

Masses For The Week

Monday - October 9 - Columbus Day Observed

NO 6:30 Mass
9:00 Edward Steiger

Tuesday - October 10

6:30 Frances Petroni
9:00 Bernard Helldorfer, Jr.

Wednesday - October 11

6:30 Catherine & Silvio Sita
9:00 Patrick Corcoran

Thursday - October 12

6:30 Joseph Cressaty
9:00 Rosario Gerardi

Friday - October 13

6:30 Joseph D'Amico
9:00 Daniel M. Flynn, Anniversary

Saturday - October 14

9:00 MULTIPLE INTENTIONS ANNOUNCED AT MASS
5:00 Louis & Anna Chiarelli
7:00 Herman Ostermeier

Sunday - October 15

7:00 The People of the Parish
8:30 John Leonard Satriana
10:00 Thomas Cilmi, 18th Anniversary
11:30 Doris & Alfred Urbanski
1:00 John J. Wolfe
5:30 Anne Marie Cheslowitz

Readings For The Week

Mon. Jonah 1:1 - 2:2, 11; Luke 10:25-37
Tues. Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 10:38-42
Wed. Jonah 4:1-11; Luke 11:1-4
Thurs. Malachi 3:13-20b; Luke 11:5-13
Fri. Joel 1:13-15, 2:1-2; Luke 11:15-26
Sat. Joel 4:12-21; Luke 11:27-28

Sun. *Isaiah 25:6-10a* *Isaiah prophesied, "On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide...a feast of rich food and choice wines...The Lord God will wipe away the tears from every face...The hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain."*

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 *Paul wrote, "I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry." When people share each other's hardships, God supplies their needs fully in Christ Jesus.*

Matthew 22:1-14 *Jesus likened God's reign to a great wedding banquet that a king gave for his son. Many were invited; some ignored the invitation. One guest was thrown out for disrespectful dress. In God's reign, "many are invited, but few are chosen."*

Our Weekly Sacrificial Gift

Weekly Budget: \$17,500.00
Weekly for 10/1/17: \$17,454.17
Respect Life: \$1,602.50

Thank you for your generosity!

**Sharing the Way with our
Brothers and Sisters to Jesus
St. Martin of Tours Stewardship Campaign
September – November, 2017**

Last week in these stewardship notes, I wrote that our operating budget for last year was \$1,480,000.00. Over the course of the year, this is what it costs to run St. Martin's Parish. We need about \$1,000,000.00 from our weekend collection to fund our budget. The other funds are generated in other ways.

I would now like to speak to you about some of our expenses. There are two considerable bills that you may or may not be aware of. The Diocese of Rockville Centre, based on the number of our parishioners and expected income, requires us to pay \$116,000.00 in support of Catholic schools. In addition, based on a similar formula, we are required to pay \$84,000.00 to the Diocese for their services to us. As you can see, this mandate adds up to \$200,000.00 that is paid to the Diocese and the schools. This practice is similar to what most dioceses ask of their parishes. The monies for the schools is allocated to Catholic elementary schools. The tax to the Diocese provides us with their services such as consultations with lawyers, accountants, building experts, and other support services. I might compare these fees to your school taxes which fund public schools, whether you have children in them or not, and your regular taxes that support the services the local, state and federal government supplies.

Next week, I will further address some of our other bills so you can better understand how we handle your financial support.



"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 chili, beef stew, mayonnaise, tomato paste, tomato sauce, dry lentils, hot chocolate, corn, icing, Jell-O, brownies, pudding, juice, paper towels, toilet paper, bar soap, diapers (size 6) and dish soap.

Because of your tremendous generosity, we were able to serve 388 people from 72 individual families during the month of September. **Thank You!**

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 October 8 - 14, 2017
In Loving Memory of
Mary Donahoe



Sanctuary Candle
Week of October 8 - 14, 2017
In Loving Memory of
John C. Bravo, Sr.

Rest in Peace

Acts 7:49:

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

The Victims whose lives were taken in Las Vegas on 10/1/17
 May they rest in peace!



Divine Mercy Novena

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



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, Jimmy Rizzo, Thomas Kelly
 Linda Reilly, John Murphy, Colette Sin, Al DeBatto

Pastor's Letter

I recall my first trip to Dominica, a small independent island nation, located between Puerto Rico and Trinidad with a population of about 72,000 people, mostly Catholic. This new territory had been assigned to the Baltimore Province (the province that serves you here in Bethpage - although our headquarters are in Brooklyn - a story for another day), and I was making an official visit as the Provincial Vicar of the late Father George Keaveney CSSR. Father Werner, a wonderful Belgian Redemptorist who had served on the island for many years and who is now home with God, gave me a tour of the island. The roads were rough and narrow while the houses were mostly small and fragile. Most of the people were farmers, making a living from bananas and other fruits. It is a volcanic island so the beaches have hard and rocky sand, not attractive to the tourists. Unemployment is high and many seek to immigrate from the island seeking work. Although the weather is always warm and food is abundant, the people are very poor by our American standards. The people are very welcoming and proud of their beautiful island which is sometimes called Nature's Island since it has more the 350 rivers and streams and beautiful interior forests.

Father Werner took me to a mountain that overlooks Roseau Harbor, the capital of the small country. He stopped the car, reached over to a tree, and took off a grapefruit, cut it in half with a pocket knife and offered me half. It was sweetest grapefruit I ever tasted, and I often think of that moment. In my eighteen years of serving in the Redemptorist leadership, I must have traveled to Dominica more than twenty times for meetings and special events. The little island holds a special place in my heart, and after my mother died, Father Werner, who served as pastor of a parish named St. Patrick's challenged me to donate a statue of the great Saint Patrick since I was always bragging about my heritage. My sister and I did so, and I blessed the statue many years ago.

We have all been overwhelmed by the terrible series of hurricanes that have struck Houston, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Adding to this sadness was the earthquake that devastated parts of Mexico. Previously, at the request of Bishop Barres and through your goodness, our parish made a generous donation of \$11,000.00 to the people of Texas and Florida. The Bishop has asked to have another collection for the people of Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands and Mexico. Since the Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province still serve on the Island of Dominica, I received permission from the Bishop to donate half the collection for support of the people of Dominica. Unlike Houston, Florida, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands, they have no great nation as ours to assist them in their desperation. Fortunately, the United Nations and some other nations are helping.

Here is an account of the impact of Hurricane Maria: ***Over Dominica, in the Caribbean (CNN)*** *Dominica was Hurricane Maria's first victim, and it was clear from a flight over the island nation that the storm showed absolutely no mercy. At least 15 people are dead after the hurricane barreled through the island, Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerit said. "The damage is extensive," Skerit told CNN Thursday. "It is really devastating in many communities. Our agriculture sector is 100% destroyed. Our tourism is, I would say, about 95% destroyed." A CNN team in the capital, Roseau, saw widespread destruction: many buildings damaged, cars and boats overturned, bridges clogged with huge tree trucks and many roads impassable. People were bathing in muddy river water or under burst water pipes. There is no running water and no electricity other than a few generators. Sherrit said aid has yet to arrive in any meaningful way.*

The CNN crew that flew over the scarred landscape Wednesday witnessed heartbreaking devastation. This Caribbean island of 73,000 residents is -- or was -- a place of lush greenery, punctuated by waterfalls and rain forests. But nearly two days after Maria made landfall, an aerial survey showed that nearly every tree was touched -- thousands snapped and strewn across the landscape -- and the island was stripped of vegetation. The rain forests appear to have vanished. Communities also paid heavily, with roofs torn away, entire homes ripped open and debris littering the land like confetti. The breadth of the destruction is staggering -- intact or untouched homes hard to find amid the chaos.



Here is an account from one of our Redemptorists in Dominica: *Thanks for the continued prayers from the confreres. We are alive in Belfast but our community house suffered a lot of damage to a great section of the roof on the northern side of the building. Part of the porch is gone ripping off the roof that leads to the community common areas, the garage and one vehicle was badly damaged by a falling wall. The chapel and library lost windows so they were flooded. With the amount of rain and soaking, the furniture is falling apart but thank God, we are alive. Thanks again but I don't want to experience another hurricane like this and believe me, this my first in my 65 years of life; it is an experience I will never forget.*



We have 5 churches in St. Ann's parish, Massacre and only 2 are usable, 2 are destroyed and cannot be used and the third the parish church has a lot of damage but will cost a lot to repair for use in the future. The Presbytery has minimal damage and can be used with repairs. 75 to 80% of the homes are damaged. Pray for Dominicans! Fr. Joe Parish Priest of Massacre/Superior of St. Clément's House in Belfast

I know a great deal has been asked of you our parishioners, both in support of the parish, and in support of so many collections. If you are able, I ask your support of the second collection that will be taken for those impacted by Hurricane Maria (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and the Mexican people suffering from the recent earthquake). As I said earlier, I have permission to give half of this second collection in support of the suffering people of Dominica which, as you read, holds a special place in my heart and in the hearts of the Redemptorists of our province. If anyone wishes to donate to Dominica, not using the second collection, you can give a donation to the rectory made out the Redemptorists and we will get the money to those who need it.

Also, I received this note from our Provincial: *This is just the beginning of a long road to recovery and rebuilding for the people of Dominica and our confreres who minister on the island. As a Province, we will have to continue to look at ways we can help the Redemptorists and the people of Dominica. This is one immediate way we can help. Here is the "gofundme" page for Dominica:*

<https://www.gofundme.com/help-the-people-of-dominica>

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



The Golden Harvest Festival & Raffle



Raffle limited to five hundred tickets at \$100 each
...fifty cash prizes for excellent odds of one in ten!

Let's sell ALL 500 tickets this year!!

WHEN: Drawing will be held at a Festival Party
Saturday, November 11th at 8PM in the School Cafeteria.

LIST OF PRIZES

First Prize	\$5,000
2 Prizes	\$2,000
3 Prizes	\$ 500
4 Prizes	\$ 200
20 Prizes	\$ 150

\$100 per chance -
go it alone or
share a ticket
with others!

Tickets Go ON SALE NEXT WEEKEND!!!

October 7th & 8th
in the Gathering Area

BEFORE and AFTER ALL MASSES
(including the 5:30PM on Sunday)

Stop by the Rectory Office during the week to buy your ticket!

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

In Suffolk: EM "A" Session

October 21, 2017; 9AM-1PM

St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays

EM "B" Session

November 4, 2017 9AM-1PM

St. Agnes Parish Center, Rockville Centre

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

Making History, 20,000 Rosary Rallies Confirmed for Fatima Centennial

It's official. Come October 14, American Catholics across the nation will be holding 20,000 public square rosary rallies to pray for solutions for America's many problems. Volunteers recruiting captains to lead the rallies reached the 20,000 rally mark on September 25. Twenty thousand rally captains are now gearing up to lead their individual prayer rallies in a public place. They will be especially commemorating the centennial of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. The 2017 Public Square Rosary Crusade is sponsored by America Needs Fatima. Last year, St. Martin's participated in this public rosary as about 75 parishioners processed around various parts of our properties and gave public witness to our love of the Blessed Mother and voiced our prayers for the world and our own beloved nation.

We will begin the rosary outside the gathering area of our Church at 12:30PM on Saturday, October 14th the day after the 100th anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun at Fatima. All are welcome. Just as we witness to our faith at the Stations of the Cross in Bethpage State Park on Good Friday, I invite you to join this public witness of faith.

Father Pat



Charismatic Prayer Group

David knew it wasn't the size of the stone or even the stone itself that took down Goliath. It was the POWER OF GOD in the stone. It's not our prayers or the size of them that heals, restores, rescues or saves us. It's the POWER OF THE ONE WHO HEARS THE PRAYERS. But we still have to say the prayers for Him to hear them and then trust that He will answer us. There is no wrong way to pray if you are sincere. And praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament, as we do, is extremely powerful and pleasing to God. Plus, you've got our whole group praying with you. Do you have something better to do on a Monday night??

Our next meeting is Monday, October 9, 2017 at 7:30PM in the Church. Come and be amazed at the power of God's love. Call (516) 993-9672 for information or prayer requests.

Reflection & Living Stewardship

In the Gospel today, the owner of the vineyard sent messengers to collect his share of the harvest from the tenant farmers; but there was not a single good steward on the property! God is the owner, we are the tenants. What sort of stewards are we?



We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who work for justice by serving on social justice and common good committees.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

The **LIFE PRAYER GARDEN** is located off the parking lot in the back of the SMT school near the Stations of the Cross. You can pray among statues of our saints, angels and a cherub sleeping in its wings on a pedestal. As always, the garden ministry has done an incredible job of tending to the flowers and plants all year long. At night the garden is lit, so you can sit under the stars in the quiet of this place and reflect on your day, your life, the world. There seems to be a magic in a garden. Maybe the beauty that our Lord has given us with flowers and a sense of peace, can bring us to His time in a garden, and so maybe we can reflect. Before he left St. Martin's Father John Tizio, dedicated the existing garden to a Garden for Life. All of the benches and the statues were from donations. The Respect Life Committee with Father Henry Sattler and the Knights of Columbus helped to create this beautiful place for you to go for quiet and peace as you pray. This is what was written in the bulletin when it was celebrated five years ago.

BLESSING OF OUR LIFE PRAYER GARDEN FOR THE UNBORN Last Sunday, the Knights of Columbus after the 8:30 a.m. mass, marched out onto Central Avenue and down Broadway to our completed LIFE PRAYER GARDEN FOR THE UNBORN. Father Tizio read the most beautiful dedication about the meaning of life and gave thanks to all those who worked so hard to bring it about: The Knights of Columbus - for their generous donation. The Gardening Club - as Fr. John said, "had a real dirty job!" Father Henry and the Respect Life Committee. T.J. Hance our head custodian who worked very hard to set the statues and help with all phases. Lou Fielack, the electrician and parishioner who did a beautiful job of lighting the garden for evening prayer.

Most of all, the ceremony was highlighted by the beautiful words Father John spoke. His blessing on this beautiful place brought tears to many as this dream garden came to life. Thanks to his planning and devotion, we have a place to quietly pray in the sun, or under the stars for Life at All Stages. As the stone at the entrance reads, from a quote from our beloved, (now Saint) Pope John Paul II, "IN THE NAME OF GOD, RESPECT, PROTECT, LOVE AND SERVE LIFE, EVERY HUMAN LIFE." So, let us gather in the GARDEN, sit upon its benches and remember all those who gave us this beautiful place. The Ceremony was printed in the Long Island Coalition for Life, and congratulations from the Life Center of Long Island.

How blessed we are to have Father Pat join us here at St. Martin's. From the very start, he devoted his time and energy to the Sanctity of Life from Conception to Natural Death. He has been a champion for all life issues. He has encouraged the Respect Life Committee to hold Seminars, start petitions, hold Baby Showers, Baby Bottle Campaigns, Holy Hours, all for the respect of all human life. For this, and all he does, we thank him. Every night starting on October 1st through the 13th, FATHER PAT, IS LEADING A ROSARY FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE IN THE GARDEN at 7:00 p.m. Over 30 Parishioners gather to pray and show their support during this time, Respect Life Month. There seems to be magic and beauty here. Come join us.

There will be a Holy Hour with the Blessed Sacrament exposed on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18th and 3:00 p.m. in honor of all life. Please keep in your prayers all those lost, injured and suffering from the attack in Las Vegas. Keep in prayer also, all those suffering from the hurricanes in Florida and Texas, and the devastation of Puerto Rico.

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

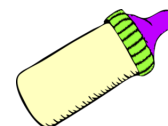
Adoption, Foster Care, Maternity Services
Catholic Home Bureau 1 (800) 592-4357

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE
1-800-4-Child or 1 800-422-4453

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!*





2nd Act of Charity: Blankets for Ronald McDonald House

Friday, October 13th 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 8th is our next 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!



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.

The Book of Genesis Workshop

Father Jim McCabe, CSSR

7:30-8:30PM - large room of St. Alphonsus Hall

All held on Tuesday Evenings

Father Jim's REVISED schedule is:

- Oct 10 NO MEETING
- Oct 17 Chapters 43-44
- Oct 24 NO MEETING
- Oct 31 Chapters 45-46
- Nov 7 Chapters 47-48
- Nov 14 Chapters 49-50
- Nov 21 NO MEETING
- Nov 28 Books not included in the Bible

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!



Father Pat's Homily of October 1, 2017

I am looking forward to this afternoon. Perhaps you may be thinking that I am referring to my love affair with the New York Jets (one that has led to my heart being broken more than touchdowns we have scored). I am excited about baptizing four infants at three o'clock. I love when I am assigned to do the bi-weekly baptisms here at St. Martin's. The babies are so beautiful, the parents and families so happy, and it is such a joyful event to welcome these precious gifts of God to our parish family. I love to look at the tiny fingernails of the baby or their shining inquisitive eyes, and their smiles melt the heart.

Unless you live on top of a faraway, or have been on a long, silent retreat in the desert, you have heard about the kneeling and standing controversy as the *Star Spangled Banner*, our national anthem, is played at the National Football League games. Whether you wouldn't know a touchdown from a hockey puck, most Americans have very strong feelings about this topic, and I know I may be causing problems for myself by even mentioning it. I do not bring it up to give you my opinion as much as to use it as an example. If you are angry at those who you feel are disrespecting our nation and our flag by their actions, or if you feel that the people who protest are within their rights and have an issue worthy of consideration, your thoughts and emotions would be based on certain principles that very important to you. Although our emotions can be very powerful, we are a people of reason and logic.

Today is Pro-life Sunday in the Catholic churches of the United States. In addition to being the month of the holy rosary, October is a month that we give special focus to this most profound topic of life. We will soon begin our annual baby bottle campaign. Debates about life in our nation continue to be a core issue in our society, with very strong and passionate feelings on all sides of the issues. Certainly, and rightly so, the first issue that most of us think about when it comes to discussions of life is that of births and abortions. In the teaching of our church, the protection of human life in the womb is the most primary and beginning of all life discussions. Still, we know that the pro-life issues and respect for life go well beyond this core essential reality of the need to seek to protect life from the moment of conception.

Our Catholic faith calls us to see the gift of human life from conception to natural death. I am shocked when I hear about American laws in some states that, in the case of a failed abortion with the baby being born *accidentally* alive, there are states that allow that newborn infant to die, and the doctors are not bound to care for the child. Most Americans are shocked by the terrible practice of partial birth abortion. I recently read about a state court that allows abortions on the grounds of the parents wanting a different sex for their child or permitting abortions if the infant might be born with some genetic issues. We also know that end of life issues are being challenged with more and more states approving assisted suicides for the terminally ill.

But I worry that I am not as shocked when a man or woman, sometimes suffering from mental limitations, being poor and unable to afford a decent legal defense, is put to death by lethal injection, with his arm being swabbed with alcohol to prevent an infection. Even though he may well be guilty of a terrible crime, should the state in our name, appoint people to take his/her life?

There is no more complicated issue for me than illegal immigration. I believe a nation has a right to decide its borders and who can come in and who cannot. Yet, the idea of deporting a young person who came to this country at the age of three or four, has lived his or her whole life here into his/her twenties or thirties, makes me pause and think and how we are treating the person.

I am no pacifist. I am very proud of the men and women who so generously and courageously serve and protect us. I am very proud of my nephew who is a retired colonel in the army. I believe we have a right to protect ourselves. But I also try to close my eyes to the fact that there are times when we try to kill the enemy, and we leave behind dead women and children.

If immigration is a complex topic, then the need for all Americans to have health care is even more beyond my ability of comprehension in terms of how this is to be done. I know medical resources are limited. I know we have a national debt with too many zeros. Add to this mix, homelessness, poverty, and poor education and you have what has baffled both the Democrats and the Republicans for decades. However, these issues are life issues since they so affect people.

I am always surprised when a newly appointed bishop is appointed to a diocese and is interviewed by the media. When the bishop states his position against abortion, the media tends to say he is conservative. If the bishop speaks about immigration or the poor, he is considered a liberal. Being against abortion is not a political position, it is the teaching of the Catholic faith. Speaking against policies that hurt the poor, the immigrant, the marginalized are not liberal positions; they flow from the words of Jesus: *love your neighbor as you love yourself.*

In the case of abortion, this is not a Church teaching such as to fast during Lent and to go to attend Mass on Sunday. This teaching is based on a both a moral and legal principle. Does the fetus, the baby to be, have any rights? At what moment does this *so-called mass of tissue* become a human being? I recall Ronald Reagan saying if you were driving a car and saw something up ahead and wondered if it were a person or not, you would slow down and stop. He applied this to an infant in the womb. When in doubt about life and when it begins, slow down and stop. Catholics believe firmly that life from the moment of conception is to be held sacred and protected.

As strongly as I feel about life and all the issues that need to be addressed, I do feel that all of us fail at times. There may be someone here today who has had an abortion. You may have chosen it freely, you have been young and felt hopeless, or were pressured by others. I know you too carry a burden but I ask you to trust in the compassionate and unbounded mercy of God and seek reconciliation. You too are precious to the Lord. No one is outside the mercy of God.

The basic principle of Catholic teaching is that life is gift from God. Last week, I spoke at all the Masses about stewardship: that everything we have from God is a gift and we are to take care and protect it. There is no more basic gift than life. Thank you Lord for the gift of life.





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
 CPL Ryan O'Keeffe, USMC

**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.

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.



October 6 - 12, 2017
 A candle has been lit for
 Janet Tebben
 in honor of St. Anne



October 6 - 12, 2017
 A candle has been lit for
 Jeffrey Greco
 in honor of St. Anthony of Padua

Congratulations to ALL H.O.P. Club Winners

10/2/17	#467	Noreen & Tim Murphy	\$25
10/3/17	#54	Catherine m. Vassallo	\$25
10/4/17	#403	M/M Joseph Cagna	\$25
10/5/17	#36	Margaret Ruggiero	\$25
10/6/17	#69	Barbara Rusch	\$50

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**

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.

This book can be bought on Amazon and the used copies are not overly expensive.



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.

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.

VIRTUS CLASS

"Protecting All God's Children"

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct 1 - 31: Warm Socks Collection. Container is in the Gathering Area of the Church.
- Oct 8: Blessing of Animals 2:15PM Prayer Garden
- Oct 9: Columbus Day No 6:30AM Mass. Rectory Office is Closed
- Oct 13: Spiritual Book Club 7PM St. Stephen Room @ St. Alphonsus Hall
- Oct 17: St. Padre Pio Holy Hour 7PM Eucharistic Chapel
- Oct 18: Respect Life Holy Hour 3PM Church
- Oct 21/22: Baby Bottle Campaign
- Oct 30: Virtus Training 7PM St. Alphonsus Hall
- 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 of Tours/Veterans Day
- Nov 11: Golden Harvest Festival & Raffle Party at 8PM Cafeteria

