

Masses For The Week

Monday - September 25

6:30 Anthony Ducato
9:00 William Zura, Sr.

Tuesday - September 26

6:30 Kenneth Smolinsky
9:00 James Finnan

Wednesday - September 27 - St. Vincent de Paul

6:30 John L. Keenan
9:00 Robert Preziosi

Thursday - September 28

6:30 Victor Reymont
9:00 Veronica Lawlor

Friday - September 29

Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

6:30 Michael Hance
9:00 George Spindler

Saturday - September 30 - St. Jerome, Doctor of the Church

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
5:00 Michael DeZervos
7:00 Herman & Ivy Ostermeier

Sunday - October 1

7:00 The People of the Parish
8:30 Eileen Bormann
10:00 Edward Lauritson
11:30 Helen Draghi
1:00 Estelle DiMartino, 1st Anniversary
5:30 Bernard Helldorfer

Readings For The Week

Mon. Ezra 1:1-6; Luke 8:16-18
Tues. Ezra 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Luke 8:19-21
Wed. Ezra 9:5-9; Luke 9:1-6
Thurs. Haggai 1:1-8; Luke 9:7-9
Fri. Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 or Revelation 12:7-12a; John 1:47-51
Sat. Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15a; Luke 9:43b-45
Sun. Ezekiel 18:25-28 *The Lord spoke through Ezekiel: "Hear now, house of Israel:...If he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life."*

Philippines 2:1-11 *Paul quoted an ancient hymn: "Though Christ was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave and obediently accepted death on a cross. So God exalted him and gave him a name above every other name."*

Matthew 21:28-32 *Jesus said that outcasts enter God's reign because of faith but not the righteous who lack repentance: "Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you."*

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00
Weekly for 9/17/17: \$16,690.17
Catholic University: \$1,427.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Reflection & Living Stewardship



Good stewards follow the advice of St. Paul and conduct themselves - by wise use of their time and talents - in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ.

We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who put their faith into action by using their gifts in support of our parish ministries and community activities.



Divine Mercy Novena

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

Charismatic Prayer Group

Pardon my appearance! God is remodeling me to better serve Him. As with any remodeling project, things always get messier before they get better. Sometimes, God has to take us apart so He can make us better. Rejoice, when you feel you are being torn apart, because God is preparing you for something great. God says Nothing is impossible: when *I'm* possible!! Our meetings are held in front of the Blessed Sacrament. There's no better place to bring your broken pieces.

Next meeting is Monday, September 25th 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

9/18/17 #40	Adele T. Yack	\$25
9/19/17 #94	Rosemary Gross	\$25
9/20/17 #406	Jeanne Sokolski	\$25
9/21/17 #382	Peggy & Ray Sobier	\$25
9/22/17 #123	Pauline Curley	\$50



"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 canned chili, pancake mix, beef stew, tuna fish, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, lentils, juice, brownie mix, cake mix, boxed milk, pudding, Jell-O, mayonnaise, icing, hot cocoa mix, tomato paste, dish soap, laundry soap, paper towels and toilet paper.

Because of your tremendous generosity, we were able to serve 451 people from 84 individual families during the month of August.

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 24 - 30, 2017

In Loving Memory of
Anthony & Virginia Buffa



Sanctuary Candle
Week of September 24 - 30, 2017

In Loving Memory of
James Joseph O'Connor

Rest in Peace

Acts 7:49:

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

Leonard J. Beaumont

Anthony R. Morello



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 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 Becca Silver and unborn Baby Dornich

Pastor's Letter

Sharing the Way to Jesus with our Brothers and Sisters

Five years ago, our parish conducted an amazingly successful capital campaign that relied on the great generosity of the parishioners in terms of the sharing of their time, their talent, and their treasure. We called that campaign **Paving the Way for Christ**, based on the idea that as we paved the parish parking lot, among other projects, we were helping others to get to Jesus. Then two years ago, we spoke as a parish about **Walking the Way with Christ**. The focus of this campaign was to invite parishioners to join in one or more of the many parish ministries that we have here at St. Martin's, as well as considering creating new ministries that would help us to assist one another in walking with Jesus. This program was also quite positive in my estimation, with many parishioners committing to parish ministries.

This weekend I will be speaking at all Masses on a program I have entitled **Sharing the Way to Jesus With Our Brothers and Sisters**. The purpose of this program is to address the financial realities of our parish. I have prepared for this program by consulting with the parish staff, the parish pastoral council, the parish financial committee, and the parish liturgy committee. There had been some consideration to hire a professional company as we did for the capital campaign, but it was decided to try and address stewardship in-house. **My present plan is to speak at the Masses three times before Thanksgiving - once in September, once in October, and once in November. Then I would invite parishioners to continue to pray and discern on stewardship and the financial support of the parish.**

In the September homily, I will seek to address the spirituality of stewardship. This concept is key for all of us. We are not just looking for more money for the collection. Sharing our time, talent and treasure with one another is very essential to the preaching of the Gospel and our having a faith community. I know I do not need to convince you that it takes financial resources to have a parish that seeks to serve all of us. I can assure you, as was true for the Capital Campaign, I will not put pressure or guilt on you. Being good stewards is part of our faith, and each person must make their **own** decision as how best to live the values of stewardship.

In the October homily, I will speak to you about our present financial realities. Each week, as you know, the parish reports on our weekly collections in the bulletin. I hope to flesh out a bit on what our parish uses our financial resources for, with a focus on our mission, how we generate income, and how successfully we are in terms of meeting our yearly budget as mandated by the diocese. Each parish is expected to be self-sustaining.

In the November homily, it is my plan to present some of the ideas and strategies that might strengthen the future financial stability of the parish to enable St. Martin's to continue to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ.

After those three weekends of preaching have been completed, I will invite parishioners to prayerfully reflect on stewardship and make a personal commitment to the Lord (*not a pledge*) to discern to how best they serve the Lord with their time, talents and treasure. We will have prayer cards from the Diocesan Office of Stewardship that we will use at Mass since this effort of stewardship must be work of grace and prayer. I am confident that the parishioners of St. Martin's, as they always have in times past, will respond to this campaign to support one another in faith. May the Lord and his dear Mother Mary bless all our efforts to follow him.

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

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

Calling all Young Adults, college age and up! Join the Missionaries of the Most Holy Eucharist for ADORE: A Young Adult Evening of Prayer, Adoration, Confession, Praise & Worship, Mass, Food, and Fellowship. Music by Woods Worship.

No RSVP necessary! Friday, September 29 at 7:00 pm at the beautiful Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington. We can't wait to see you there!

Questions? info@woodsworship or woodsworship.com/adore.

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.



THE RAMP - GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS!

The good news: I am happy to tell you, that at long last...*after* getting permission from the Diocese of Rockville Centre...*and* after seeking several bids and evaluating them... *and* after getting the permission of the diocese for the company we chose... *and* after waiting for the permits from the Town of Oyster Bay...**WE ARE READY** to begin the construction of a ramp that will make the parish school cafeteria more accessible. The ramp will go into the rear door opposite the playground. It will be paid through the funds generated from the capital campaign, *Paving the Way for Christ*. I know many parishioners were not able to attend events in the parish cafeteria, which has been renamed Emmaus Hall. It will take *years* for us to use that name recognizing the town where Jesus was recognized in the breaking of the bread. This ramp will be a blessing to them.

The bad news: Construction does bring about some inconvenience. We will have to shut down three or four parking spots in the school parking lot during the time of construction. The section where the project is being done will have some fencing around it for safety reasons. I hope this project will be finished by Christmas, although weather and other factors always make it hard to predict the final dates.

R.C.I.A. Meeting

R.C.I.A. will have its first meeting on Tuesday, October 3rd at 7:30PM. We will meet in the Faculty Room of the school. This is an open meeting for anyone who wishes to become Catholic and for others in need of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.



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

NEW YORK COURT UNANIMOUSLY REJECTS ASSISTED SUICIDE IN MAJOR PRO-LIFE VICTORY: Albany, N.Y., Sep 8, 2017 (CNA/EWTN News). New York's highest court upheld the state's ban on ASSISTED SUICIDE, in what CATHOLIC LEADERS HAVE CALLED AN IMPORTANT PRO-LIFE VICTORY FOR THE STATE. The New York State Court of Appeals ruled UNANIMOUSLY to uphold the state's law which BANS PHYSICIANS FROM PROVIDING LIFE-ENDING DRUGS TO TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS.

The written decision was "very strong. They shot this down from all angles," Kathleen Gallagher with the NYS Catholic Conference told CA. Assisted suicide is currently legal in Colorado, Vermont, Washington, California, Oregon, and the District of Columbia. The State Supreme Court of Montana decriminalized suicide for physicians in 2009.

The plaintiffs in the case included three terminally ill people, two of whom have since died, some physicians who said that they have been approached by patients requesting life-ending drugs, and advocacy group END OF LIFE CHOICES. They argued that mentally competent, terminally ill patients have a right to "medical aid-in-dying and that it should legally be recognized as medical treatment rather than as suicide."

In their decision, the COURT said THAT WHILE THEY UPHELD A PATIENT'S RIGHT TO DENY EXTRAORDINARY MEDICAL TREATMENT TO PROLONG THEIR LIVES, THEY REJECTED THE CLAIM THAT AID-IN-DYING IS DIFFERENT THAN SUICIDE. "AID-IN-DYING falls squarely within the ordinary meaning of the statutory prohibition on assisting a suicide," the decision stated. THE ASSISTED SUICIDE STATUTES APPLY TO ANYONE WHO ASSISTS AN ATTEMPTED OR COMPLETED SUICIDE. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.

The Archdiocese of New York and the NYS Catholic Conference partnered with numerous other groups, including PHYSICIANS, DISABILITY GROUPS, HOSPICE GROUPS AND PATIENTS RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUPS, who all oppose assisted suicide for various reasons. Together, these organizations formed the advocacy group NEW YORK ALLIANCE AGAINST ASSISTED SUICIDE, whose collaboration on legal and educational projects continues to strengthen and grow.

BUT THE FIGHT IS FAR FROM OVER. IT IS PREDICTED THAT OTHER ADVOCACY GROUPS will continue to PUSH ASSISTED SUICIDE IN THE UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS. One of the biggest misconceptions about assisted suicide, is that most people think it is about ALLEVIATING THE PHYSICAL SUFFERING OF THE DYING, when in reality, most pain can be managed with PALLIATIVE CARE.

Most people who CHOOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE cite a FEELING OF LOSS OF MEANING, and the DESIRE TO NOT BE A BURDEN ON LOVED ONES. The solution to the SUFFERING IS NOT DEATH, BUT THE SUPPORT OF FRIENDS AND FAMILY.



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 first 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.**

The date of the Talent Show is Friday, December 1st at 7PM in Emmaus Hall (school auditorium). Email Diana Hughes at SMT_lifeteen@yahoo.com if your child would like to sign up to perform, help backstage or sell tickets.

Also at the Talent Show, we will have an Auction! We are now accepting donations of gift cards/certificates, spirits and new items. Contact Diana if you need a letter validating donations from your favorite supermarket, restaurant or shop. You can call the rectory at 931-0818 to leave a message.

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE TALENT SHOW AND THE AUCTION WILL GO TO PURCHASE AN ADAPTIVE TRICYCLE FOR A SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS. (Supported by The Share the Voice Organization)



"SOCK"-tober

During the whole month of October, the Life Teen Youth Ministry is collecting new, warm socks for adults which will be given to the homeless. We will have a container in the gathering area where you can drop them off. Any questions, contact Diana Hughes, Youth Minister.

THANK YOU for helping us reach out to the wider community!



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

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!



O Lord,
You are a shelter from the storm.
Your view is a higher view.
You ride on the wings of the wind,
and Your love for us is deeper than
the ocean's depths.

Be with all Your children through
this long night of raging. . .
through days of unknowing. . .
through changes unbidden. . .
through it all.

Heal our land.

Amen



There is an old Irish story I like to tell that goes like this: Pat and Mike were brothers. For some reason, and no one could remember exactly why, they had an argument and had not talked to each other for thirty years. At one point, Pat took sick and was in the hospital, and it was thought that he was dying. The parish priest (of course named Father O'Malley), wanted the two brothers to reconcile before Pat died. So he went to Mike and used all his powers of persuasion to convince Mike that he must go see his dying brother and make his peace with

him before it was too late. So a reluctant Mike shows up at the hospital and sees Pat in the bed. He walks over to him, sticks out his hand and mumbles, *I forgive you, Pat*. Pat takes the offered hand and says, *Mike, I forgive you*. They nod in agreement and Mike starts to leave the hospital room. However, he stops at the door of the room, turns to Pat, and says, *Pat, if you don't die, this forgiveness doesn't count!* When I tell this story, I often follow it with a description of the disease known as Irish Alzheimer's: You forget everything but your enemies.

I would suggest though, after being a priest for 42 years, that trouble with holding grudges and resentment, and refusing to forgive those who have hurt us or someone we love, is a condition that faces all human beings. In a few minutes, we will say the beautiful prayer that Jesus taught us. *Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us*. I did kind of a rough calculation on my calculator and believe I have said those words, *forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us* more than 20,000 times in my life.

In today's Gospel, Peter, who wants to try to get some control over this idea of forgiving others, asks Jesus if seven times of forgiving another person is enough. I think Peter is playing it kind of safe by setting a high number so that Jesus will be impressed with him. Forgiving a person of something serious once in a person's life is wonderful. Twice is amazing. Three times is magnificent, four times and you might not be telling the truth. We know what Jesus does with Peter's number of seven. He says you must be willing to forgive another person seventy-seven times! In other words, there is no limit to the call to forgive our brothers and sinners of their sins and faults. As I was thinking about this, I wondered if anybody ever forgave someone seventy-seven times. Then it came to me that if you are the parent of a teenager, you probably have. If you have been successfully married for more than let's say ten years, you may have reached that number. If you are a loyal Jet fan, the number of times you need to forgive them time is uncountable.

Forgiveness is a cornerstone of the message of our Lord Jesus Christ. To be a follower of Jesus is to be a man or woman who seeks to be a person who forgives others. In the parable we heard today, Jesus seeks to give us a path to being a forgiving person. He tells us by a simple story that there is no limit to the mercy and forgiveness of God. You cannot put limits on the mercy of God. There is no sin that cannot be forgiven. God does not have a ledger in heaven where he is counting our sins. I like the story of a person who went to Jesus for confession. He said to Jesus, *I know you must be tired of my confessing the same sins. I know you know all the sins I have told you from the past*. Jesus the confessor says, *No. I don't know your past sins. I forgot them already*.

I try hard to avoid serious sins in my life. But I find it very hard over the course of a day, a week, a month to resist gossiping about another or speaking badly of them, of not wasting time, of judging others, of not being attentive in my prayer, and of buying things I do not really need. That is just the short list! I might get through a day without reaching seventy-seven, but I am not too sure about getting through a week. But I trust in the mercy and the overwhelming compassionate grace of God and his tender mercies. He is the God who tells us the story of the prodigal child returning home to mercy. On the cross, Jesus turns to his Father, and prays that his torturers be forgiven - *Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.* If we can even get a tiny glimpse of the mercy and love that God has for each one of us, perhaps we would not have such a hard time forgiving others. The old cliché has great wisdom. *To err is human, to forgive is divine.* We are very close to the heart of God when we can forgive another.



I want to stress something about forgiveness. Forgiveness is not reconciliation. I think this is a point many of us miss. Reconciliation takes two parties. For a reconciliation to happen, both people must come together and forgive one another. This is sort of like the story of Pat and Mike, but with the hope that the results are more lasting. Reconciliations are wonderful moments of healing and grace. We might call them a kind of resurrection. Something - perhaps a family relationship, a friendship, that was dead comes back to life. I have heard many stories of families who had a bitter feud, who at the time of a funeral, perhaps of a parent, realize how foolish the fight is and seek to reconcile with one another. They might say, *Life is short! Why waste it being angry with one another?* I am so delighted when I witness this reconciliation, but I often wonder why they had to wait 20 years for it to come. All those years lost!

As beautiful as is a reconciliation, it is not always possible for a variety of reasons. Very often, one person will refuse to accept the other's desire to work for healing. They will not return phone calls. Refuse to answer emails. They will not go to a family event if the other is attending. This reality is very sad but also quite common. No matter what we try to do, they want no part of us. In certain cases, it would be unhealthy to seek a reconciliation. It might only lead to more resentment and hurt. It might even put us back into a very destructive relationship. There are times when the person we most need to forgive is dead so reconciliation on this side of the grave cannot occur. Reconciliation is not always possible. Sometimes, as Jesus said, *we must shake the dust from our feet and move on.*

However, by the amazing grace of God, we can always forgive another person whether they are living or dead. Through prayer and our faith in God, we make the decision to let go, as much as we can, the burden of carrying the anger and hurt in our hearts. We choose not to let the other person live inside of our heads. They do not even have to know we have forgiven them. We pray for them and we pray for the grace to let hurt go. We choose to stop talking about whatever it is that has caused the problem. If we encounter the person, we act civil and not wish them evil. If they were to approach us for a reconciliation, we might be open to it if the approach seems sincere.

One absolute truth I know about forgiveness is that it is not easy. No one talk, no one sermon, no one book may bring it about. We do not obtain the grace of forgiveness like turning on a light switch. Considering how hurt we are, it takes time, prayer, and the love of God in our hearts. Forgiveness begins at the Eucharist. *Lord, forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.*

**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 Miranda
(C) 830-5077 (H) 605-1979

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

PROJECT RACHEL

WWW.HOPEAFTERABORTION.COM

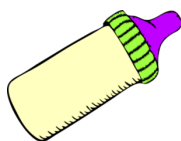
**Baby Safe Haven, Safe Babies, Safe Place
at 1 (877) 796-HOPE**

**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**

**BABY BOTTLE
CAMPAIGN**

The Respect Life Ministry of St. Martin of Tours will be having a Baby Bottle Campaign the weekend of **October 21 and 22** in the gathering area of the church.



Our parish has always been very generous to help young mothers and their babies through The Life Center of Long Island. *Thank you for your prayers and generosity!*

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**

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

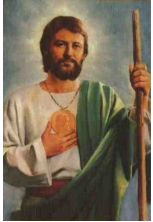
**EM Evening Sessions: St. Elizabeth, Melville Session "A" Wed., October 4, 2017; 7PM-10PM
 Session "B" Wed., October 18, 2017; 7PM-10PM**




September 22 - 28, 2017
A candle has been lit for
Eileen & Albert Serventi
in honor of St. Anne



September 22 - 28, 2017
A candle has been lit for
Thomas Mascia
in honor of St. Anthony of Padua




September 22 - 28, 2017
A candle has been lit for
Matthew Herzog
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.

Blessing of the Animals

In honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, we will have the blessing of animals on **Sunday, October 8th at 2:15PM in the prayer garden** located off the school parking lot. We ask the Father to bless all His creatures great and small!



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.

Mass of Remembrance Every year in November St. Martin of Tours remembers those who have died between November 1 of the prior year and October 31 of the current year. To those who had loved ones buried from our parish, you will receive a letter in the mail in mid-October inviting you and anyone you wish to attend. This year this Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday, November 4th at 9AM in the Church**. We look forward to being there for you at this most consoling and comforting of liturgies.

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 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 1 - 31: Warm Socks Collection. Container will be in the Gathering Area of the Church.
- 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

