Maggi, 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  
Declan McCollough, Pat James Joseph, David Iovieno  
Pasqua Giannuzzi, Robert Daniel, Kurt Hamilton  
Dorothy Eisenstadt, David Drohan, Martin Lee, Ralph Caputo  
Kristen Smith, Michael Vigotty, Vinny Vanturini, Tom Mitchell  
Pat Murphy, Tarabokija Family, Philip Marin, Henry Hamilton  
Libia & Maria Teresa Valdez, Nancy Gerace, Chris Spinoso  
Glenn Clentes, Jim Moran, Robert Collelouri, Arthur Baudo  
Kathy Smith, Jenna Black, Baby Grayson, Veronica McCarthy-Pigott  
Unborn Identical Twins, Joann Bruno Janine, Mary Jedlicka  
Lisa Lazzara, Pete Moran, Bernard Kelly Kathryn Basso  
Brian John Roe III, Ann Hughes, The Kloos Family, Patricia Olive  
Jerry Vega, John Bunker

## Pastor's Letter



*Praising the Lord!*



**Father Pat, Matt & Tricia**

My first assignment as a Redemptorist was to teach English at what was then our High School Seminary. So I spent my first ten years of priesthood teaching high school boys, coaching sports, directing plays, and playing sports with the students. I came to know the young men well, was somewhat in touch with their music and interests, and, while at times having my patience tried, cared very much about the young men. I also developed a pretty good knack for giving high school retreats to students from other schools and parishes.

Once a priest friend of mine had to give a retreat to a group of eighth graders, and he asked me if I had any ideas of what he might do. I gave him a retreat program I created that I liked, and it included several popular songs that the kids were listening at the time. He did the retreat and told me it went well. Several years later, I was invited to give a retreat to high school juniors. I pretty much gave the same retreat program that I had given to my friend. Well, after concluding the first song and talk, the kids informed me, "We already had this retreat when we were in the eighth grade! You stole it from Father McGowan!" Now, I was left to face 50 teenagers with nothing to say since all that I had prepared they heard already. **And**, they thought I stole the retreat from Father John! That was the beginning of my downfall with youth.

Several years later, I was here at St. Martin's giving a parish mission. Deacon Jim Biggin asked me if I would give a talk to some of the children in religious education. I agreed, figuring I would talk to ten or so students in Church for a few minutes. Quite to my stunned surprise, I found myself in the parish auditorium with 500 students, from first through eighth grade. Deacon Jim said to me, "*Father, they are all yours for the next hour.*" The next hour! Before that day, my hair was a nice brown, and now you see what resulted.

The last story of my youth work was on another parish mission. I had been asked to speak to the Confirmation Class for about 40 minutes. I thought I would focus on saints since the young people would have chosen a saint's name for their Confirmation. I asked them who were some of their heroes. Naturally, I was greeted with dead silence until one young lady said Leonardo DiCaprio. At the time, the movie *Titanic* had just come out in the theatres. I asked her why she chose Leonardo. She said because he was hot. The whole church broke into clapping and laughing. I thought I would try to be funny by saying that the last time I saw him he looked frozen. The young ladies booed me!

So, I then called on a young man to ask him the name of the saint he chose for his Confirmation. He responded with the classic, *I don't know*. So, I asked him if he could tell me any saint he liked. He said he didn't know the name of any saints. Since the Church was named St. Peter's, I asked him what was the name of the parish church that we were in at that very moment. I received my third *I don't know*. I began to believe my days of being successful in youth ministry were in serious decline.

I tell you those stories because I just attended the four-day Life Teen Youth Minister Training Conference in Arizona. More than seven hundred youth ministers were on fire with their ministries of working with the youth. Now, when I was invited to go to the conference, I said no because it was too expensive for me. Tricia, our youth minister said, *Well, the whole conference is free, even the plane fare for a priest who has never gone before.* So, I thought to myself, the weather would be nice in Arizona, the hotel had a nice pool and beautiful rooms, I could turn it into a mini-vacation. Well, the first talk was at 7:30AM each day, and the day ended around 9:30PM each evening. My vacation plans were ruined!

However, the Holy Spirit always surprises us since it was for me a very spiritual and joyful time:

- I heard great talks by men and women who were so very committed to ministering to young people.
- We had fabulous and moving liturgies with dynamic music.
- More than thirty priests celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for well over an hour.
- The Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was so very moving. There was a profound sense of awe and wonder that God has chosen to be with us always in his Body and Blood on the altar at Mass, in Holy Communion, and in the Tabernacles of our churches.

As we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi, I experienced the Body of Christ not only in the Sacred Eucharist, but in the witness of the worshippers. What a gift God has given us in the Eucharist: he has given us himself!

Two thoughts are very much with me. The first point that was on my mind is if you help even one person, be it a teen, a child, or an adult, you are doing God's work. We touch people with God's love one by one. Success is not measured by great numbers but by caring for one person at a time. One speaker said that there is a great deal of pressure on teens. He said most adults laugh at that idea since adults must pay bills, work more than 40 hours a week, care for a home, and raise families. What pressure could a teen possibly feel? He went on to say that many teens never feel very important to the people in their lives. Their parents, their teachers, their coaches feel that the teens are not doing all they can to succeed. They often are left feeling the adult world neither understands or is content with them. Young people worry a great deal about having friends and being accepted. Social media has added to this pressure. He wondered if adults tell the kids that they are loved.

So, to the young here in our parish, I will tell you that I do not always understand you, *but* I do care about you and love you. Far better than that, though, is the truth of our faith: Jesus loves you so much that he wants to be with you in the gift of himself in Holy Communion. You are precious in his sight!

**Father Patrick Woods, CSsR, Pastor**  
**woodscsr@aol.com      www.smtbethpage.org**

Thank you for your prayers for those thirty people who made the ALPHA retreat at Our Lady of the Island last Saturday. It was a very Holy Spirit filled day. The parish will soon be setting a date for our next ALPHA program.



**Congratulations to our graduating Seniors! May God continue to bless you as you move on to accomplishing your dreams. You are always in our prayers.**

**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 our Core Teams or just remembering to keep us in your prayers.

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.

## SMT Summer Bible Camp Registration Form

Monday, August 14 to Friday, August 18, 2017



All forms must be returned to the parish rectory office no later than Wednesday, July 19, 2017 so that we have adequate time to order tee shirts for the children and camp staff volunteers.

The children will enjoy arts & crafts, games, videos, prayer time, Bible time and snacks.

**Morning Session:** 9:30AM to 12:00PM Children between ages 5 & 8  
**Evening Session:** 6:30PM to 8:30PM Children between ages 9 & 12  
**Cost:** \$25.00 for one child  
\$40.00 for two children from the same family  
\$50 for three or more children from the same family

**NAME & AGE OF CHILD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME & AGE OF CHILD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME & AGE OF CHILD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Parent/Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Numbers:** Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tee Shirt sizes and how many:**

**Child:** small \_\_\_\_\_ medium \_\_\_\_\_ large \_\_\_\_\_ x-large \_\_\_\_\_  
**Adult:** small \_\_\_\_\_ medium \_\_\_\_\_ large \_\_\_\_\_ x-large \_\_\_\_\_

## Parish Block Party

This year our Annual Parish Picnic Block Party will be held on Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.  
More information to come!!

**Save  
the  
Date**



### **THE MEN'S CLUB**

St. Martin's Men's Club will be meeting on *Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM in St. Alphonsus Hall.* All men ages 18 and over are welcome.

## St. Martin of Tours BLOOD DRIVE Wednesday, July 19, 2017

2:30pm - 8:30pm St. Alphonsus Hall 38 Seaman Avenue, Bethpage

The summer months have always proved to have low supplies of blood. We are hoping for 50 pints which will save many lives. Please donate if you meet all donor requirements. Thank you!

**ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE A \$5 McDONALD'S COUPON**

#### Donor Requirements:

Bring valid ID

Age Requirements: 16-75 (over 75 need to have a doctors note)

Minimum weight 110 lbs

Eat well & drink fluids before donating

No new tattoos for the past 12 months.

For questions regarding medical eligibility, call (800) 688-0900.  
To schedule an appointment, please call the Rectory Office at 516-931-0818.

 **New York** Blood Center

## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

### LIFE CENTER BABY SHOWER 2017

For 14 years, the Life Center of Long Island has had baby donations from St. Martin's fill the shelves of their Pregnancy Center in Deer Park. In the early years, Jerry and I would take the items from the Gathering Place after each Mass, and drive it back to our house, where it would fill a 16 x 20 room. (Hip high). That was the response we had from the very beginning. Then, the Monday morning after the Shower, we would get a few Respect Life Committee members, fill their cars, and drive it out to Deer Park. Just a few years ago, there were 6 cars, (like a caravan) following each other down Sunrise Hwy. Then, our Spiritual Advisor, Father Henry, came up with the idea of renting a truck to haul it out all at once. We rented a 17 foot truck, filled it to capacity, and Father drove it out there. The following year, Father Henry left us, and Jerry took the wheel.

This year, Jerry rented a 24 foot truck. When he pulled it up, I said, "Are you kidding? We are never going to fill this truck!" But, you fooled me! St. Martin's you filled it, every inch of it, hip high! Our committee members were there at each Mass to help carry all those packages to the truck - car seats, pack and play, diapers, formula, cribs, beds, hand crocheted baby items made with such love. On and on....smile after smile, you reached out to a young mother and her baby, to make it easier for her, to show you care.

Father Pat, as usual, came to support us. His heart has always reached out to us as we try to make a difference in this battle for Life in America. Any time our Committee asked for help or advice, he was there to give it. This year, he came over to us and gave a separate donation to the Life Center from the Redemptorists. Our thanks to him, to our Respect Life Committee and to Genny, who posts everything for us. Each year, our parish family grows older, some move away, and others may not be able to afford, or to be able to purchase a baby item for our Shower. Each year, I think the gifts will be less. But, St. Martin's, you have NEVER, STOPPED THE CHAIN OF DONATED, BOUGHT, OR MADE ITEMS FOR THESE BABIES! YOU ARE INCREDIBLE!

Having been in this battle since 1973 for the SANCTITY OF LIFE, we have seen the devotion, caring, sharing and love for women in the midst of a crisis pregnancy. We have seen what kindness can mean to a young woman alone and afraid. We have seen those that come to our Centers for help. We pray that we have the things they need to support her and her child. And so, ST. MARTIN'S, you have given her that HOPE. You have given her that SUPPORT. You have reached out and given her the knowledge that YOU CARE! YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL!

So, we would like to again thank all our priests, Fathers Pat, Jim and Ciya, Deacon Tom, Nicky and Sue that always help us along our way. Both Jerry and I, and the LIFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND, would like to THANK YOU, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS. THERE WILL BE TWO POSTERS IN THE GATHERING PLACE IN THE COMING WEEKS. ONE FOR THE TOTAL SUM FROM THE BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN 2016 WHICH TOPPED \$13,000. AND PICTURES OF AS MANY OF YOU AS I COULD CATCH DONATING THE BABY THINGS.

**My Father's House Presents The Holy Shroud of Turin Retreat: "Encountering Jesus in His Holy Shroud"** presented by Donald Nohs, President of the Society of the Holy Face of Jesus, Member of the Confraternity of the Passion and known as The Apostle of the Holy Shroud.

**Details are as follows:**

Saturday July 8, 2017 from 7:30AM to 4PM. Address: My Father's House, 39 N. Moodus Rd., Moodus CT 06469. Registration & Information call (860) 873-1906 or visit <https://www.myfathershousect.org>. Breakfast and Lunch concession on site. If interested, we also have flyers with complete information on the information table in the gathering space.

## UNITED VETERANS BEACON HOUSE, INC.

1715 Union Blvd, Bay Shore, NY 11706 ~ PH 631-665-1571 ~ Fax 631-665-1578 ~ [www.UVBH.com](http://www.UVBH.com)



May 31, 2017

Pastor  
Ms. Rosalie Malerba  
St. Martin of Tours  
80 Seamen Road  
Bethpage, NY 11714

Re: Donation of \$2874 (*gift cards, checks & cash*) and new linens

Dear Pastor, Rosalie and the members of the congregation,

On behalf of the veterans we serve, I would like to sincerely thank you for your generous gift. It touches our hearts to know the needs of veterans in crisis are important to you and you hold a Memorial Day Drive in their honor each year. This year we plan to offer critical advocacy services to more than 1,000 United States veterans in crisis. Because of your generosity, these veterans will experience support, hope and the promise of a bright future.

While we are extremely proud to have provided hope & specialized housing and services to more than 11,000 veterans in our 23-year history, we know it would not be possible without the help of people like you. Each and every gift we receive truly makes a difference to the life of a veteran. It is evident in the small things – like watching our veterans enjoy a fun afternoon with their peers at our annual BBQ – and in the larger things, like the look of comfort on the faces of the 550 veterans we gave a shelter to this year and the sense of accomplishment in the eyes of the 85 veterans we helped secure sustainable employment over the last 10 months.

While it is heartbreaking to think that thousands of veterans are homeless, many estranged from their families and suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries, we take comfort in the fact that since 1994, we have provided a voice in the system to guide these men & women restoring their sense of self-worth and dignity.

Again, we'd like to thank you and the community members for your donations, we cherish your continued support and generosity. We appreciate your belief in our work and your dedication to our nation's heroes. Together we are making a significant impact on the lives of Long Island's most vulnerable residents.

Sincerely,

Frank Amalfitano  
President/CEO

Like us and share our page on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/UnitedVeteransBeaconHouse](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedVeteransBeaconHouse)

### SMT Regular Book Club - Friday, July 28, 2017 @7PM St. Alphonsus Hall The Time Keeper by Mitch Albom

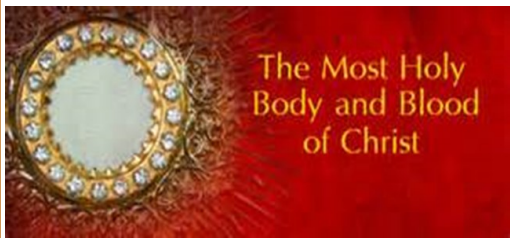
From the author who's inspired millions worldwide with books like *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* comes his most imaginative novel yet, *The Time Keeper*, a compelling fable about the first man on Earth to count the hours. Told in Albom's signature spare, evocative prose, this remarkably original tale will inspire readers everywhere to reconsider their own notions of time, how they spend it, and how precious it truly is.



Father Pat's Homily of June 18, 2017

If you asked me what was the most difficult challenge that I felt as pastor here at St. Martin's, it would not be a leaking roof during a Confirmation Mass that almost drenched the Bishop and had Jim Biggin using towels to dry the floor, or snow on a weekend that created empty pews and empty collection baskets. Certainly, people wearing Yankee apparel at Mass continues to be an ongoing disturbing issue as well as the famous Mass of healing where we accidentally mixed the oil of anointing in bowls that still had Lenten ashes in them. After our holy anointing, we all looked like extras in a horror movie!

In truth, the issue was a very serious and disturbing one - for several weeks, we were occasionally finding Eucharistic hosts in the pews. We could not be sure if they had been consecrated or not, but as I spoke about it at all the Masses, I could see how upsetting this was to all of you as it was to me. We took some steps that seemed to have helped since this serious problem has ceased. Thanks be to God!



Jesus Christ is truly present in the Holy Eucharist, in the consecrated hosts and wine. This is not a symbolic presence to remind us of the Last Supper and one that recalls the last night of Jesus before his death. No, Jesus is present body, soul and divinity in the Holy Eucharist. Jesus Christ is present in the tabernacle and in the hosts that we bring to the infirm and dying. I could offer you a three - dollar word

about *transubstantiation* of the host into Jesus, or speak to you the words of some of the greatest thinkers of the Catholic Church, but I would only make one statement why I believe in the Eucharist - Jesus told us: *This is my Body; This is my Blood which will be given up for you.* He then said, *Do this in memory of me.*

He **told** us. Jesus said to them, *"Truly, truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is real food, and My blood is real drink.* When Jesus said this, many walked away since they could not believe that God could do this. It was too much. *From this time, many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."*

In my readings of the New Testament, the four Gospels, there is no ambiguity about the true presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Our Lord does not say, this is something like my body, a symbol of my body, or a memory or the Last Supper. *This is my Body! This is my Blood! Do this in memory of me. The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood shall live forever.*

We have many funerals and a fair number of weddings here at St. Martin's. The people who attend these celebrations are good people who want to pay respects to the deceased, or celebrate the love of the couple about to exchange their wedding vows. Some are Catholics who may not have received the Eucharist in many years. Others are members of other faith communities, and some may not believe in God. You get a sense of this when you say, *The Lord be with you* and you are met with dead silence, other than the voice of Elena saying and with you. As communion is distributed, and you say *Body of Christ*, the person may smile at you, or do the quick take of the host out of your hand. So, I often make an announcement that goes something like this: *We Catholics respect people of all faiths and traditions, but because of what we believe about the Eucharist, we ask only believing Catholics to come forward to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus.*

Saying this is a bit awkward for me. I feel a bit like I am telling my guests not to eat the food that we are serving. I know that Jesus loves everyone and he wants to bring all people into his love. Some may even be offended and that is not what I intend. Yet, I also know that to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus with no understanding of what we are receiving is not to truly honor the gift that Jesus has given us. No one can ever completely grasp the mystery of the Eucharist. What we ask of a second grader who is about to receive his or her first Communion, is that they recognize that this bread is not ordinary bread but it is Jesus. I also feel a bit of a hypocrite when I announce who might approach the table since I am so very aware of my own sinfulness - the times I struggle with being attentive and focused on mystery, the times that lack of faith enter my heart, the times when I receive without truly appreciating that Jesus is coming into me, those moments when I barely say a devout prayer since I am thinking about what is coming next in the Mass.

Our Church gives us this Feast of Corpus Christi to invite us to truly pause and ponder what it means for God to choose to become present to us in Holy Communion. We are invited to ponder that God is present in a most profound way in every tabernacle of the world. We need days like this. We have Mother's Day and today we mark Father's Day. We love and appreciate our fathers always, but it is important to stop and remind ourselves in a very clear way what a gift God gave us in our fathers. Corpus Christi is like this practice. We seek to always reverence and be ever grateful for Jesus' gift of himself to us in Holy Communion. We pause to strengthen our focus that Jesus is present in a most special way in our tabernacle and that I can visit him and talk to him here.

I like this story very much from a letter Flannery O'Connor, the Southern Catholic writer, sent to a friend describing a now-famous literary gathering in the late 1940s or early 1950s, where Mary McCarthy, the well-known writer and essayist was in attendance:

*"Well, toward morning the conversation turned on the Eucharist, which I, being the Catholic, was obviously supposed to defend. Mary McCarthy said when she was a child and received the Host, she thought of it as the Holy Ghost, He being the 'most portable' person of the Trinity; now she thought of it as a symbol and implied that it was a pretty good one. I then said, in a very shaky voice, 'Well, if it's a symbol, to hell with it!' That was all the defense I was capable of but I realize now that this is all I will ever be able to say about it, outside of a story, except that it is the center of existence for me; all the rest of life is expendable."*



During the week leading up to the Feast of Corpus Christi, the Blessed Sacrament was in the Monstrance in front of the Tabernacle in the prayer area between 4:00PM and 7:00PM. From your visits to the chapel, it seemed that we had a pretty good response during these periods of adoration.

I have the thought of making this a regular practice on Fridays, but I want to get a sense if there would be parishioners interested in spending some time in front of the Blessed Sacrament. I am reluctant to do this if very few come to be present before Christ throughout much of the time. Let me know by email what you think about this: [woodscsr@aol.com](mailto:woodscsr@aol.com)

**HOLY PICTURES OF THE SAINTS  
CANDLE REMEMBRANCES**



Arrangements can be made at the parish office to have a candle lit for one week. Suggested donation is \$20. The name of the person will be placed in front of the saint's picture of your choosing - St. Anne, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Jude, St. Peregrine or St. Therese of Lisieux. Please see p. 14 for the list of names for this week. God bless and be with each and every one.

**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**

**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.

**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**

**Come and celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Charismatic Renewal in our Catholic Church. The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will be held in Scranton, Pennsylvania at Scranton University.**

**Conference dates are August 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Our Jubilee Theme will be, "All were filled with the Holy Spirit" Acts 2:4**

**No need to make hotel reservations or worry about meals. The Conference is held at the university and all accommodations and meals are on campus. For additional information please call the Scranton Charismatic Renewal Office (570) 344-2214.**

**PLEASE NOTE: The next Padre Pio Holy hour will be Tuesday, September 19th at 7:00PM. There are no meetings for July and August. Thank you so much!**

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  
 PFC Clint Applegate, US Army




Coffee Sunday is the 4th Sunday of the month & begins after the 8:30AM Mass and ends after the 11:30AM Mass.


Come and enjoy a cup with friends after Mass!




Caption One: Who is that fellow with Father Pat?  
 Caption Two: Holy Father, why **not** ordain Marliese?  
 Caption Three: Holy Father, will the Jets ever win a Super Bowl?????




June 23 - 29, 2017  
A candle has been lit for  
Patricia Astegher  
in honor of St. Jude




June 23 - 29, 2017  
A candle has been lit  
The Burich Family  
in honor of St. Anthony of Padua



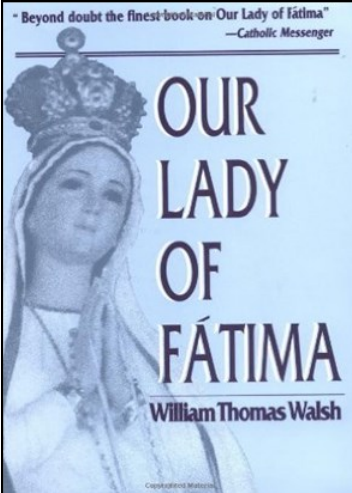
June 23 - 29, 2017  
A candle has been lit for  
Marie & Tom Mascia  
in honor of St. Peregrine



June 23 - 29, 2017  
A candle has been lit for  
Frances A. Jauregui  
in honor of St. Anne



June 23 - 29, 2017  
A candle has been lit for  
Michele Reagan  
in honor of St. Therese of Lisieux




**SPIRITUAL BOOK CLUB**  
**DATE & TIME CHANGED FROM FRIDAY TO**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2017 at 10AM ST. ALPHONSUS HALL**

Our next book will be *Our Lady of Fatima* by William Thomas Walsh. I thought this book appropriate since this is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the appearances of the Blessed Mother at Fatima. It was written in 1954 and is consider the classic account of Fatima. It is available on Amazon.

**Paperback**  
**\$12.67**  
**22 Used from \$6.49 - New from \$8.67**

**The Youth Ministry** would like to thank so many of you who contributed clothing, shoes, stuffed animals, and toys. Look for next week's bulletin for the dollar amount we made from the weigh-in of scores of bags.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- June 25: Coffee Sunday - begins after the 8:30 Mass & ends after the 11:30 Mass
- June 26: Charismatic Prayer Group 7:30PM Church
- June 27: Men's Club 7:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- July 1: First Saturday Devotions 8:30AM Church
- July 7: First Friday Devotions 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- July 19: Blood Drive 2:30-8:30PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- July 22: Spiritual Book Club: Our Lady of Fatima 10AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- July 28: SMT Book Club: The Time Keeper 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Aug 14 - 18: Bible Camp
- Aug 25: Parish Picnic & Block Party

