

Masses For The Week

Monday - September 18

6:30 Nancy Lucey
9:00 Ambrose & Elizabeth Hoolahan

Tuesday - September 19

6:30 Frank Dillon
9:00 Charles (Chip) A. Harvey

Wednesday - September 20

6:30 Living & Deceased Members of the Ruff Family
9:00 Hedwig & Anthony Segretto

Thursday - September 21 - St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

6:30 In Thanksgiving for the Members of 6:30AM Mass
9:00 Margaret Lannon

Friday - September 22

6:30 Living & Deceased Members of the Bassano Family
9:00 Michele Rita Barone

Saturday - September 23

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
5:00 Jean Messano
7:00 Giacomo Bologna

Sunday - September 24

7:00 The People of the Parish
8:30 Dolores Lordahl
10:00 Kitty Principe
11:30 James Joseph O'Connor
1:00 Leahy & Cahillane Families
5:30 Michele Rita Barone

Readings For The Week

Mon. 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 7:1-10
Tues. 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17
Wed. 1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35
Thurs. Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13
Fri. 1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3
Sat. 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Luke 8:4-15
Sun. *Isaiah 55:6-9* Isaiah prophesied, "See the Lord while he may be found; call him while he is near...My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord."

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a Paul wrote, "Life is Christ, and death is gain...I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ."

Matthew 20:1-16a Jesus told the parable about the vineyard owner who hired workers at different times of the day and paid them all the same amount at the end of the day. The owner concluded, "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?" Jesus added, "The last will be first and the first last."

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00
Weekly for 9/3/17: \$16,562.17
Catholic University: \$3,106.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship

Stewardship is not optional! "None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master," says St. Paul. "While we live we are responsible to the Lord, and when we die, we die as his servants."

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish whose giving - whether of alms or of service - will be an expression of gratitude for what the Father has given them.



Divine Mercy Novena

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

Charismatic Prayer Group

Your name, your identity - how many names do you have? There's your given name, married name, nickname, maybe a team name or a stage name. Maybe you have a special name like Mom, Dad, Grandma or Grandpa. Maybe you have a title before your name or a degree after it. No matter how many names you have, Jesus has more. How many can you remember before you Google it? One thing is for sure, Jesus is the NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES!! What's your favorite name for Jesus? Come tell us at our next meeting. We have a seat with YOUR NAME on it! **Next meeting is Monday, September 18th at 7PM in the Church. Be a friend - bring a friend. Call 516-993-9672 for more information and prayer requests.**

Congratulations to ALL H.O.P. Club Winners

9/11/17 #637	Cheryl & John Sullivan	\$25
9/12/17 #46	Bob & Pat Astarita	\$25
9/13/17 #309	Paul Ciaramella	\$25
9/14/17 #166	Adelaide Motta	\$25
9/15/17 #468	Marylou Connolly	\$250



"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, boxed potatoes, chili, beef stew, tuna, pasta sauce, tomato paste, tomato sauce, mixed fruit, apple sauce, vegetable soup, mayonnaise, oil, brownies, boxed milk, Jell-O, pudding, paper towels, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper.

We do not need string beans or boxed rice as we have plenty of that on hand. Thank you for your generosity to 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 September 17 - 23, 2017

In Loving Memory of
Connie & Michael Maggio
& Family



Sanctuary Candle
Week of September 17 - 23, 2017

In Loving Memory of
Stephen Marano

Rest in Peace

Acts 7:49:

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Arlene L. Neff, John Edward Minett

Thomas Francis Pendl

Gamillo Ficalora

Joseph Bolettieri, Matthew J. Herzog



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 Morrone, Mary Henson, Mary Lynn Brassil 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, 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, 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 Jo Ann Anastos, Michael Arato, Chris Mitchell, Elizabeth Ryan Connie Burgess, Dolores Miller, Susan Carroll-Goyan Patty & Tom Turano, Layla Barr, Nicholas Amato, Jesusa Aquin Joseph McCroary, Richard Graziano, Jean Mulligan, Ann Adams Geraldine Zeterberg, Edward Boyce, Fran Gandolfo, Taylor Fr. Edmund Faliskie CSSR, Tom Doty, Terrence Lynam Joseph Kostyak, Johnny D., William Castle, Anthony Morello Anthony Krich, Aida Gilday Candy DeVita, Frank Ballatore, Jr. Anthony Della Croce, Nicole Carbone, Little Sonny D'Ambrosio Barbara Rusch, Beverly Viselli, Casey, 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 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 Marino, Henry Hamilton, Joann Bruno Libia & Maria Teresa Valdez, Nancy Gerace, Jim Moran Robert Collelouri Arthur Baudo, Kathy Smith, Jenna Black Baby Grayson, Kathryn Basso, Veronica McCarthy-Pigott Unborn Identical Twins, Anthony Hanlon Janine, Mary Jedlicka, Lisa Lazzara, Pete Moran, Bernard Kelly Brian John Roe III, Ann Hughes, The Kloos Family, Patricia Olive Jerry Vega, John Bunker, Jacklyn Baddalucco, Yolanda Zitelli Rose Marie Gaccione, Filomena Rosa, Andrew Bartolozzi Kayden Urbanic, Pat Bergersen, Robert, Amy & Richard Ferranti Joseph V. Pace, Jr., Justin Turner, Christopher Hehn

Pastor's Letter

Jesus said to his disciples: "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him / her alone. If he / she listens to you, you have won over your brother or sister.

If he / she does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he / she refuses to listen to them, tell the church.

If he / she refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him / her as you would a Gentile or a tax collector.

Matthew 18

Those of us who lived through those dark days of September 11th and the weeks and months that followed, carry very strong memories that will never leave our minds and hearts until we ourselves go home to God. If you lost a family member or friend, then your sense of loss and pain echoes very much in the core of your being. On that tragic day, I remember going to a local hospital in Brooklyn to donate blood. In front of the emergency room were rows of doctors and nurses in their scrubs, awaiting victims who never came since the death toll was so overwhelming with almost every victim dead rather than injured. I was told to go to another hospital in Brooklyn that was seeking blood. When I got there, I was turned away since they already had too many volunteers. I rode the bus to go home from downtown Brooklyn and saw many people on the bus who had walked over the Brooklyn Bridge. They were covered with dust and ashes. Like everyone else, I wanted to see how my family was doing and if everyone was safe since I had many cousins who worked in downtown New York, and others who were first responders. We gathered at my sister's house and found that everyone we knew was okay. Then one of my nephews said, *What about Michael?* Michael was my cousin of whom I had recently baptized his newborn daughter. Michael worked at Cantor Fitzgerald and eventually we came to know he had gone home to the Lord.

If there was a blessing to that day and time, and it is hard to use the word "blessing" when almost 3,000 people died, it was the outpouring of love and support that flowed all over the world for those who had died, for their families and for our nation. Our political leaders of both parties gathered on the steps of the Capitol, joined hands, and sang *God bless America*. Our churches and synagogues were filled as we sought the grace of God to help us cope. Whether we rushed to Ground Zero, donated clothes, bottled water, gave money, or attended memorial services and funerals, there was a powerful inspiring impulse to help others. We loved one another.

So much has changed since those days sixteen years ago. Certainly, we have witnessed some of that same love as we sought to stand in solidarity with the people impacted by Hurricane Harvey, and the threats of Irma. Our parish donated \$11,000.00 from our second collection last week and from funds generated by our recent block party. Americans are good and loving people.

Still, we are pained by the deep divisions in our country. Congress has its lowest ratings in history and the same is equally true for the president. The only people who seem more to be mistrusted these days than our politicians are the media. The cable networks present various versions of the news that are heavily slanted by their personal views. I believe this to be true for both liberal and conservative networks.

There are college campuses that refuse to allow any opinions expressed which diverge from the thought police of the campus.

Some citizens want to paint our police, who daily put their lives on the line for us, as racists. Immigrants, whether they are legal or illegal, may be becoming pawns between our political parties. Civil discourse and thoughtful conversation have lessened, and there is a growing intolerance toward any opinion that is not the one held by those with whom one disagrees. Even worse, there is tendency to label the person who expressed a contrary opinion as an evil or ignorant person. I think many of us are discouraged by this seeming lack of unity in our nation.

I believe our scriptures challenge us today as we think about where we are as a nation and as individuals. In our first reading today, the prophet Ezekiel is appointed by God to be a watchman for the Jewish people who are living in exile in Babylon. There is the fear that they may lose their faith living among non-Jews. Ezekiel must proclaim that they must be faithful to ways that God has outlined for them. It is not an easy task to stand and challenge others in how they are living and acting. Occasionally, and I am glad it is only rarely, I must address someone who is doing something that I feel needs to be stopped or changed. I find that very difficult as I am sure do most of you do when you are in similar situations. However, I have also discovered by painful experience that failing to address an obvious problem only makes greater challenges for the future.

In our Gospel, Jesus offers a plan on how to address issues in a family, with a friend, in a parish, or neighborhood. Our Lord says first speak to the person alone. If that does not help, then you might involve some other caring people. I think of the idea of an intervention that is sometimes used to help a person address an addiction. If that does not work, try again with a larger group of committed people. Finally, if all else fails, then the person may be asked to step away from the community. I have spoken to parents who have had to use tough love with a son or daughter who was destroying the family. They had to put the person, an older teen or an adult, out of the house. It was devastating but necessary. There are times in a relationship, especially in a marriage, when patterns and issues are developing that bring about anger or resentment. There is tendency in many of us to choose not to rock the boat. Leave well enough alone is our feeling. Yet, there are often times when such an approach eventually leads to an explosive argument that can be brutally painful to both parties. Jesus is telling us to make every effort to stay united to our family, friends, neighbors, and even those we might perceive as enemies. You can see from the Gospel today that our Lord does not tell us to walk away easily from others with whom we struggle. Still, he teaches that sometimes, and only after great effort, that shaking the dust from our feet is the only path that can be followed.

I know a few people who pride themselves on being straight shooters. They are not afraid to say what is on their mind and let you know what they think. God bless them, but they make me a bit nervous. How can they be so sure they are always right is one question that comes to my mind? The other is that some emotions, perhaps anger or jealousy, are driving what they consider their directness. Our second reading from Paul to Romans tells us: *Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.* When we speak what we believe is the truth to another, is it done out of love for the other or is to let go of my anger. If you feel you need to say something challenging to another, are you doing it from a place of love or a place of hurt or resentment. Saint Catherine of Siena, a woman who challenged popes and kings in her time, has said, *Speak the truth in love.* Our second reading concludes: *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law."*

Father Patrick Woods CSSR
woodscsr@aol.com www.smtbethepage.org

Parish Library - The St. Stephen Room

As you may know, St. Alphonsus Hall is used by many groups in the parish. So we plan on having the library open on Sundays during Mass times from 8:00AM to 2:00PM. You can come in through the entrance on Seaman Avenue. If you want to drop by at another time, you are welcome to stop by at the parish office and see if the room is available. There is a sign-in sheet in the library if you choose to take a book home. You can bring the book back and place it on the return table when you have finished it. The same is true for the audio-visuals. We ask that you not bring food or drink into the St. Stephen Room.

We are not looking for books for the library. Please do not drop books off in the room. If you think you have a spiritual book that might be helpful to our parishioners, you can drop it off in the office. However, it may or may not be placed in the library. Happy Reading and may this library, through the inspiration of St. Stephen and through the great witness of our deceased deacons, help deepen our love of the Lord! - Father Pat



Our Kings and Queens of the Order of the Green Thumbs!
We are so thankful for the beautiful care of our grounds by the Garden Committee.
(They also serve great breakfasts!)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED

St. Martin of Tours Religious Education is in need of volunteers to teach children in our program from grades 1 to 8. Please contact Patricia Ryan at pryan@smtbethpage.org or Laura Leigh Agnese at llagnese@smtbethpage.org. Their phone number is 822-9768. They will give you all the information you need to get you started.

A Liturgy for those married 50 Years or more!

Call or come by the rectory (931-0818) to register to attend a liturgy honoring couples married 50 years or more. Choose either Sunday, October 22nd at St. Rose of Lima in Massapequa (registration deadline October 9th) or Sunday, November 19th at Christ the King in Commack (registration deadline November 6th). Both liturgies will begin at 2:30PM.



May 12, 2017

'We are pilgrims with Mary...but which Mary?'

Pope Francis has called faithful to consider in Fatima.

The Holy Father asked this question during his greeting at the Vigil at the Chapel of the Apparitions on the evening of May 12, 2017. The Holy Father also blessed the candles of the chapel dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima. Francis made a two-day Apostolic pilgrimage to the Portuguese town of Fatima, for the centenary of the Marian apparitions. The May 12-13 trip marked his

19th Apostolic Visit and 28th country visited.

In his greeting, Francis called on those present to consider who their Mary is, and stressed that "if we want to be Christian, we must be Marian." No other creature, he underscored, ever basked in the light of God's face as did Mary, noting "she in turn gave a human face to the Son of the eternal Father." In the recitation of the rosary, he said we can contemplate her in the succession of joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious moments of her life. "Each time we recite the rosary, in this holy place or anywhere else, the Gospel enters anew into the life of individuals, families, peoples and the entire world."

In Fatima, Pope Francis led the recitation of the rosary during a Vigil. However, prior to beginning, he invited those present to join him in this moment of prayerful recollection. "Pilgrims with Mary...but which Mary?" Francis called on those gathered to consider. "Do we consider her 'a teacher of the spiritual life,' the first to follow Jesus on the 'narrow way' of the cross by giving us an example, or a Lady 'unapproachable' and impossible to imitate?" To us, is she "a woman 'blessed because she believed' always and everywhere in God's words (cf. Lk 1:42.45), or a 'plaster statue' from whom we beg favors at little cost?" Or is she "the Virgin Mary of the Gospel, venerated by the Church at prayer," or "a Mary of our own making?" Pope Francis, bringing his reflection to a close, prayed: "Hand in hand with the Virgin Mother, and under her watchful gaze, may we come to sing with joy the mercies of the Lord, and cry out: 'My soul sings to you, Lord!'"



Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Friends of the Poor Walk

The Society, through its network of Vincentian volunteers, is pledged to help people who have fallen on hard times. Every dollar raised through the Friends of the Poor Walk will be used in fulfilling the Society's mission of charity right here in St. Martin of Tours.

You can help!

Be a walker, sponsored by your family and friends

Sponsor one of our Vincentian walkers

Come join us - support the Society's charitable mission!

Date: Saturday, September 30, 2017

Where: Bethpage Community Park

Time: Registration at 9:00 AM – Walk begins at 11:00 AM

Brochures to sign up as a walker or contribution slips are located in the Gathering Area.

Please make checks payable to: St. Martin of Tours/SVdP Conference.

On behalf of the Vincentians and the people we serve,
thank you and may God bless you for your generosity!

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



There are events that happen like the assassination of President John F. Kennedy that stay with us for the rest of our lives. We see that black horse with boots placed backwards in the stirrups with no rider, and we hear that constant drumbeat.

So it was on a sunny morning on September 11, 2001, when two planes struck the World Trade Center and changed America forever. Fox News runs a program every year depicting the very first news that a plane had struck the north tower. Viewers were warned against graphic images, and so they were. All of the disbelief at the beginning faded as the acceptance that America had been attacked; killing almost 3,000 people became our new reality. We watched as the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda hijacked four airplanes and carried out suicide attacks in the United States. Two were flown into the twin towers in NYC, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania.

At the World Trade Center, 2,763 died. That figure includes 343 firefighters and paramedics, 23 New York City police officers and 37 Port Authority police officers. At the Pentagon, 189 people were killed, including 64 on American Airlines Flight 77, the airliner that struck the building. On Flight 93, 44 people died when the plane crash landed in Pennsylvania. The passengers rushed the cockpit, when they realized that the plane they were on was a missile headed for another site here in our country. We will always remember the one passenger say, as heard on his cell phone, "Let's roll!"

After a few days, Jerry and I were there, while fire climbed high into the sky, spewing ashes so thick that you could not see very far in front of you. There were sheets and canvases hung everywhere, on fences, anything left in the streets. There were pictures of loved ones, names written with paint or magic marker, asking if anyone had seen them. We will remember forever the desperate faces of those trying to find a trace of hope that someone they loved had survived, was lost, and maybe looking for them too. We will remember that fire rising above the devastation, the ashes that covered our clothes and hair, and praying for those gone, and those that were left behind.

American flags flew on pieces of concrete...on pieces of steel that jutted out of concrete masses that were once a symbol of New York City. And there, as the smoke cleared and the fire began to go out, America came together. Sixteen years later, the Freedom Tower looms upward replacing the Towers that once stood nearby. The Footprints of the Towers, with its water fountains forever flowing, honor those lost, never letting us forget what happened. And on their edge, the names of each life lost on that day in September.

We can all remember that American flags flew on most every house. They hung from bridges, overpasses and sides of buildings. We came together as a people. We honored our heroes and celebrated the fact that we live in a country that celebrates freedom, all freedom. We were colorless, hand in hand, as Americans are, and will always be.

So, sixteen years later, remember to tell your children and your grandchildren, what happened to America on September 11, 2001. Share with them the honor it is to be an American. Tell them how strong we were and are. Take them to the Footprints. Sit on the benches and feel the strength that came about by heroes that have passed or are here with us today. Remember to support our First Responders, as they struggle with health problems as they faithfully tried to recover those lost. Pray for our Military that were deployed to Afghanistan, and fought, and many died to keep our country safe. It has been a long war. We are worn. But keep these young men and women in your prayers each day, as they keep us safe here at home. We are America. God bless her.

Diana Hart Mirando

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS ROSARY CONFRATERNITY
Meeting Tuesday, October 3, 2017

CMRC's October meeting will be held in St. Alphonsus Hall at 7:30PM. Rosary and CMRC prayers will be followed by Investiture of New Members. Our guest speaker is a nutritionist from St. Joseph Hospital. If you would like to become a member, please call Mary Colavolpe at 495-4408. All women are welcome!



First Act of Charity
COMFORT BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS
Friday, September 29th at 7PM-8:30PM
Meet in the School Cafeteria (Emmaus Hall)
Open to all 6th - 12th graders.
If you haven't signed up yet, please email Diana Hughes at
SMT_lifeteen@yahoo.com

Sunday, October 1st is our 1st meeting of all high school teens!
We will meet after the 5:30PM Sunday Mass.
8th Graders are welcome to join us!

TALENT SHOW SIGN UP IS OPEN UNTIL FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th
FOR ALL 6th - 12th GRADERS.
Email Diana Hughes at SMT_lifeteen@yahoo.com

Martin's Men's Group Meeting
Monday, September 25th at 7:30PM
St. Stephen Room at St. Alphonsus Hall

The Men's Group is open to all men 18 years and older. The focus is to reflect on living our lives in the light of our belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. No rules! No fees! No harassment from the pastor!



The Book of Genesis Workshop
Father Jim McCabe, CSSR
7:30-8:30PM - St. Alphonsus Hall
All held on Tuesday Evenings

Father Jim's Genesis Workshop schedule is:

Sep 19 Ch 35-36	Nov 7 Ch 45-46
Sep 26 Ch 37-38	Nov 14 Ch 47-48
Oct 1 Ch 39-40	Nov 21 Ch 49-50
Oct 17 Ch 41-42	Nov 28: Books not
Oct 31 Ch 43-44	included in the Bible

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As I prepared for this homily marking 16 years since the terror attacks on the United States that led to almost 3,000 deaths, I Googled *lessons learned from Sept. 11, 2001*. There were many references that discussed air travel safety, international affairs, communications among first responders, military actions, building safety precautions and so forth. They sounded like good ideas to me and I am sure experts in the various fields have been addressing these issues. So, in turn, I thought about some of the spiritual lessons that I might learn from the day and the days that followed.

The first is obvious. In the Scriptures, we often read, *we do not know the hour or the day*, when we will be called home to God. It was an ordinary day. People were at their desks working as they sipped a morning coffee. Others were flying for business or to meet family. Everyone no doubt had a thousand things to do that day, and a million things on their mind. I wonder if anyone thought this as the day I will die. The Word of God does not tell us to be prepared to go home to God to scare us, but rather to call us to live in a way that there is no unfinished business, no need to forgive someone or to say I am sorry, or I love you. That day taught us that every moment is a gift from God. It taught us that this is the only moment we have, that our lives are fragile. It taught us to consider what is important and what is not important.

Equally Important to the first lesson is that of the gift of faith in God. I often hear people say at times of death, *where would we be without our faith*. We recall people on Flight 93 asking phone operators to lead them in the 23rd Psalm or the *Our Father*. The candles and spontaneous shrines that filled our cities and towns were to me images of prayer. In the darkness and horror, in the moments of desperation and darkness, we most naturally cry out to our God. *Where would we be without our faith?*

Another lesson: I do not think we needed to learn that evil is very real. We know that from history and the news of the day, how bad human beings can treat one another. We think of the practice of slavery or the Holocaust to name but two. We met evil very much face-to-face on September 11th, 2001. But we also saw humanity at its finest, giving us a glimpse of the divine grace of God. We witnessed firefighters and police officers rushing into burning buildings. Ordinary people assisting one another on darkened staircases. We saw courageous people on United Flight 93 rise up to seek to overcome evil. We learned that heroes were not athletes and Hollywood actors, but our neighbors and friends. In the days that followed, the outpouring of love on those who suffered losses was overwhelming. ***God's love is far beyond the power of evil.***



I have learned these lessons, but I often easily forget them, and fail in their practice. So, on this day, it is good to remember them, and to seek to renew them in our daily lives. We pray to not forget what we have learned from this heartbreaking time.

Lesson Four: On that day, we experienced what we already knew, but often take for granted. We needed each other. The phone systems crashed since countless calls were made to reach out to loved ones. We gathered in our homes, at our work places, on the streets, our churches and offered words of comfort and support to one another. Our families, our friends, our neighbors, with all their faults and failures, are essential to our lives. No one goes it alone. We need each other.

Finally, lesson Five: Everyone one of you, I am sure, has more than one 9/11 experience. I think of two that stay with me. There were so many funerals at the time of 9/11, especially for the firefighters and police, that people who did not know the deceased were encouraged to go to the funerals since the first responders could not attend all the many funerals that were going on simultaneously. And many people did this as their way of showing their love and respect.

The second story I think and experienced personally was as the recovery workers left the devastated site of the World Trade Towers, there were thirty or forty people who gathered for several months to cheer for the rescue workers as they went in and out of the entrance to the towers on West Street. When asked why they did this, they said, *we were not able to do anything else, so we did this*. Small acts done in love are graces from God.



Catechetical Sunday 2017

A Prayer for Catechists

O God, our Heavenly Father, you have given us the gift of these catechists to be heralds of the Gospel to our parish family. We lift them up to you in thanksgiving and intercede for them concerning their hopes and needs. May we be attentive to the presence of your Word in them, a Word that lifts up and affirms, calls forth and challenges, is compassionate and consoles. We pray that our parish family will always be blessed with those who have responded to the call to share in Christ's prophetic mission as catechists. May we too be open to the universal call to service that Christ addresses to all of his disciples, contributing our gifts to the communion of faith, the Church. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

On this Catechetical Sunday, we pray for God's blessings on all those in our parish who are involved in the ministry of teaching the Catholic faith. Certainly, our parish is most grateful for all those involved in the religious education of our children, in those who minister with our teens, those who serve in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, those who teach continuing education, direct spiritual programs, and minister in the ALPHA Program. How blessed St. Martin's Parish is by these men and women who assist in helping us deepen our faith in God. As the Scripture tells us, *how blessed are the feet of those who bring good news!*

A special reminder to parents that you certainly have the primary role in the religious education of our children. Children do what they see their parents do. Pray with your children, attend Mass with them, and speak to them about what they are learning in our religious education program.

**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.

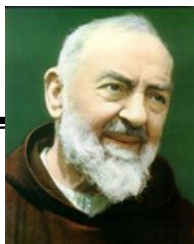
LIVING WATERS CATHOLIC COUNSELING
www.livingwaterscounseling.biz

Melville location:

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

SAINT PADRE PIO HOLY HOUR

Please join us on **Tuesday, September 19th at 7PM in the Eucharistic Chapel** for the Padre Pio Holy Hour. His first and second class relics will be venerated.



Regular Book Club

We will be reading *Saints for All Occasions* by J. Courtney Sullivan. Our meeting will be on **Friday, October 6th at 7:00PM** in the St. Stephen Room (small room of St. Alphonsus Hall).

Spiritual Book Club

Our next spiritual book club meeting will be on **Friday, October 13th 7:00PM** in the St. Stephen Room to discuss *All is Grace; A Biography of Dorothy Day* by Jim Forrest.

Both books can be bought on Amazon and the used copies are not overly expensive.



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
 PO2 Matthew Sadecki, USCG
 SGT Zachary John Sheehy, USMC
 PVT Travis Ruggiero, US Army
 SGT Dennis Diesel, USMC
 L CPL James Kruper, USMC
 SGT 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
 A1C Jake DeRossi, 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
 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
 CPT Patrick C. Looney USAF

LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION IN NASSAU AND SUFFOLK

Session "A" is required of **ALL** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. For those who minister at hospitals, nursing homes and the homebound, Session "B" is an additional requirement. (Session "A" must be attended before Session "B"). Write a letter to the pastor with your desire to become an EM serving in the church ("A") or serving at hospitals, etc. ("A" & "B"). You must mention the date and place of the training session you wish to attend. We will then send a letter to Bishop Barres at least 5 days in advance requesting the training for each person attending. SMT pays the \$30 workshop fee.

In Nassau: EM "A" Session

October 14, 2017; 9AM-1PM

St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

EM "B" Session

November 4, 2017 9AM-1PM

St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

In Suffolk: EM "A" Session

October 21, 2017; 9AM-1PM

St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays

EM "B" Session

October 28, 2017; 9AM-1PM

St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays

**EM Evening Sessions: St. Elizabeth, Melville Session "A" Wed., October 4, 2017; 7PM-10PM
 Session "B" Wed., October 18, 2017; 7PM-10PM**



September 15 - 21, 2017

A candle has been lit for
Michael F. Maley
in honor of St. Therese of Lisieux



September 15 - 21, 2017

A candle has been lit for
Anthony Devlin
in honor of St. Anthony of Padua



September 15 - 21, 2017

A candle has been lit for
Jeffrey Greco
in honor of St. Anne



September 15 - 21, 2017

A candle has been lit for
Carolyn Sullo
in honor of St. Peregrine



September 15 - 21, 2017

A candle has been lit for
Frank Dillon
in honor of St. Jude



St. Martin of Tours Holy Hour
Tuesday, September 26th
3:00 p.m. in the Church
Come for an hour...come for ten
minutes...just come if you can.

VIRTUS CLASS

“Protecting All God’s Children”
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017
7PM - ST. ALPHONSUS HALL

Anyone who wishes to volunteer in a parish in the Diocese of Rockville Centre must complete and sign the required forms before attending the class. The forms can be picked up at the rectory office. To register on-line, please go to virtus.org. For those who do not have a computer, you can inform the rectory when you pick up the forms. Any questions, please feel free to contact the office at 931-0818.

My Parish App

To download myParish App on your iPhone or android, text **App** to **88202**. Select our parish after opening and you will have the latest info on your phone.

This APP is especially helpful for the parents of our children in Religious Education as you will be notified of class cancellations, meetings and other important information.

Father John Derasmo & the Saint James Parish, Seaford NY

Cordially invite you to the *3rd Annual Blue Mass* Honoring All First Responders

Dedicated to all Police Officers, Firefighters and First Responders

Sunday, October 1, 2017

12:30 p.m. Mass

Uniforms Encouraged

Refreshments to Follow

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept 18: Virtus Training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Sept 19: Padre Pio Holy Hour 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Sept 25: Men's Group 7:30PM St. Stephen Room @St. Alphonsus Hall
- Sept 26: Holy Hour 3PM Church
- Sept 27: Respect Life Meeting 11AM St. Alphonsus Hall
- Sept 30: St. Vincent de Paul's Friends of the Poor Walk (see page 7)
- Oct 6: Regular Book Club 7PM St. Stephen Room @ St. Alphonsus Hall
- Oct 8: Blessing of Animals 2:15PM Prayer Garden
- Oct 13: Spiritual Book Club 7PM St. Stephen Room @ St. Alphonsus Hall
- Oct 18: Respect Life Holy Hour 3PM Church
- Oct 21/22: Baby Bottle Campaign
- Oct 31: All Saints Vigil Mass 7PM Church
- Nov 1: All Saints Day Masses 6:30, 9AM; 12 Noon & 7PM Church
- Nov 4: 9AM Mass of Remembrance (For the Deceased from Nov 1, 2016 - Oct 31, 2017)
- Nov 11: Feast Day of Saint Martin or Tours/Veterans Day/Golden Harvest Festival & Raffle

